



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

CENTRAL LANE METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION

DRAFT
June 2015

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

An annual review of the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Public Participation Plan (PPP) began in 2012. At the request of the MPO's policy board—the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)—the MPO Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) conducted the review and the conclusions and recommendations were presented to MPC in September 2013. The CAC's work in 2013 focused exclusively on providing feedback on staffs' development of a new draft Plan for the MPO. The new draft Plan did not include an ongoing CAC; therefore, the sitting committee was phased out as MPC adopted amendments to the PPP. Progress on the formal update of the Plan proceeded resulting in a revised and adopted PPP by the MPC in 2015.

The service of all of the dedicated citizens serving on the CAC over the years and their contributions to regional transportation planning efforts was greatly appreciated by the MPO. The last meeting of the CAC was held May 16, 2013.

Timeline for Review and Adoption of the PPP

May 21, 2015	Transportation Planning Committee conducts (TPC) initial staff review of draft PPP, and recommends releasing the draft PPP for public comment
May 29, 2015	Public comment period opens
June 4, 2015	Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) reviews the draft PPP
July 16, 2015	TPC recommendations adoption of the draft PPP by the MPC
July 26, 2015	Public comment period closes
August 6, 2015	MPC holds public hearing, reviews public comment, and adopts the final PPP

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PREFACE

In the “Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy”, Douglas Adams writes of the building of a hyperspatial express route through the Earth’s star system, a project which “regrettably” requires the demolition of Earth. The demolition crew has little sympathy for the people of Earth as all the plans and demolition orders have been on display for 50 years in the local planning department—on Alpha Centauri. Blaming the people of Earth for not bothering to take an interest in local affairs (Alpha Centauri is only 4 light years away), the planet is demolished and the demolition crew continues on its way.

This story humorously relates a problem typical in most long-range planning efforts—little input is received on plans and programs until they are ready to be implemented. The State of Oregon in general, and the Eugene/Springfield area in particular, are both known not only for their extensive public involvement programs, but also (and more importantly), for the many community members who show a strong interest in the planning process.

Meaningful citizen participation in transportation planning is challenging in that there are multiple layers of plans, complex financial, procedural and environmental issues, and various time lines that are controlled by local, state, and federal agencies.

Note To The Reader:

Are you an interested citizen wondering how to get involved?

- Go to Table 1 on page 13 to see what public involvement the MPO does for each key work product. Chapter III describes these.
- See our Citizen’s [Guide](#)—a friendly, easy-to-read, short brochure that tells the public about regional transportation planning and how to get involved.
- Click on: www.TheMPO.org



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I. INTRODUCTION

This chapter introduces the Public Participation Plan (PPP), explains the need and purpose for the plan, describes the decision-making authority, addresses consistency with state and federal regulations, and lists the target audiences to be reached. Chapter II contains goals, objectives, and policies. Chapter III lists the key products of the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the public involvement for each. Chapter III also tells how and when the public can provide input and how public input will be incorporated into plans and projects. Chapter IV describes the evaluation process and measures.

Overview of the Public Participation Plan (PPP)

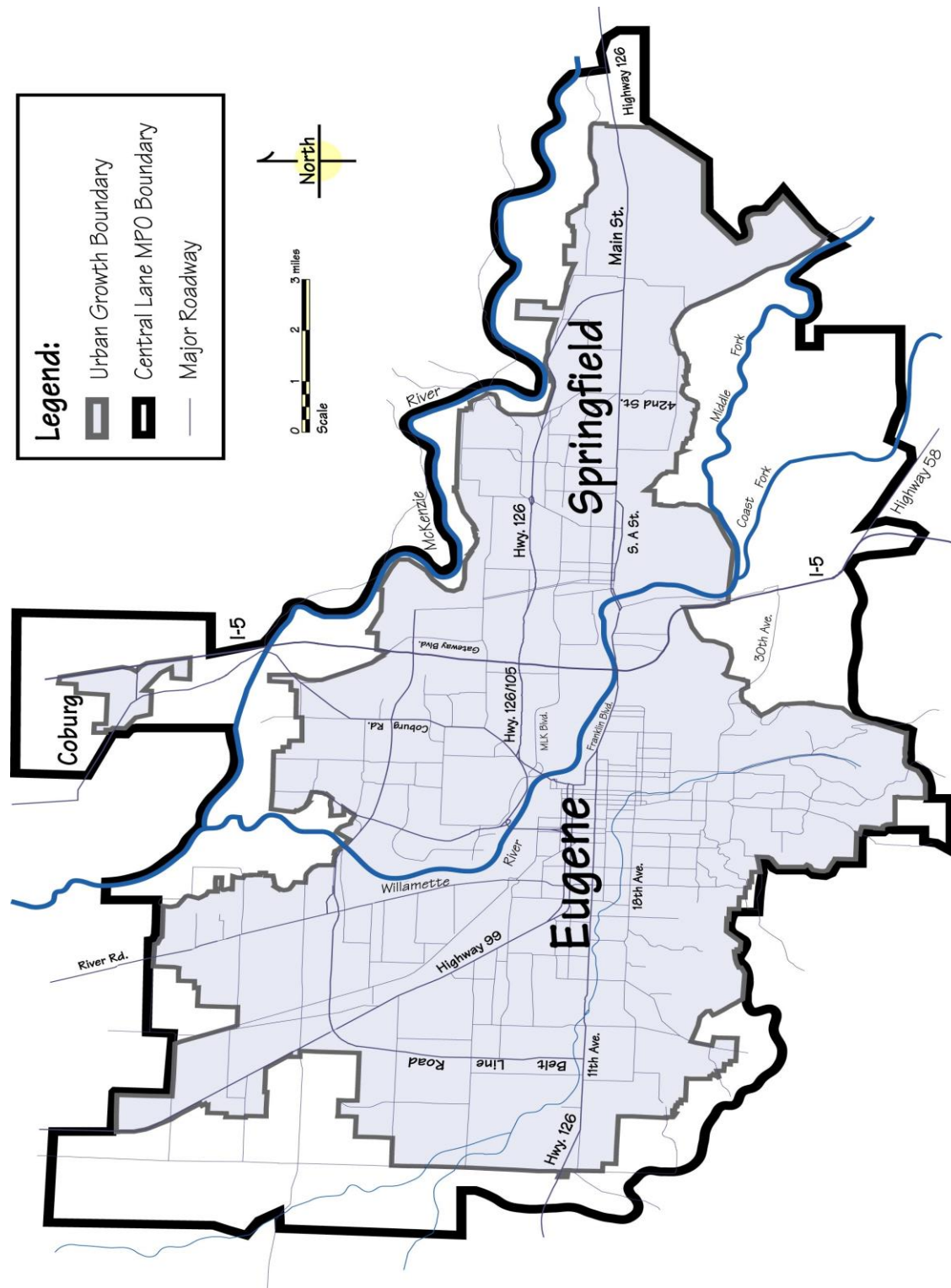
The PPP is an adopted document of the Central Lane MPO. Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) is the MPO acting within this area, which consists of Coburg, Eugene, and Springfield within their urban growth boundaries, and the portion of Lane County that surrounds Eugene/Springfield and connects the metropolitan area to Coburg (refer to Map 1). The purpose of the plan is to ensure broad public involvement during the development, review, and refinement of regional transportation programs. The over-arching goal is two-way communication with citizens, open decision-making, and responsiveness to citizen input.

Transportation planning is a complex web of project development, research, and decision-making over long timelines. Plans at different geographic scales and areas are developed by different agencies at different times and are routinely integrated to guide system decisions at the regional and state levels. Further, plans and prioritization of projects are updated cyclically.

Public involvement incorporates public concerns, needs, and values into governmental decision-making. It is two-way communication, with the overall goal of making better decisions that have public support. Public involvement goes beyond just informing the public through one-way communication, although that is an essential component. Public involvement also includes two-way communication that solicits the public's ideas, issues, and concerns.

