600 NORTHEAST GRAND AVENUE TEL 503 797 1700 PORTLAND, OREGON 97232 2736 FAX 503 797 1794



DATE: May 8, 2007

TO: JPACT Members and Alternates

FROM: Andrew C. Cotugno, Planning Director

SUBJECT: RTP Update Schedule Options

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At the April 26 JPACT meeting, members expressed a desire for additional modeling and analysis during the RTP and asked Metro to examine options that would allow for this. Staff is seeking direction from JPACT on whether to pursue the expanded schedule described in this memorandum, or continue with the current RTP update timeline.

The attached "2007-08 RTP Update Options" timeline shows both the current schedule, which completes the update by December 2007, and an expanded schedule, which would complete the RTP update by June 2008. Under this option Federal and state components of the RTP are split. This ensures that federal requirements will be met before the current plan lapses in March 2008, while allowing for more detailed analysis of the RTP components that respond to statewide planning rules. The attached "Five Year RTP Timeline" provides context for the expanded update as it would relate to other regional planning activities.

Both options meet state and federal requirements for updating the RTP on a periodic, timely basis. The federal timeline is specific, with a March 2008 expiration date for the current RTP. The state timeline is more general, requiring an update to the 2000 RTP within eight years.

While the expanded timeline includes additional rounds of modeling and analysis to better refine the RTP, the proposed June 2008 completion date also marks the beginning of the next MTIP update. This will ensure that the RTP work can serve as a kickoff for the MTIP process.

The June 2008 date also ensures that the RTP work is completed well before proposed transportation funding initiatives at the regional and state level. The expanded timeline also defers the compliance deadline for local

transportation plans to be updated for consistency from the RTP by six months, from December 2008 to June 2009.

In the near term, staff has also refined the solicitation schedule of the current phase to allow local jurisdictions to refine project cost estimates through August 13, with preliminary cost estimates still due by the original deadline of June 30. Project descriptions and modeling assumptions (Attachments A and C in the solicitation packet) are still due by June 18.

The following table describes how the current and expanded schedule options meet key objectives:

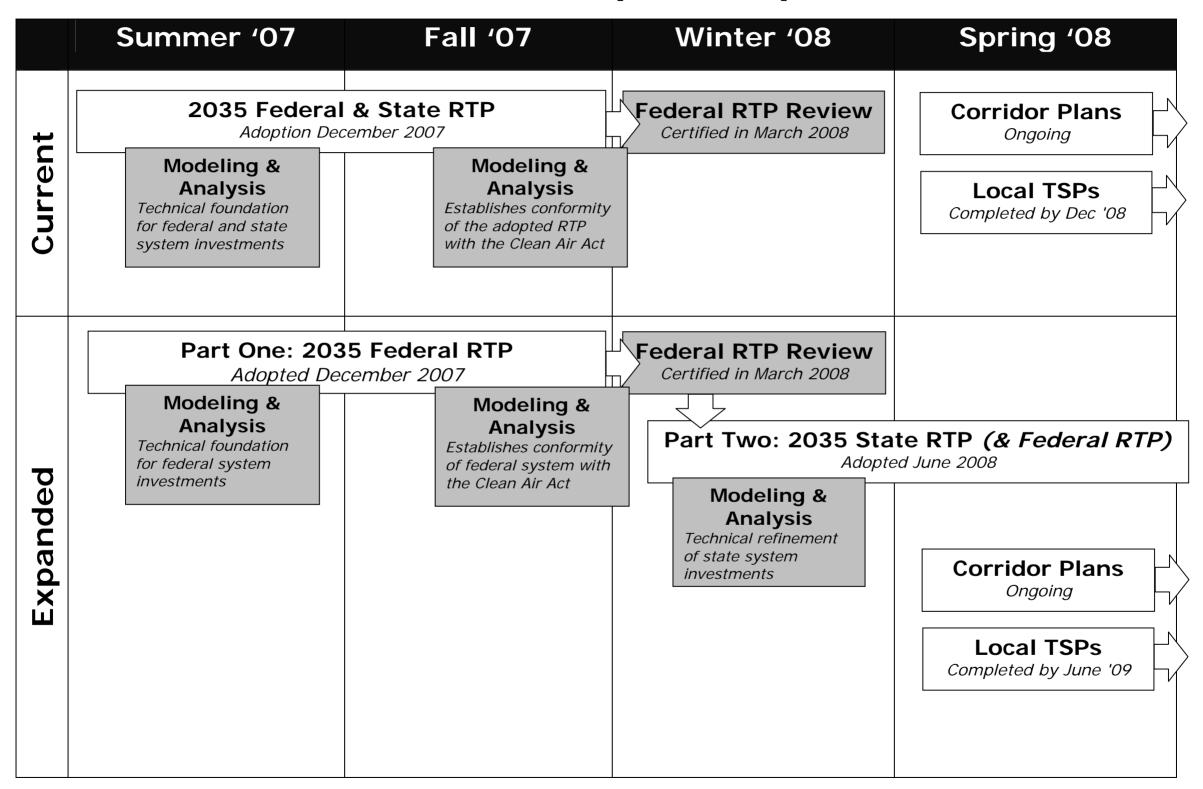
Objective		Current	Adjusted
1.	Meets federal requirements before the current RTP lapses	Yes	Yes
2.	Provides timely update to meet statewide planning rules	Yes	Yes
3.	Allows the 2035 RTP to respond to evolving state rules on urban reserves	No*	No*
4.	Provides for multiple rounds of RTP modeling and analysis to evaluate new RTP policies and statewide planning rules	No	Yes

^{*}The 2038 RTP update will begin in January 2010, and would be able to respond to the evolving state rules on urban reserves

The RTP adoption triggers a number of follow-up activities at the regional and local level. The following is a general outline of the respective roles of the RTP, corridor plans and local transportation plans:

Activity	Major Focus		
Regional Transportation Plan	 Establishes overall transportation policy for region Defines regional system elements that provide backbone for local systems Defines regional mobility corridor management and refinement planning agenda 		
Corridor Refinement Plan	 Respond to general RTP directive for detailed corridor solutions Recommend amendments to RTP in the form of policy and projects Coordinated with mobility corridor management strategies 		
Local Transportation Plan	 Establishes local transportation policy Defines local system as a complement to the region system Identifies refinements for next RTP update 		

2007-08 RTP Update Options



Regional Transportation & Land Use Planning 5-Year RTP Timeline – Expanded Schedule

