



*Coos County Area Transit  
Service District  
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July 1, 2019

Public Transportation Advisory Committee  
Oregon Department of Transportation  
355 Capitol Street NE, MS 11  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Report to PTAC on STIF Selection Committee Funding Recommendations

Mr. Chair and Committee members:

I am writing to you to humbly ask that you consider funding all of Coos County's projects. We are extremely grateful for ODOT's endorsement of our Closing the Coastal Connection project and our Lifeline Project; however, we implore you to consider funding our Growing Up project as well as funding our Lifeline Project with no conditions for the following reasons:

1. Lifeline Route –
  - a. A similar route is already being operated on Tuesday and Thursday for Veterans only via an ODVA grant.
  - b. The \$20 approximation in price was a typographical error. The trip price for this trip is modeled exactly as that of the Closing the Coastal Connection project at \$2 a city segment. Total price for a one way trip would be approximately \$12 not \$20.
  - c. We have established a documented need by the public to also take advantage of this route as this route directly improves service to vulnerable and transportation-disadvantaged populations and would contend we have already completed a feasibility study.
  - d. No feasibility study was requested for our Closing the Coastal Connection project.
2. Growing Up Project
  - a. The ODOT committee recognized the capacity-building elements of this proposal.
  - b. This project is not only consistent with OTC investment priorities but is also being done per a recommendation from ODOT to reorganize Coos County/Coos County Area Transit to a more efficient PTSP able to provide forward thinking public transportation services to its' community and region.
  - c. Funding this project would absolutely not supplant local funds as the limited, unrestricted local funds we receive are already dedicated to supporting our primary lines of service used to support our community's public transportation needs.
  - d. These funds are invaluable to supporting our transition as we are a rural community and do not have the luxury of having funds beyond what is required to support our primary lines of service to our community.

Thank you again for considering our humble request to fully fund all three of Coos County's projects without caveat or reservation. We thank you profusely for your continued dedication to support public transportation needs in our great State of Oregon.

Respectfully,

*///signed///*

Sergio Gamino  
General Manager