



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration
Oregon Division
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Salem, Oregon 97301
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Federal Transit Administration
Region 10
915 Second Avenue, Room 3142
Seattle, Washington 98174-1002
206.220.7954

June 27, 2012

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OR/FTA-TRO-10

Mr. Matthew L. Garrett
Director
Oregon Department of Transportation
1158 Chemeketa St., NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: 2012-2015 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Approval

Dear Mr. Garrett:

In accordance with *23 CFR 450.218*, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have jointly reviewed Oregon's 2012 – 2015 STIP, as transmitted by your April 2, 2012 letter. The STIP submittal includes: a listing of projects; self-certification statements certifying that the transportation planning process is being carried out in accordance with *23 U.S.C. 134 & 135, and 49 U.S.C. 5303, 5304, & 5332*; and information on public involvement, air quality conformity, and financial constraint, and all other applicable laws and regulations that support approval.

23 CFR 450.218 requires that the state submit the entire proposed STIP concurrently to FTA and FHWA at least every four years for approval. Once approved by FTA and FHWA, Oregon's 2012-2015 STIP will supersede the State's previously approved and subsequently amended 2010-2013 STIP that was originally approved by FHWA and FTA in a letter dated December 9, 2010.

FHWA and FTA find that the FY2012–2015 STIP is based on a statewide transportation planning process that substantially meets the requirements of *23 U.S.C. Sections 134 & 135, 49 U.S.C. Section 135, and 49 U.S.C. Sections 5303 and 5304*. The finding is based on a review of Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) self-certifications, and supporting documentation of statewide and metropolitan transportation planning processes; Federal certification of Transportation Management Areas; and our involvement in the state and MPO transportation planning process, including review, approval, and monitoring of the Unified Planning Work Program and the planning portion of the State Planning and Research work program.

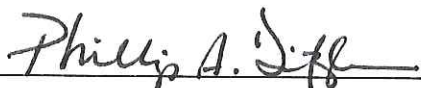
Based on our joint review, FHWA and FTA approve Oregon's 2012-2015 STIP subject to the following comments and conditions:

- This approval does not constitute a final commitment of Federal funds for any of the projects or programs included in the STIP. Federal funding for those projects is finalized when project authorization is requested of FHWA or upon submission of a grant application to FTA. This joint FHWA and FTA approval of the STIP does not constitute an eligibility determination for the Federal funds proposed for obligation on the listed projects. The eligibility of individual projects for funding is subject to the applicant's satisfaction of all administrative requirements.
- At our request, MPOs reviewed the STIP for its consistency with their respective metropolitan transportation improvement programs (MTIPs). Several discrepancies between the STIP and MTIPs were identified. Changes needed to correct these inconsistencies are included in the enclosed Table 1. Per 23 CFR 450.216 (b), each MTIP shall be included without change in the STIP, directly or by reference, after approval of the MTIP by the MPO and the Governor. It is understood that the Corvallis MPO's approved MTIP was received after the STIP was printed and forwarded to FHWA and FTA for review, thus requiring significant update of its program in the STIP.
- Program changes necessitated after the STIP is adopted by the MPO, and approved by the Governor, and before this Federal approval, shall be processed as an amendment to the STIP. We understand that this "transitional amendment" follows directly after Federal approval and will be reflected in the final print version of the federally approved STIP, thus providing the most accurate snapshot of the STIP at the time of Federal approval, resulting in fewer amendments later.
- FHWA and FTA are pleased with ODOT's STIP development process, with limited public dollars, in a cooperative, transparent and open forum with all stakeholders. We look forward to collaboratively working with ODOT and the MPOs in an effort to continually improve the process in areas such as: reducing the number of amendments, and the STIP implementation success rate.
- This action shall remain valid for a period of four years; however, ODOT may choose to update the STIP at more frequent intervals. Plans and programs (MTIPs) in air quality non-attainment or maintenance areas will expire earlier if any of the applicable regional air quality conformity determinations lapse at an earlier date.

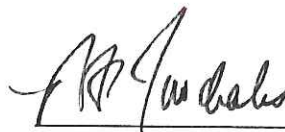
Thank you for your continued effort to improve the STIP process and ensure a cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive transportation improvement process. ODOT's online STIP database provides the most current information of its program. We recognize the complexity of assembling this STIP, and appreciate the hard work and outstanding efforts of your staff, and the MPOs, in keeping this important document as current as possible. We look forward to our continued work with you to advance the projects and programs in the STIP, and provide the stakeholders and the traveling public with a transportation system of the highest quality.

If you have any questions, please contact Satvinder Sandhu, FHWA, at (503)316-2560 or Ned Conroy, FTA, at (206)220-4318.

Sincerely,



Phillip A. Ditzler
Federal Highway Administration
Division Administrator



R. F. Krochalis
Federal Transit Administration
Regional Administrator

Enclosure

cc, w/encl.:

ODOT (Paul Mather, Highway Administrator)
(Jerri Bohard, Deputy Director of Operations)
(Steve Leep, Program and Funding Services Manager)
(Jill Scofield, Statewide STIP Manager)
(Peter Alotta, Statewide STIP Development Coordinator)
Metro (Robin McArthur, Planning & Development Director)
SKATS (Richard Schmid, Planning Director)
CLMPO (Byron Vanderpool, acting Planning Director)
RVMPO (Vicki Guarino, Planning Director)
CAMPO (Ali Bonakdar, Planning Director)
BMPO (Tyler Deke, Planning Director)

SS/rm

Table 1: FY 2012-2015 STIP and MTIP Projects Consistency Review			
MPO	Project Key No.	Discrepancy	Action
Corvallis MPO			
	Various	Many projects in FY 2013- 2015 MTIP years not included in STIP	Align MTIP and STIP
Bend MPO			
	14213	Empire Ave project not programmed in MTIP	Remove from STIP
	17848, 17908, 18102, and 16244	Projects are programmed in the MTIP	Add these projects in STIP
SKATS			
	17993, 17994, 17315-17, 17312, 17788-91, 17307-09, 17977, 15625	Significant rounding errors	Add a footnote with correct amount
	14888, 15617, 16696 and 14886	Projects not shown in MTIP	Align MTIP and STIP
	16587	Applicant and funding amount	Change applicant from SKATS to City of Salem and correct funding amount
	14870	Correct funding amount	Align MTIP and STIP
	Various	MTIP updates after the submission	Align STIP with most current updated MTIP
Central Lane MPO			
	Various	MTIP does not fully capture total project cost	Align MTIP and STIP
Metro/TriMet			
	Bus Stop Development and Streamline Program	Project not included in STIP due to Metro error. TIP amendment was transmitted on 11/29/10.	Align TIP and STIP
	18001, 18018, and 18021	Project fund type discrepancy	Assign STP funds not CMAQ
	18019 and 18026	Project fund type discrepancy	Assign CMAQ funds not STP
	18037, 166684, and 18036	Projects NOT to be funded	Delete projects
RVMPO			
	17401	Funding years and amounts different in STIP and MTIP.	Align MTIP and STIP
	17388	Project funded FY 2012 thru 2015 is missing in STIP	Align MTIP and STIP
Statewide			
	12819	Total available funding for NB Dundee Bypass project	JTA funding not shown for this project