Federal legislation requires an MPO to develop and implement a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process. The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century program (MAP-21, 49 United States Congress (USC) Chapter 53, Section 5303) requires the MPO to develop and use a public participation plan that is developed in consultation with all interested parties and provides reasonable opportunities for all interested parties to comment on all aspects of the MPO transportation planning process.

Map 1 - Central Lane MPO



The public involvement processes must be proactive and provide complete information, timely public notices, full public access to key decisions, and the opportunity for early and continuing involvement. This plan complies with the requirements of MAP-21.

Purpose of the Public Participation Plan

The purpose of the PPP is twofold. The first is to ensure that all MPO regional transportation plans, programs, and projects include adequate public participation prior to action by the MPC. The intent is to involve the public early on in the transportation planning process and to include public participation opportunities beyond formal hearings of the MPC. Table 2 in Chapter IV (Evaluation of the Public Participation Plan) lists ways to evaluate public outreach and participation tools—measurable ways to determine whether public participation is “adequate.” The second purpose of the PPP is to explain and describe how the public can be involved in the transportation planning process.

Decision-Making Authority

The decision-making body of the Central Lane MPO is the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC). The Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) Board delegated its decision-making authority for the Central Lane MPO to the MPC, which is comprised of elected officials from Coburg, Eugene, Lane County, and Springfield, and representatives from the Lane Transit District (LTD) and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). The MPO brings recommendations on regional transportation programs and issues to the MPC for adoption. Prior to taking action, the MPC releases products for public review, holds a public hearing, and considers comments received. Decisions made by MPC have a substantial effect on the transportation systems of the region.

Policy Framework

Transportation is one of the key contributors to the Eugene/Springfield region’s quality of life and economic viability. Generally, the need for transportation stems from our need to access goods, services, and other people within and beyond the region. The ease by which we are able to get from home to school, to a job, to medical services, to shopping and back again is dependent upon the efficiency and effectiveness of the region’s transportation system.

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is an adopted document that contains a broad set of goals, policies, and objectives to guide transportation planning in the metropolitan area that are consistent with state and federal law. A basic assumption in the policies of the RTP is that transportation systems do more than meet travel demand; they have a significant effect on the physical and socioeconomic characteristics of the areas they serve, including public health and safety. Transportation planning must be viewed in terms of regional and community goals and values such as protection of the environment, effect on the regional economy, and maintaining the quality of life that area residents enjoy.

The goals, policies, and objectives in the RTP are consistent with the region’s overall policy framework for regional planning as set forth in the comprehensive plans adopted by Lane County, and the cities of Coburg, Eugene, and Springfield.

Consistency with Applicable Regulations

Federal and state regulations require that a public involvement process be a part of any transportation planning program or project within Oregon. The PPP is consistent with all applicable federal and state regulations.

Federal

Under Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations (refer to Appendix 3), the public must be involved in transportation planning and decision-making at both the state and regional levels. The MPO is responsible for ensuring that the public is involved in regional planning programs and projects.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (CRA) requires that federal-aid recipients prevent discrimination in all programs whether these programs are federally-funded or not. The MPO is thus required to implement strategies that ensure that there are no barriers to citizen involvement and that minority and low-income populations are engaged in transportation decision-making. The federal term for these requirements is “environmental justice.” The [Title VI Plan](#) for the MPO includes an appendix (Appendix E) listing agencies and organizations throughout the metropolitan planning area that provide services to Title VI protected communities. The agencies and organizations on this list enhance the public involvement techniques to engage all segments of the public.

A 1994 Presidential Executive Order directed every federal agency to make environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing the effects of programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations. This executive order is a follow-up to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which states that “No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” The MPO receives federal monies and as a result is subject to federal environmental justice requirements.

The purpose of considering environmental justice in the transportation planning and decision-making process is to:

- Avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority and low-income populations.
- Ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the planning and decision-making process.
- Prevent the denial of, reduction in or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations.

Direction from federal agencies regarding implementation of environmental justice in transportation planning states that MPOs must:

- Enhance their analytical capabilities to ensure compliance with environmental justice.

- Identify residential, employment, and transportation patterns of minority and low-income populations in order to identify needs and determine if the benefits and burdens of transportation investments are fairly distributed.
- Evaluate and, where necessary, improve public processes to engage minority and low-income populations in decision-making.

State

The relationship between the federally mandated process for which the MPO is responsible and the requirements of the statewide land use planning system is not made clear in either set of requirements. While the MPO transportation system planning process is not subject to the requirements of the statewide land use planning system, it is consistent with those requirements. The Transportation Planning Rule (TPR), which implements Statewide Planning Goal 12 (Transportation), requires regional transportation system planning to include a process for citizen involvement if the project development involves land use decision-making. Statewide Planning Goal 1 (Citizen Involvement) requires the development of a citizen involvement program that ensures the opportunity for citizens to be involved in all phases of the planning process (refer to Appendix 3 for the text of the Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP) and Statewide Planning Goals 1 and 12). These requirements are very similar to the federal requirements for public involvement: “The public involvement processes must be proactive and provide complete information, timely public notices, full public access to key decisions, and the opportunity for early and continuing involvement...” (23 CFR 450.212(a) and 450.316(b)(1)). For this reason, the Public Participation Plan is consistent with state requirements.

The Oregon Public Meetings Law (refer to Appendix 3, page 3-12) requires that: all meetings of governing bodies covered by the law (which includes the Metropolitan Policy Committee) are open to the public; that the public be given notice of the time and place of the meetings; that meetings be accessible to everyone, including people with disabilities; and that minutes be made available to the public within a reasonable time that indicate the substance of the deliberations, decisions, and reference any information upon which such decisions are made.

Who Are the Publics to be Reached?

The MPO actively targets outreach to those most directly affected by transportation planning actions and also conducts a broader outreach campaign to the general public. Public involvement includes outreach to:

- General public
- Directly affected public
- Elected officials
- Affected public agency staff (e.g., U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority, Oregon Department of Transportation, and public works departments of MPO partners)
- Property owners, including those of abutting properties and those in the vicinity of a proposed project

- Freight shippers, providers, and users of freight transportation services—via rail, air, and highway routes
- Providers and users of private transportation services (e.g., taxis, shuttle buses, limousines, and van pools)
- Providers and users of public transportation services (e.g., bus, airlines, and train)
- The business community (e.g., retail, services, aggregate industry, etc.)
- Advocacy groups (e.g., neighborhood groups, Chambers of Commerce, homeowner's associations, public interest groups for bicycle use and pedestrians, civil rights groups, and senior citizen organizations)
- Underserved communities such as people with disabilities, children and youth, elderly, low-income, and racial and ethnic minorities
- Non-English speaking public
- Emergency service providers and users
- Other interested parties

Mailed or emailed outreach uses distribution lists comprised of interested parties, affected groups, and underserved communities in the list above. On an ongoing basis, the MPO updates its distribution list content and software and continually looks for opportunities to enhance the email distribution list, including input from MPO partners. This will make the lists easier to tailor for a specific outreach needs.

The MPO seeks participation and comment from all segments of the public. Chapter III (Providing Input) describes techniques to encourage the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the MPO decision-making process. (See the MPO Title VI Plan for additional information related to public involvement, including a list of agencies and organizations that serve Title VI communities.)

II. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

This chapter defines the goals, objectives and policies that govern the implementation of public involvement for MPO transportation planning. These document the commitment on the part of the MPO to pursue courses of action that will ensure effective and continuing public involvement. The suite of techniques that may be called upon to implement the policies are discussed in Chapter III.

Chapter IV (Evaluation of Public Participation Plan) of this document deals with evaluation—and includes approaches to measuring whether public involvement tools meet the objectives under each goal. The Public Participation Plan will be reviewed periodically as directed by MPC, but not longer than every four years, using the measures in Chapter IV.

Goal: Citizen Involvement in Regional Transportation Issues

Establish widespread understanding and support for regional transportation programs through development of an environment in which citizens, agencies and other interested parties in the metropolitan area are actively involved in meaningful and effective dialogue.

