



October 29, 2014

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee
From: Paul Thompson
Subject: Item 5.b: Draft MPO Boundary Adjustment

Background

Federal legislation (*23 USC 134(c): 49 USC 53039(d)*) requires boundaries of a metropolitan planning area to be determined by agreement between the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) and the Governor of the state in which the MPO resides. By law, each metropolitan planning area shall encompass at least the existing urbanized area (UZA) as defined by the most recent U.S. Census, and the contiguous area expected to become urbanized within a 20-year forecast period; and may encompass the entire metropolitan statistical area or consolidated metropolitan statistical area, as defined by the Bureau of the Census. The boundary of the MPO may be adjusted and updated at any time.

Like several other MPOs in the state, the Central Lane MPO metropolitan planning area currently does not cover the UZA as defined by the Bureau of the Census after the 2010 Census. In order to comply with federal regulations, the MPO boundary must be expanded to include all of the UZA. Once approved by MPC, the new boundary recommendation will be forwarded to ODOT who is coordinating the Governor's approval of changes to MPO boundaries statewide.

Discussion

The attached map presents the recommendation for establishing the updated boundary of the Central Lane MPO. In addition to meeting federal requirements for the minimum MPO boundary, the proposal incorporates other basic objectives – keeping the MPO boundary as consistent as possible with the Eugene-Springfield-Coburg Urban Growth Boundaries, ensuring that the boundary does not fall on the centerline of a road or in the middle of a bridge, interchange, or other similar transportation feature, and keeping the boundary as consistent as possible with established data boundaries such as census block group boundaries.

In large part the proposed MPO boundary is the same as the existing boundary established after the 2000 Census. For the most part, the proposed MPO

boundary has expanded only to accommodate the need to incorporate land defined by the Bureau of the Census as urbanized area based on the 2010 Census, primarily at the eastern edge of Springfield and an area along Lorane Highway in SW Eugene, as well as one small area near the Interstate 5/Highway 58 interchange.

Public Involvement

A public comment period on the proposed boundary change will be open from October 31, 2014 through November 30, 2014. A public hearing on the proposal is scheduled for the November 6, 2014 MPC meeting.

Next Steps

The MPO's Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) will consider a recommendation for approval of the proposed boundary at its November 20, 2014 meeting, taking into consideration public input to that date. MPC approval of a recommendation to the Governor to establish the new boundary is scheduled for the December 4, 2014 MPC meeting.

Action Requested: Conduct Public Hearing. Provide feedback to staff on draft boundary.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Map – *Proposed MPO Boundary for the Central Lane MPO*