

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNATING ) RESOLUTION NO. 07- 3815  
COUNCIL PROJECTS AND CONFIRMING )  
LEAD COUNCILOR AND COUNCIL LIAISONS ) Introduced by Council President David  
FOR THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ) Bragdon  
FUNDING PROJECT

WHEREAS, the development and/or implementation of certain Metro projects have policy implications that require the attention of the Metro Council;

WHEREAS, some projects with policy implications are of a scope and complexity that, for purposes of efficiency, benefit from the focused attention of a subset of the Council; and

WHEREAS, members of the Council have identified such a project; and

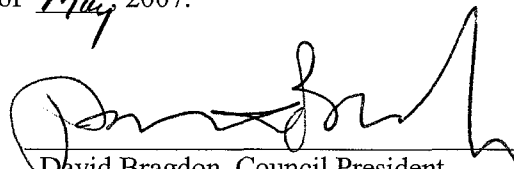
WHEREAS, the project identified has been defined and put forth in the form of a project proposal, included in Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Council President, working with members of the council, has designated specific councilors to play lead and/or liaison roles on the project as specified in Exhibit A; now therefore

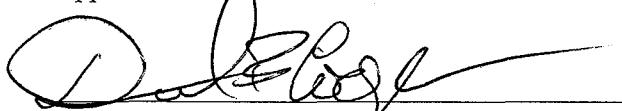
BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council

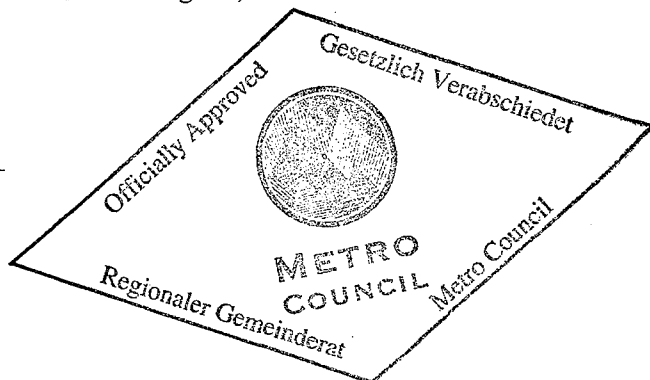
1. Confirms the project proposal, including the designation of the project, project definitions, lead councilor assignments, and councilor liaison assignments as specified in Exhibit A for the Regional Transportation Funding Project;
2. Directs that the Regional Transportation Funding Project will sunset as a Council Project March 31, 2008.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2007.

  
David Bragdon, Council President

Approved as to Form:

  
Daniel B. Cooper, Metro Attorney



## Transportation Funding Project Proposal

### 1) Project Title

Regional Transportation Funding

### 2) Lead Councilor

Brian Newman

### 3) Council Liaisons

Rex Burkholder, Rod Park

### 4) Project Begin Date

May 2007

### 5) Estimated Date of Completion

The estimated date of completion is March 2008

### 6) Project Description (What issue/problem will be addressed?)

Investment in transportation infrastructure strengthens the regional economy and increases the quality of life for its residents. The coordination between the update of the Regional Transportation Plan and the New Look seeks to ensure that Portland's transportation system remains one of the best in the nation. However, additional funding and potentially new sources need to be identified to fully implement the plan.

In December 2006, ECONorthwest completed a preliminary financial analysis report for the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan on behalf of Metro. This work was based on information supplied by ODOT and local governments. One of the goals of the analysis was to estimate the "reasonably available revenue" resources for transportation projects as outlined in the updated Regional Transportation Plan. Reasonably available revenue refers to the total funds that are expected to be generated through currently available funding mechanisms such as federal funds, the Oregon gas tax and vehicle registration fees, and anticipated increases in those sources over time.

To summarize their work and updates made since its completion, ODOT estimates that they will have a shortfall of at least \$11 billion over the 30-year timeframe for modernization projects on their facilities. ECO has estimated that TriMet will have at least a \$5 billion shortfall to build, operate and maintain its bus and rail system. The shortfall for local governments to build and maintain their roads would be billions more.

The proposed Transportation Funding Project would delineate possible responses to address portions of this funding gap. There are major issues which need to be addressed leading to a decision of whether or not to submit a transportation funding ballot measure to Metro voters in 2008. These include:

- The transportation funding gap is enormous. How much can reasonably be addressed in one ballot measure?
- Should the measure address only capital improvements for roads and transit or should it try and address maintenance issues?
- Is there a sense that the public is willing to raise revenues to address the problem?
- What would be included in the ballot measure? We would need to ensure that projects are consistent with 2040 and other adopted policies.
- Should the projects all be of regional significance or should smaller neighborhood/local improvements be considered? What specific projects and project categories resonate with voters?
- Is it possible to reach consensus among local governments to place a measure on the ballot?
- What revenue sources would have the best chance of success?

There are other issues that are more internal to Metro:

- a. The fundamental issue at this time is whether or not the Metro Council concurs that this is an issue that should be examined further?
- b. If so, what role should the Metro Council play?
- c. How would such a project proceed? What steps would be required?
- d. What resources would be required for Metro to play the identified role(s)?

## **7) Outcomes (What will result from the project? What must be in place for the project to be considered complete?)**

This project will result in a determination of whether or not to submit a transportation funding ballot measure to voters in November 2008. This determination will be made after careful consideration and evaluation of a number of factors including public attitudes, likelihood of success, ability to achieve desired outcomes, and willingness of regional partners to enthusiastically support and participate in a campaign which would follow. All such activities would need to be complete by March 2008.

## **8) Connection to Council Goals and Objectives**

Projects supports the following Metro Council Goals and Objectives:

- Economic Vitality (Objectives 3.3, 3.5, 3.7)
- Smart Government (Objective 4.2)
- Critical Success Factors (Objectives 2.2 and 2.7)

## **9) Resources Required/budget Implications**

This project proposes to be funded through a \$150,000 budget amendment (see Exhibit B). Additional funding will be sought from regional partners.

## **STAFF REPORT**

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 07-3815, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNATING COUNCIL PROJECTS AND CONFIRMING LEAD COUNCILOR AND COUNCIL LIAISONS FOR THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING PROJECT

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Date: May 1, 2007

Prepared by: Maria Ellis

### **BACKGROUND**

This resolution adopts a new council project: Regional Transportation Funding. Exhibit A to the resolution includes the council project proposal that defines the general scope of the project. Project managers are responsible to bring a more detailed work plan to the council for approval at a later date.

### **ANALYSIS/INFORMATION**

1. **Known Opposition** None Known.
2. **Legal Antecedents** None.
3. **Anticipated Effects** Policymaking work will continue on the project as defined in the exhibit.
4. **Budget Impacts** The project is seeking funding in the form of an amendment to the FY08 Metro budget as described in Exhibit B.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approve the resolution adopting the project.