Definition/Intent: Transportation infrastructure and services exert a large effect on the community through land use, mobility of citizens and goods, and expenditure of large amounts of public funds. Decisions made at all levels of government (city, county, state, and federal) are often coordinated by the MPO in resolving issues and developing infrastructure in the region. The process can be quite complex and timelines can vary from 1 to 20 years. Citizens who are educated and knowledgeable about transportation issues are better able to provide guidance on the relative importance and priorities of proposed transportation system changes. Further, an effective two-way communication between policymakers and the public will enhance the credibility of plans and will lead to both citizen and legislative support of proposed programs. An effective public involvement process also will ensure that no one group of citizens is adversely affected.

References: Based on Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21, 49 United States Congress (USC) Chapter 53, Section 5303), Code of Federal Regulations (23 CFR 450.212(a) and 450.316(b)(1)), Title VI of the Civil Rights ACT of 1964, Oregon Transportation Plan Policy 4N, Statewide Planning Goals 1 and 12, Oregon Public Meetings Law, and Eugene/Springfield Metropolitan Area General Plan Regional Transportation Plan (TransPlan).

Objective 1: Provide citizens with information to increase their awareness of transportation issues, encourage their involvement in resolving the issues, and assist them in making informed transportation choices.

Definition/Intent: This objective supports and stresses the need for early and continuing public participation in transportation planning, programming, and implementation. It also supports a proactive public involvement process that provides complete information, timely public notice, and full public access to key decisions. To understand and support

transportation policies, residents need reliable information and opportunities to participate in the further development and implementation of the various plans. Achievement of this objective ensures compliance with federal requirements and also makes the MPO process consistent with Statewide Planning Goal 1 (Citizen Involvement). This objective is a part of the MPO Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

Policy 1.1. Ensure that information describing transportation planning processes is readily and publicly accessible. Make available contact information, calendars, announcements, meeting agendas, publications, and work products online, at the MPO office, at public libraries, and, upon request, by mail. Translation tools are available on the MPO website and translation of key public involvement products is available upon request.

Policy 1.2. Hold public meetings, when feasible, at a site convenient to citizens and other interested parties potentially affected by a transportation planning action. Have staff available to provide general and project-specific information at a central location at the request of community groups.

Policy 1.3. Ensure that broad cross-sections of the public, including traditionally underserved households such as minority, non-English speaking, and low-income, are notified when opportunities for public input are approaching. Maintain a minimum contact list and expand that list to include specific target audiences, when appropriate to the planning action. Use a facilitator or translators, as needed, to ensure that all populations have a voice.

Policy 1.4. Provide adequate public notice of opportunities for public involvement. Publish and update a timeline with clearly indicated decision points, priority actions, and milestones of each MPO transportation planning activity for which public input is desired. Make this timeline available both on the website and, upon request, by mail or email to a list of interested parties. Explain the basis for decisions, such as criteria or policies. Public notice shall be made as far in advance as feasible in each situation.

Policy 1.5. Inform the public and other interested parties whenever feasible through web notices and an electronic email database of opportunities for public participation in transportation planning activities of other city, county, or state agencies that affect regional transportation planning. Use visualization techniques such as an interactive map on the MPO website to describe plans and programs, and demonstrate the relationship among projects, plans, and regional transportation planning.

Policy 1.6. Maintain updated information about MPO programs and projects through a website that is coordinated with other MPO partners, such as KeepUsMoving.info (KUMI).

Objective 2: Ensure that the decisions made in the MPO transportation planning programs are consultative, and are clearly explained and documented in a manner accessible to all interested public.

Definition/Intent: This objective expresses the intent to foster a meaningful public process in which citizens' input is considered along with staff recommendations. The process by which public input is given and accepted will be defined and provide reasonable time to allow for consideration by the public. The decision-making process will be transparent in that staff will respond to all public comments, and the reasons for the decisions will be clearly explained and documented. The intent of this objective is that the process exceeds the requirements of the Oregon Public Meetings Law.

Policy 2.1. Solicit citizen input through public hearings, public meetings, and through written, email, or faxed communication submitted during public review and comment periods.

Policy 2.2. Give explicit consideration of all significant written and oral comments gathered through the public involvement process and interagency consultation. Make this testimony and response publicly available in a timely fashion to inform and provide opportunities for further citizen response. For the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), include a summary, analysis, and report in the final plans. Provide a time period between the end of the public comment period and the meeting at which the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) makes a decision on the product sufficient for input to be discussed and revisions to be made prior to adoption.

Policy 2.3: Comments received from the public during a formal public comment period will be forwarded to the MPO policy board.

Policy 2.4: Comments addressed to the MPO received outside a formal public comment period will be reviewed by staff, who will respond as appropriate. These comments will be posted to the MPO website and notice will be provided to the MPO policy board and/or the Transportation Planning Committee (TPC).

Policy 2.5. All meetings of the MPO policy board and the Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) are open to the public. Make available to the public all records pertaining to the decisions made by these bodies through: the MPO website; by mail upon request (at cost); or, when appropriate, for review in public buildings such as public libraries, city and county planning offices, Chambers of Commerce, and recreation centers.

Policy 2.6. Schedule meetings and hearings of the MPO policy board and Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) to allow the best opportunity for attendance by the public.

Objective 3: Ensure that the public involvement process provides full and open access to MPO decision-making.

Definition/Intent: This objective expresses the need to ensure that the methods and techniques used to involve the public in regional transportation planning issues are effective in that all groups of citizens and, in particular, those who may be affected by the proposed actions, are represented during the planning process. This objective recognizes that different techniques are needed to reach different groups of citizens, and that techniques currently used to promote and encourage citizen involvement may not always work. By tracking various performance measures the best techniques for attracting and involving citizens can be determined.

Policy 3.1: Evaluate the response to public involvement techniques including analysis of the region's population, income, language preference, ethnic status, and other demographic factors. Periodically, adjust strategies to improve performance, not to exceed four years between evaluations.

Policy 3.2: Review the Public Participation Plan (PPP) periodically, not to exceed four years, and adopt revisions as necessary. A 45-day comment period shall be provided before adoption or revision of the plan. Provide public notice as far in advance as feasible in each situation.

Policy 3.3: Ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the MPO decision-making process.

- a. Seek participation and comment from all segments of the public. In accordance with the federal transportation act (the latest being MAP-21), "provide citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, and other interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the transportation plan using the participation plan developed under §450.316(a)."
- b. Encourage citizens to provide new information and articulate priorities.
- c. Help citizens understand tradeoffs so that they may debate the merits of alternatives.
- d. Convey information about transportation planning in language and in a context that is understandable to the lay citizen.
- e. Keep acronyms and abbreviations to a minimum in information prepared for the public.
- f. Provide understandable background information to help citizens understand the tiers of transportation planning and how they can best be engaged in planning the regional system.

- g. Define the role of regional planning in identifying regional priorities, obtaining federal funding, and facilitating project sharing between jurisdictions.
- h. Include in the design of public forums methods that enable people with disabilities to provide input, including assistance in completing such written items as comment forms, evaluation forms, and surveys.

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III. PROVIDING INPUT

This chapter describes the core public participation opportunities for the key MPO work products: the Air Quality Conformity Determination (AQCD), the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP), the Public Participation Plan (PPP), the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), the Surface Transportation Program - Urban (STP-U) fund allocation, the Title VI Plan, the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and special projects. Also in this chapter are descriptions of the core public involvement opportunities and an explanation of the process for developing a public participation strategy for each key product. Table 1, Summary Table of Public Involvement, indicates which core public outreach and participation tools the MPO will use for each key product. Coburg, Eugene, Lane Transit District (LTD), Lane County, and Springfield each follow their own public involvement processes when developing or updating local plans. The MPO will make available to partner agencies, upon the request, the option to advertise on the MPO website and other electronic platforms—the various opportunities for public involvement.

The Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) has agreed to the concepts for and intended use of the Public Participation Plan (PPP). The PPP is primarily intended as a tool to demonstrate to the federal regulators that the MPO is meeting minimum federal requirements for public involvement for key MPO products. A document called the Citizen's [Guide](#) is a public outreach tool to provide the community with information on the MPO process and how to get involved. It has a format that is citizen-friendly, a sort of primer with lots of graphics and color, in plain English that is basic, easy to read, short, and uses humor. It contains: basic information about the MPO—who, what, where, why; a graphic explaining key MPO products and how they are related; a flow chart—How a Transportation Project Happens; and information about how and why to get involved.

Core Public Involvement Tools

The MPO gathers public comment on each key work product and forwards the comment to the MPC for consideration as part of the decision-making process. Table 1, Summary Table of Public Involvement, describes the products and shows the core public outreach and participation tools for each key work product and some of the special work products of the Central Lane MPO. The core techniques form the framework for public involvement for each key MPO product.

Speakers' Bureau

This tool involves assembling and training a group of speakers available to make presentations upon request to committees, civic, or interest groups, and other organizations. Or, the MPO may proactively request agenda time to make such presentations. Examples include local newspaper editorial boards, bicycle committees, downtown commissions, chambers of commerce, neighborhood groups, and development groups. The speakers are primarily staff, but also may include stakeholders and public officials. The format usually consists of a slide or video presentation, informational handouts, distribution of comment forms, and a discussion period. Attendees are given the opportunity to sign up for the mailing list. Speakers' bureau presentations can be

used for ongoing communication with key interested parties and is part of a concentrated outreach for large projects such as the update of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

Web Notice

General or project-specific websites offer an opportunity for public input that is flexible and not staff intensive. The general MPO website provides background information about the MPO, its activities, the transportation planning process, and opportunities for the public to become involved. Project-specific websites can be used to display extensive information about individual projects, such as major MPO activities like the RTP. These sites are used when project information is too extensive to be included on the MPO website.

LaneVoices is another form of web notice. It is an online public engagement platform similar to that of a virtual town hall. LaneVoices serves as a space for people to share their ideas for enriching the community and to help community partners solve problems. LaneVoices is accessible anytime from almost anywhere, and connects organizations with community members who might not otherwise get involved. Staff regularly posts topics to the website for public comment, providing ongoing management and monitoring of the platform. Participant information is collected and reported to determine the effectiveness of this tool.

Notice to Interested Parties

There are a few different types of notices. An introductory notice explains the agency process for applications, participation, etc. It may also explain a review process for the corrective action process and the opportunities for public participation in that process. A notice of decision presents the agency decisions regarding projects, processes, or modifications to incorporate changes such as a corrective action remedy.

The MPO's distribution lists include a wide range of individuals, community organizations, and relevant agencies that are considered when developing project specific public participation and outreach strategies. The MPO connects with organizations, agencies, and individuals in many ways to continually enhance their involvement in many aspects of the transportation program and systems throughout the metropolitan area.

Public Comment Period

A formal public comment period for submission of written comment via mail, email, or fax, is held prior to the adoption of the transportation plan or program or to the adoption of amendments to the plan or program. Table 1 indicates which key MPO products have a public comment period, which is 45 days for the PPP and generally is 30 days for the other key MPO products. The Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) can decide to also expedite or extend the public review period depending on the circumstances. Notice of the public review period will be issued prior to the start of the public comment period through a notice to interested parties, and a web notice on the MPO website and LaneVoices. In addition, the MPO may advertise notice in other publications, including placement of an advertisement in the newspaper, and/or an interior bus poster.

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) Public Hearing

Public hearings are elected official meetings held to receive public testimony and typically consist of a formal staff presentation followed by a period for formal public comment. Each person who wants to provide testimony is given an opportunity to do so, although the chair may limit the time each person has to testify. Citizens testifying have the option of also submitting their comments in writing. MPC holds public hearings prior to the adoption or amendment of the key MPO work products. All comments received are part of the public record on the decision and are provided to the MPC in full or summary prior to action by the committee, along with the staff response. Public hearings are open to the public and are subject to the Oregon Public Meetings Law. Notice of the time, date, location, and agenda is provided through notice to the interested parties, and posting on the MPO website and LaneVoices.

Getting the Word Out About Upcoming Public Involvement Events

The MPO uses the following ways to get the word out about upcoming public comment periods and public hearings. The public can sign up to receive email notices of public participation events on the MPO website, sign-up sheets at public hearings, or by submitting written comment.

The public can find out about upcoming events through:

- Websites (www.TheMPO.org and LaneVoices)
- Emails to those on an interested parties lists
- Sign-up sheets at MPO public hearings

TABLE 1 – Summary Table of Public Involvement

	MPO Work Product	Description	Decision-Making Process	Basic Public Outreach and Participation Tools				
				Public Comment Period	MPC Public Hearing	Notice to Interested Parties	Web Notice	Speakers' Bureau
Key MPO Work Products	Air Quality Conformity Determination (AQCD)	Demonstration of conformity with national air quality standards	Required for Regional Transportation Plan (TPC) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) updates and significant amendments • Adopted by Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Varies
	Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) and Amendments	4 to 5 year schedule of projects	• Adopted every 2 years by MPC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
			• End of year report on obligated projects			✓	✓	
			• Amended 4 times a year by MPC		Varies	✓	✓	Varies
	Public Participation Plan (PPP)	Policy and procedure for MPO public involvement	• Amended administratively monthly by TPC			✓	✓	Varies
			• Adopted by MPC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Amendments	20-year long range plans with policies and projects	• Amended as needed	Varies	Varies	✓	✓	Varies
			• Adopted every 3 to 5 years by MPC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Surface Transportation Program (STP) - Urban Fund Allocation	Local process to assign federal dollars to local priority projects	• Amended as needed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
			• Typically adopted every two years by MPC and amended as needed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Title VI Plan	Addresses applicable provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and is updated as needed	• Reviewed by TPC			✓	✓	
			• Adopted by MPC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other Work Products	Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)	Annual work program	• Adopted by MPC	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Setting Priorities for Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and other state funding programs	MPO priorities for projects on state system	• Adopted by MPC as needed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Special Projects	Examples include review of state policies and plans, refinement plans, corridor studies, etc.	• MPO reviews and provides feedback to state agencies as needed	Varies	Varies	✓	✓	Varies

✓ Indicates required public involvement

Product-Specific Public Outreach Strategy

A specific public outreach strategy can be developed for the update of each work product that includes details, such as location and timing, about the core public participation tools for the specific update. Any additional tools, as appropriate and affordable, can be identified at this time. Realizing that the MPO region is widely diverse, the public outreach strategy is tailored to the unique aspects of the process depending on the geographic scope, the type of projects included, the characteristics of affected communities, and the level of public interest. The intent is to provide public notice as far in advance of MPC decisions as feasible in each situation to give citizens as much time as possible to provide well-thought out comments. The MPO's distribution lists include a wide range of individuals, community organizations, and relevant agencies that are considered when developing project-specific public participation and outreach strategies.

Appendix 2 describes a wide array of public involvement tools that could be used to design a public outreach strategy. An example of an additional tool that could be used for a specific public involvement strategy is to form a core group of key community decision-makers and communicators to function as a sounding board for the update and help get the word out to the public. Other examples of additional tools include email updates, speaker's bureau, focus groups, direct mailings, automated phone messages, video kiosks, and radio spots.

The IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum is included in Appendix 2 as a framework for designing the public outreach strategy that considers the public participation goal and the promise to the public for each public outreach tool. IAP2 stands for International Association of Public Participation. It is a professional organization for public involvement specialists.

Public Involvement Funding

The public involvement budget for the key MPO products listed in Table 1 is based on federal funds that the MPO receives. The amount of these funds can vary from year to year and the outreach and participation budget for a specific product depends on the nature of the particular update. Budgeting for MPO public involvement takes place as part of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which is updated every two years and approved by the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC).

