

## **Department of Transportation METROPOLITAN BRANCH** 5821 N.E. GLISAN, PORTLAND, OREGON 97213

September 12, 1979

Telephone 238-8226

LETTER TO JPACT COMMITTEE

Subject: Preliminary Engineering on 217/Sunset Interchange

Item 4 of the JPACT agenda for September 13, 1979 recommends authorizing \$22,700 in federal funds for initiating preliminary engineering (air data collection) for the Sunset/Highway 217 interchange. This project is identified as a major priority problem area in the region. The time frame for implementing a major project of this size dictates that the project should move to preliminary engineering.

Due to the critical timing of this project and the project's relationship to major land use changes being proposed in the immediate area and its critical linkage to the west side transitway study, the Oregon Department of Transportation requests approval to initiate the first phase of preliminary engineering on this project as soon as possible. A systems planning report from MSD staff is due in the near future for this project.

It is requested that \$250,000 in preliminary engineering be authorized from the west side transitway reserve to be repaid from the I-505 funds in order to initiate the programming of the funds with the Federal Highway Administration and the Urban Mass Transportation Administration. This will enable the initial preliminary engineering on the project to begin in FY 1980.

I appreciate your approval of this request.

R. N. Bothmah Administrator

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Form 734-3122

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