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IV. EVALUATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

This chapter deals with evaluation—objective ways to measure whether the public outreach and participation tools meet the objectives under each goal identified in Chapter II (Goals, Objectives, and Policies). Establishing evaluation measures and performance objectives provides a framework for assessing the effectiveness of public participation activities. The evaluation provides information to use in improving the public involvement program, such as discontinuing activities that are ineffective, modifying activities, and adding new activities to the MPO program. The Public Participation Plan (PPP) will be reviewed periodically using the measures in this chapter. Initial baseline information will need to be gathered to enable measurement of the performance objectives.

Table 1 in Chapter III (Providing Input) identifies the core public outreach and participation tools for key MPO products. The following table—Table 2—includes evaluation measures and performance objectives for the public outreach and participation tools shown in Table 1. The third column in Table 2 identifies methods to meet the performance objectives and identifies ways to improve the PPP to meet the goals identified in Chapter II. Appendix 2 describes an extensive list of public outreach and participation tools that can be used by the MPO to design a public involvement strategy for the update of each key product.

Evaluation is an integral part of the public involvement activity after completion of the activity, at milestones during an activity, or periodically for ongoing activities. The design of the evaluation should fit the activity. For small, informal activities, the evaluation can occur at the staff team level by noting what worked well and what should be done differently next time. Evaluation questions can be incorporated into public comment forms distributed at events, such as public workshops. Surveys are a way to get evaluation feedback on either an event or an ongoing program from a targeted or randomly selected group. Surveys can be conducted using a statistically valid method or can be more informal questions posed to gather a sounding from the public. Surveys can be conducted in person, by phone, mail, or email.

TABLE 2 - Evaluating Public Involvement Tools

Core Public Participation Tool	Evaluation Measurement	Performance Objective	Methods to Meet Objective	Relevant Objective From Ch. II
Speakers' Bureau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of organizations participating • Number of attendees • Number of new contacts identified • Number of topics discussed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the dissemination of information and general knowledge of planning processes • Increase the number of contacts made • Facilitate two-way discussion and decision-making processes • Improve quality of engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with regional partners to provide presentations • Awareness of, and participation in, community meetings, events and gatherings • Engage with organizations and agencies that serve Title VI protected populations 	1, 2, 3
Web Notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of online visitors • Number of comments received 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase number of online visitors • Increase the number of public comments received • Improve the quality of engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include MPO and LaneVoices website URL in all MPO web notices • Use other public participation tools to increase the use of the website and LaneVoices (e.g., fact sheets) • Ensure translation features are viable and visible • Submit topics of regional interest in a simplified manner • Actively monitor and respond to public comment • Ensure that translation tools and services are easily identifiable and available 	1, 2, 3

Core Public Participation Tool	Evaluation Measurement	Performance Objective	Methods to Meet Objective	Relevant Objective From Ch. II
Notice to Interested Parties (e.g., email or direct mail)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of persons on distribution list Number of traditionally underserved communities on the list 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase number of subscribers Increase number of traditionally underserved communities on list 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase list size by advertising the availability of email announcements using other public involvement tools Marketing/information campaign to advertise to the public Include organizations and agencies that work with Title VI protected populations Tailor notices to engage different segments of the public (i.e. in format and language) 	1, 2, 3
Public Comment Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of responses (e.g., calls, letters, email) Number of changes in draft document that resulted from comment received Number of participates from underserved communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase number of responses Improve quality of the comments Increase participation of underserved communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversify advertising (e.g., e-updates, LaneVoices, in-person) Actively monitor and respond to online public comment Ensure that public comment tools are easily accessible and translatable for different segments of the public 	1, 2, 3
MPC Public Hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of testifiers Number of public hearing opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase number of different testifiers Increase numbers in the audience Increase the quality of the comments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversify advertising Produce fact sheet with involvement opportunities Produce fact sheet with tips on testifying and commenting 	1, 2, 3

APPENDIX 1

Central Lane MPO Acronyms List and Glossary



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TRANSPORTATION ACRONYMS

3-C – Continuing, Comprehensive and Cooperative Planning Process

3R – Resurfacing, restoring, and rehabilitating

AAA – American Automobile Association

AASHO – American Association of State Highway Officials

AASHTO – American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials

ACT – Area Commission on Transportation

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act

ADT – Average Daily Traffic (or Average Daily trips)

AMPO – Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations

APA – American Planning Association

APTA – American Public Transportation Association

AQCD – Air Quality Conformity Determination

ARBA – American Road Builders' Association

ARMA – American Road Makers' Association

ARTBA – American Road and Transportation Builders' Association

BMCS – Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety

BMP – Best Management Practice

BMS – Bridge Management System

BRT – Bus Rapid Transit

BTS – Bureau of Transportation Statistics

CAA – Clean Air Act

CAA(A) – Clean Air Act Amendments

CAC – Citizen Advisory Committee

CATS – (Eugene) Central Area Transportation Study

CFR – Code of Federal Regulations

CIP – Capital Improvement Program

CMAQ – Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program

CMP – Congestion Management Process (Plan)

CMS – Congestion Management System

COG – Council of Governments

DEIS – Draft Environment Impact Statement

DEQ – Department of Environmental Quality

DLCD – Department of Land Conservation and Development

DOT – Department of Transportation

EEO – Equal Employment Opportunity

EIS – Environmental Impact Statement

EJ – Environmental Justice

EMME/2 – Equilibre Multimodal Multimodal Equilibrium (Transportation Model)

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

FAA – Federal Aviation Administration
FAP – Federal-Aid Primary
FAS – Federal-Aid Secondary
FAU – Federal-Aid Urban
FEIS – Final Environmental Impact Statement
FHWA – Federal Highway Administration
FRA – Federal Railroad Administration
FTA – Federal Transit Administration
(F)FY – Federal Fiscal Year
FY – Fiscal Year

GIS – Geographic Information Systems
GPS – Global Positioning Systems

HCM – Highway Capacity Manual
HOV – High Occupancy Vehicle
HPMS – Highway Performance Monitoring Systems
HRB – Highway Research Board
HSR – High Speed Rail

I/M – Inspection and Maintenance
IAMP – Interchange Area Management Plan
ICC – Interstate Commerce Commission
IHS – Interstate Highway System
IM – Interstate Maintenance
IRF – International Road Federation
ISTEA – Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991
ITS – Intelligent Transportation Systems
IVHS – Intelligent Vehicle Highway Systems

JARC – Job Access and Reverse Commute

LCDC – Land Conservation and Development Commission
LOS – Level of Service (traffic flow rating)
LRAPA – Lane Regional Air Protection Agency
LRT – Light Rail Transit
LRTP – Long-Range Transportation Plan
LTD – Lane Transit District
LUAM – Land Use Allocation Model

MAP-21 – Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century
MIS – Major Investment Study
MOA – Memorandum of Agreement
MOBILE6 – An emissions model, being replaced by MOVES
MOU – Memorandum of Understanding
MOVES – Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator
MPC – Metropolitan Policy Committee

MPO – Metropolitan Planning Organization
MSA – Metropolitan Statistical Area
MTP – Metropolitan Transportation Plan
MTIP – Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program
MUTCD – Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

NAA – Non-Attainment Area
NAAQS – National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
NHS – National Highway System
NHTSA – National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
NOX – Nitrogen Oxides

O&M – Operations and Maintenance
ODOT – Oregon Department of Transportation
OHP – Oregon Highway Plan
OM&P – Operations, Maintenance and Preservation
OMPOC – Oregon MPO Consortium
ORFS – Oregon Roads Finance Committee
OTC – Oregon Transportation Commission
OTIA – Oregon Transportation Investment Act
OTP – Oregon Transportation Plan
OTREC – Oregon Transportation Research and Education Consortium

PCR – Pavement Condition Rating
PE – Preliminary Engineering
PIARC – Permanent International Association of Road Congresses
PL – Planning Funds
PPM – Policy and Procedure Memorandum
PPP – Public Participation Plan
PS&E – Plans, Specifications, and Estimates

RAC – (Lane County) Roads Advisory Committee
RFP – Request for Proposal
ROW – Right-of-Way
RR – Railroad
RTP – Regional Transportation Plan

SAFETEA-LU – Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – a
Legacy for Users
SDC – System Development Charge
SHTF – State Highway Trust Fund
SIB – State Infrastructure Bank
SIP – State Implementation Plan
SOV – Single Occupancy Vehicle
SPR – State Planning and Research funds
STA – Special Transportation Area

STIP – State Transportation Improvement Program

C-STIP – Construction STIP

D-STIP – Development STIP

STP – Surface Transportation Program

STPP – Surface Transportation Policy Project

TAC – Technical Advisory Committee

TASC – Technical Advisory Subcommittee

TAZ – Traffic Analysis Zone

TCM – Transportation Control Measure

TDM – Transportation Demand Management

TDP – Transit Development Program

TEA-21 – Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century

TIFIA – Transportation Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act of 1998

TIP – Transportation Improvement Program, either MTIP or STIP

TMA – Transportation Management Area

TMSF – Transportation Management System Fee

TO – Transportation Options

TOD – Transit Oriented Development

TOAC – Transportation Options Advisory Committee

TPAU – Transportation Planning Analysis Unit

TPC – Transportation Planning Committee

TPR – Transportation Planning Rule

TRB – Transportation Research Board

TSI – Transportation System Improvements

TSM – Transportation System Management

TSP – Transportation System Plan

TUF – Transportation Utility Fee

UGB – Urban Growth Boundary

UMTA – Urban Mass Transportation Administration

UPWP – Unified Planning Work Program

V/C – Volume to Capacity

VMT – Vehicle Miles Traveled

VOCs – Volatile Organic Compounds

VPD – Vehicles Per Day

TRANSPORTATION GLOSSARY

Air Quality Conformity Determination – In response to the Clean Air Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has established health-based National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for six air pollutants. A *conformity determination* is a finding that the projects in a plan or program do not adversely impact air quality.

Alternative Modes of Transportation - Forms of transportation that provides transportation alternatives to the use of single-occupant automobiles. Examples include: rail, transit, carpools, bicycles, and walking.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) - Federal civil rights legislation for persons with disabilities, signed into law in 1990 that prohibits discrimination specifically in the areas of employment, public accommodation, public services, telecommunications, and transportation. Transportation requirements include the provision of “comparable paratransit service” that is equivalent to general public fixed-route service for persons who are unable to use regular bus service due to a disability.

Area Sources - Small stationary and non-transportation pollution sources that are too small and/or numerous to be included as point sources but may collectively contribute significantly to air pollution (e.g., dry cleaners).

Arterial Street - A class of street serving major traffic movements (high speed, high volume) for travel between major points.

Attainment Area - An area considered to have air quality that meets or exceeds the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) health standards used in the Clean Air Act. Nonattainment areas are areas considered not to have met these standards for designated pollutants. An area may be an attainment area for one pollutant and a nonattainment area for others.

Attainment Plan - A program of air pollution emission control measures associated with state and federal requirements which are designed to ensure that an area achieves attainment with an ambient air standard.

Balanced Transportation System - A system that provides a range of transportation options and takes advantage of the inherent efficiencies of each mode.

Board of County Commissioners (BCC) - Five elected officials who are the Lane County decision-makers.

Capacity - A transportation facility’s ability to accommodate a moving stream of people or vehicles in a given time period. The maximum rate of flow at which persons or vehicles can be reasonably expected to traverse a point or uniform segment of a lane or roadway during a specified time period under prevailing roadway, traffic, and control conditions; usually expressed as vehicles per hour or persons per hour.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) - A plan for future capital infrastructure and program expenditures which identifies each capital project, its anticipated start and completion, and allocates existing funds and known revenue sources for a given period of time. Each local government has a CIP.

Capital Program Funds - Financial assistance from the Capital Program of 49 U.S. Congress. This program enables the Secretary of Transportation to make discretionary capital grants and loans to finance public transportation projects divided among fixed guideway (rail) modernization; construction of new fixed guideway systems and extensions to fixed guideway systems; and replacement, rehabilitation, and purchase of buses and rented equipment, and construction of bus-related facilities.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) - A colorless, odorless, tasteless gas formed in large part by incomplete combustion of fuel. Human activities (i.e., transportation or industrial processes) are largely the source for CO contamination. Local sources of carbon monoxide include automobiles, wood stoves, and industrial processes.

Categorical Exclusions (CE) - Documents prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for federal actions that do not have a significant human and natural environmental effect.

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) - Representative stakeholders that meet regularly to discuss issues of common concern, such as transportation, and to advise sponsoring agency officials. These groups effectively interact between citizens and their government.

Clean Air Act (CAA) - Federal statutes established by the United States Congress which set the nation's air quality goals and the process for achieving those goals. The original Clean Air Act was passed in 1963, but the national air pollution control program is actually based on the 1970 version of the law. The 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments are the most far-reaching revisions of the 1970 law.

Clean Water Act (CWA) - Federal law regulating the quality of the waters of the United States. Amendments to the CWA in 1987 require local jurisdictions to develop stormwater management plans for the control of municipal nonpoint source pollution.

Comprehensive Plan - An official document adopted by a local government that describes the general, long-range policies on how the community's future development should occur. A local comprehensive plan must be in compliance with Oregon state land use planning goals.

Congestion - A condition under which the number of vehicles using a facility is great enough to cause reduced speeds and increased travel times.

Congestion Management System (CMS) - Systematic process for managing congestion. Provides information on transportation system performance and finds alternative ways to

alleviate congestion and enhance the mobility of people and goods, to levels that meet state and local needs.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) - A categorical Federal-aid funding program created with the ISTEA. Directs funding to projects that contribute to meeting national air quality standards. CMAQ funds generally may not be used for projects that result in the construction of new capacity available to SOVs (single-occupant vehicles).

Criteria Pollutants - Air pollutants for which there are National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) that have been established by the Environmental Protection Agency to protect the public health and welfare from their known adverse effects. There are additional standards set by the State of Oregon. Communities are required to test the air continually for those criteria pollutants which appear to merit testing, based on historical data and trends, and population. In the Eugene/Springfield area, the Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority (LRAPA) is responsible for monitoring these air pollutants.

Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) - The state department that administers Oregon's statewide land use program. Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) is the appointed policy board that guides DLCD.

Department of Transportation (DOT) - When used alone, indicates U.S. Department of Transportation. In conjunction with a place name, indicates state, city, or county transportation agency (e.g., Oregon Department of Transportation is ODOT).

Design Standards - Standards that are met when a new road is constructed, or when a deficient section is improved. These standards pertain to all relevant geometric and structural features required to provide a desired level of service over the life of the project. The life of the project is generally 20 years beyond its implementation.

Emissions Budget - The part of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) that identifies the allowable emissions levels, mandated by the NAAQS, for certain pollutants emitted from mobile, stationary, and area sources. The emissions levels are used for meeting emission reduction milestones, attainment, or maintenance demonstrations.

Enhancements - Activities that assist communities reach social, cultural, aesthetic, and environmental goals as well as help harmonize the transportation system with the community. Enhancements are part of the mitigation for project impacts and can include bike and pedestrian trails, renovating streetscapes, and scenic beautification.

Environmental Assessments (EA) - Prepared for federal actions under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) where it is not clearly known how significant the environmental impact might be. If, after preparing an environmental assessment, it is determined that the project impact is significant, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is then prepared. If not, a finding of "no significant impact" (FONSI) is documented.

Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) - Prepared for federal actions that have a significant effect on the human and natural environment. These are disclosure documents prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that provide a full description of the proposed project, the existing environment, and analysis of the anticipated beneficial and adverse environmental effects of all reasonable alternatives. There are various stages – Draft EIS and Final EIS.

Environmental Justice (EJ) - Environmental justice assures that services and benefits allow for meaningful participation and are fairly distributed to avoid discrimination.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - The federal regulatory agency responsible for administering and enforcing federal environmental laws, including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and others. EPA is the source agency of air quality control regulations affecting transportation.

Eugene/Springfield Metropolitan Area General Plan (Metro Plan) - The comprehensive land use planning document for the Eugene/Springfield metropolitan area. This document outlines broad goals, objectives, and policies for long-range planning inside the urban growth boundary (UGB) of Eugene and Springfield. The Metro Plan is in compliance with state land use planning goals.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) - A branch of the U.S. Department of Transportation that administers the Federal-Aid Highway Program, providing financial assistance to states to construct and improve highways, urban and rural roads, and bridges. The FHWA also administers the Federal Lands Highway Program, including survey, design, and construction of forest highway system roads, parkways and park roads, Indian reservation roads, defense access roads, and other Federal lands roads.

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) - A branch of the U.S. Department of Transportation that is the principal source of federal financial assistance to America's communities for planning, development, and improvement of public or mass transportation systems. FTA provides leadership, technical assistance, and financial resources for safe, technologically advanced public transportation to enhance mobility and accessibility, to improve the nation's communities and natural environment, and to strengthen the national economy.

Financial Planning - The process of defining and evaluating funding sources, sharing the information, and deciding how to allocate the funds.

Financial Programming - A short-term commitment of funds to specific projects identified in the regional Transportation Improvement Program (see TIP).

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) - A statement prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) indicating that a project was found to have no significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and for which an environmental statement will therefore not be prepared.

Fine Particulates - Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in size (PM-2.5). A micron is one millionth of a meter. See “Particulate matter” below.

Fiscal or Financial Constraint - Making sure that a given program or project can reasonably expect to receive funding within the time allotted for its implementation.

Formula Capital Grants - Federal transit funds for transit operators; allocation of funds overseen by FTA.

Geographic Information System (GIS) - Computerized data management system designed to capture, store, retrieve, analyze, and display geographically referenced information.

Goal 12 - One of 19 statewide planning standards of Oregon that make up the state land use planning program. Goal 12 relates to transportation and reads: “To provide and encourage a safe, convenient and economic transportation system.” See **Transportation Planning Rule**.

Goals - A desired result or purpose. In planning, a goal is a broad statement of philosophy that describes the hopes of the people of the community for the future of the community. A goal may never be completely attainable, but it is used as a point toward which the community may strive.

High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) - Vehicles carrying two or more people. The number that constitutes an HOV for the purposes of HOV highway lanes may be designated differently by different transportation agencies.

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) - The application of advanced technologies to improve the efficiency and safety of transportation systems.

Interim Benchmarks - Transportation System Plans (TSP) required by the Transportation Planning Rule must include interim benchmarks for use in evaluating progress at 5-year intervals. Where interim benchmarks are not met, the TSP must be amended to include new or additional efforts.

Intermodal - The ability to connect, and the connections between, modes of transportation.

Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) - Legislative initiative by the U.S. Congress that restructured funding for transportation programs; authorized an increased role for regional planning commissions/MPOs in funding decisions; and required comprehensive regional and statewide long-term transportation plans.

Interstate Highway System (IHS) - The system of highways that connects the principal metropolitan areas, cities, and industrial centers of the United States. Also connects the U.S. to internationally significant routes in Canada and Mexico.

Joint Planning Commissions Committee (JPCC) - Comprised of two planning commissioners from each of the cities of Eugene and Springfield, and from Lane County. The JPCC is designated in the Eugene/Springfield Metro Plan as the public involvement body for that plan.

Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) - A seven-member commission of volunteer citizens established by Senate Bill 100 in 1973 to develop and administer Oregon's statewide planning goals. The commission sets and guides policy for the administrative department, DLCD.

Land Use - Refers to the manner in which portions of land or the structures on them are used (e.g., commercial, residential, retail, industrial, etc.).

Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) - A board established by the state legislature in 1979 to hear and decide on contested land-use cases.

Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) - LCOG is a voluntary association of local governments in Lane County, Oregon. Dedicated to solving area-wide problems, LCOG helps area cities, Lane County, educational districts, and special-purpose districts reach their common goals. LCOG serves as the MPO for Central Lane County as designated by the Governor in 1974.

Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority (LRAPA) - The local agency formed through an intergovernmental agreement between Lane County and the cities of Eugene, Springfield, Cottage Grove, and Oakridge. LRAPA is responsible for restoring and maintaining the ambient air quality of Lane County. DEQ cedes air pollution regulation to LRAPA in this area.

Lane Transit District (LTD) - The transit agency serving the Central Lane Transportation Management Area.

Level of Service (LOS) - A qualitative rating of how well a unit of transportation supply (e.g., street, intersection, bikeway, etc.) serves its current or projected demand. LOS A = free flow condition (32 percent of capacity); B = reasonably free flow conditions (51 percent); C = operation stable but becoming more critical (75 percent); D = lower speed range of stable flow (92 percent); E = unstable flow (100 percent); F = forced flow; >100 percent of capacity, stop and go operation.

Long-Range Projects - Projects identified as long-range are expected to be needed in 10 to 12 years.

Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) - See **Regional Transportation Plan**.

Maintenance Area - Maintenance area is any geographic region of the United States previously designated nonattainment pursuant to the Clean Air Act (CCA) Amendments

of 1990 and subsequently redesignated to attainment subject to the requirement to develop a maintenance plan under section 175A of the CAA, as amended.

Maintenance Plan - A program of air pollution emission control measures associated with state and federal requirements which are designed to ensure that an area remains in attainment with an ambient air standard.

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) - Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act is a multi-year federal transportation legislation, signed into law in 2012, that authorizes federal funds for surface transportation programs.

Medium Term Capital Project - Projects identified as medium-range are expected to be needed in 6 to 10 years.

Metro Plan - see **Eugene/Springfield Metropolitan Area General Plan (Metro Plan)**.

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) - An intergovernmental policy group that comprises representatives from Coburg, Eugene, and Springfield councils, Oregon Department of Transportation, Lane County Board of Commissioners, and the Lane Transit District Board of Directors. MPC has been delegated certain responsibilities by the Lane Council of Governments Board of Directors to provide policy guidance on the transportation planning process in the metropolitan area.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) - Regional policy body, required in urbanized areas with populations over 50,000, and designated by local officials and the governor of the state. Responsible, in cooperation with the state and other transportation providers, for carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning requirements of federal highway and transit legislation. Lane Council of Governments serves as the MPO in the central Lane area as designated by the governor in 1974.

Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) - See **Transportation Improvement Program**.

Mitigation - Means to avoid, minimize, rectify, or reduce an impact, and in some cases, to compensate for an impact.

Mobile Source - The mobile source-related pollutants are carbon monoxide (CO), hydrocarbons (HC), nitrogen oxides (NOx), and particulate matter (PM-10 and PM 2.5).

Mode - A specific form of transportation, such as automobile, subway, bus, rail, or air.

Multimodal - A trip involving several types of transportation, such as both rail and bus.

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) - Federal standards that set allowable concentrations and exposure limits for various pollutants. The EPA developed the standards in response to a requirement of the Clean Air Act (CAA). Air quality

standards have been established for the following six criteria pollutants: ozone (or smog), carbon monoxide, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, lead, and sulfur dioxide.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) - An established national environmental policy (1969) requiring that any project using federal funding or requiring federal approval, including transportation projects, examine the effects of proposed and alternative choices on the environment before a federal decision is made.

National ITS Architecture - A systems framework to guide the planning and deployment of ITS infrastructure. The national ITS architecture is a blueprint for the coordinated development of ITS technologies in the U.S. It is unlikely that any single metropolitan area or state would plan to implement the entire national ITS architecture.

Non-Attainment - Any geographic area that has not met the requirements for clean air as set out in the Clean Air Act of 1990. An area can at the same time be classified as in attainment for one or more air pollutants and as a non-attainment area for another air pollutant.

Objective - An attainable target that the community attempts to reach during the process of striving to meet a goal. An objective may also be considered as an intermediate point that will help fulfill the overall goal

Oregon Benchmarks - Standards for measuring government performance and statewide progress in a variety of areas. Benchmarks help state government set program and budget priorities.

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) – The state agency that manages the highway system within Oregon. ODOT’s mission is to provide a safe, efficient transportation system that supports economic opportunity and livable communities for Oregonians. ODOT is the administrative agency that responds to policy set by the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC).

Oregon Roads Finance Study - A major analysis of long-term needs, revenue adequacy and funding alternatives to preserve our road infrastructure.

Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) - Establishes state transportation policy and guides the planning, development, and management of a statewide integrated transportation network. The governor appoints five commissioners, ensuring that different geographic regions of the state are represented. One member must live east of the Cascade Range; no more than three can belong to one political party.

Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP) - The comprehensive, long-range plan for a multimodal transportation system for the state, which encompasses economic efficiency, orderly economic development, safety and environmental quality.

Ozone (O₃) - Ozone is a colorless gas with a sweet odor. Ozone is not a direct emission from transportation sources. It is a secondary pollutant formed when VOCs and NO_x

combine in the presence of sunlight. Ozone is associated with smog or haze conditions. Although the ozone in the upper atmosphere protects us from harmful ultraviolet rays, ground-level ozone produces an unhealthy environment in which to live. Ozone is created by human and natural sources.

Paratransit - Alternative known as “special or specialized” transportation which often includes flexibly scheduled and routed transportation services. These services use low capacity vehicles such as vans to operate within normal urban transit corridors or rural areas. Services usually cater to the needs of persons whom standard mass transit services would serve with difficulty, or not at all. Common patrons are the elderly and persons with disabilities.

Particulate Matter (PM10 and PM2.5) - Particulate matter consists of airborne solid particles and liquid droplets. Particulate matter may be in the form of fly ash, soot, dust, fog, fumes, etc. These particles are classified as “coarse” if they are smaller than 10 microns, or “fine” if they are smaller than 2.5 microns. Coarse airborne particles are produced during grinding operations or from the physical disturbance of dust by natural air turbulence processes, such as wind. Fine particles can be a by-product of fossil fuel combustion, such as diesel and bus engines. Fine particles can easily reach remote lung areas, and their presence in the lungs is linked to serious respiratory ailments such as asthma, chronic bronchitis and aggravated coughing. Exposure to these particles may aggravate other medical conditions such as heart disease and emphysema and may cause premature death. In the environment, particulate matter contributes to diminished visibility and particle deposition (soiling).

Performance Measures - Indicators of how well the transportation system is performing with regard to such things as average speed, reliability of travel, and accident rates. Used as feedback in the decision-making process.

Planning Funds (PL) - Primary source of funding for metropolitan planning designated by the FHWA.

Policy - A statement adopted as part of a plan to provide a specific course of action moving the community towards attainment of its goals. Due to budget constraints and other activities, all policies cannot be implemented at the same time. Generally, those with metropolitan-wide implications should receive priority consideration.

Project Development - The phase a proposed project undergoes once it has been through the planning process. The project development phase is a more detailed analysis of a proposed project’s social, economic, and environmental impacts and various project alternatives. What comes from the project development phase is a decision reached through negotiation among all affected parties, including the public. After a proposal has successfully passed the project development phase, it may move to preliminary engineering, design, and construction.

Public Facility Plan (PFP) - A plan required by state law for any city with an urban growth boundary encompassing a population greater than 2,500. A plan outlining the wastewater, water, and transportation facilities needed to serve such an urbanized area.

Public Hearing - A formal event held prior to a decision that gathers community comments and positions from all interested parties for public record and input into decisions.

Public Involvement Plan (PIP) - A plan that describes the public involvement goals and objectives, and methods of involving the public in transportation decisions.

Public Meeting - A formal or informal event designed for a specific issue or community group where information is presented and input from community residents is received.

Public Participation - The active and meaningful involvement of the public in the development of transportation plans and programs.

Record of Decision (ROD) - A concise decision document for an environmental impact statement, prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that states the decision (selected alternative or choice), other alternatives considered, and mitigation adopted for the selected alternative or choice.

Refinement Plan - Refinement plans are a detailed examination of the service needs and land use issues relevant to a particular area. Refinements to the Metro Plan include specific neighborhood plans, community plans, or special purpose plans (such as water, wastewater, or transportation plans).

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) - A document resulting from regional or statewide collaboration and consensus on a region or state's transportation system, and serving as the defining vision for the region's or state's transportation systems and services. In metropolitan areas, the plan indicates all of the transportation improvements scheduled for funding over a minimum of the next 20 years.

Right-of-Way (ROW) - Public space legally established for the use of pedestrians, vehicles or utilities. Right-of-way typically includes the street, sidewalk, and buffer strip areas.

Short-term Capital Project - Projects identified as short-range needs are expected to be needed within 5 years.

Smart Growth - A set of policies and programs design to protect, preserve, and economically develop established communities and valuable natural and cultural resources.

Sources - Refers to the origin of air contaminants. Can be point (coming from a defined site) or non-point (coming from many diffuse sources). Stationary sources include relatively large, fixed facilities such as power plants, chemical process industries, and petroleum refineries. Area sources are small, stationary, non-transportation sources that collectively contribute to air pollution, and include such sources as dry cleaners and bakeries, surface coating operations, home furnaces, and crop burning. Mobile sources

include on-road vehicles such as cars, trucks, and buses; and off-road sources such as trains, ships, airplanes, boats, lawn mowers, and construction equipment.

Sprawl - Urban form that connotatively depicts the movement of people from the central city to the suburbs. Concerns associated with sprawl include loss of farmland and open space due to low-density land development, increased public service costs, and environmental degradation as well as other concerns associated with transportation.

Stakeholders - Individuals and organizations involved in or affected by the transportation planning process. They include federal/state/local officials, MPOs, transit operators, freight companies, shippers, and the general public.

State Department of Transportation (State DOT) - A statewide agency that is responsible for conducting transportation planning activities in non-metropolitan areas of the state, and assisting MPOs in transportation planning for the metropolitan areas. State DOTs are also responsible for developing, designing, and constructing most of the projects on major highways in most states.

State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) - A revolving fund mechanism for financing a wide variety of highway and transit projects through loans and credit enhancement. SIBs are designed to complement traditional federal-aid highway and transit grants by providing states increased flexibility for financing infrastructure investments.

State Implementation Plan (SIP) - A plan mandated by the Clean Air Act (CAA) that contains procedures to monitor, control, maintain, and enforce compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). In Central Lane Transportation Management Area (TMA), the MPO is responsible for producing the Central Lane SIP for carbon monoxide; LRAPA produces the Lane County SIP for particulate matter (PM) 10. The state (Environmental Quality Commission) is responsible for incorporating each plan into the overall SIP.

State Planning and Research Funds (SP&R, SPR) - Primary source of funding for statewide long-range planning.

Statewide Transportation Plan (STP) - The official statewide intermodal transportation plan that is developed through the statewide transportation planning process.

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) - Prepared by the state DOTs, the STIP is a staged, multiyear listing of projects proposed for federal, state, and local funding encompassing the entire state. It is a compilation of the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Programs (MTIP) prepared for the metropolitan areas, as well as project information for the non-metropolitan areas of the state and for transportation between cities. An MTIP must be incorporated into the STIP before MTIP projects can be funded by the state or the federal government.

Surface Transportation Program (STP) - Federal-aid highway funding program that funds a broad range of surface transportation capital needs, including many roads, transit, sea and airport access, vanpool, bike, and pedestrian facilities.

Telecommuting - Communicating electronically (by telephone, computer, fax, etc.) with an office, either from home or from another site, instead of traveling to it physically.

Title VI - Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination in any program receiving federal assistance.

Transportation Conformity - Process to assess the compliance of any transportation plan, program, or project with air quality implementation plans. The conformity process is defined by the Clean Air Act (CAA).

Transportation Control Measures (TCM) - Transportation strategies that affect traffic patterns or reduce vehicle use to reduce air pollutant emissions. These may include high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, provision of bicycle facilities, ridesharing, telecommuting, etc. Such actions may be included in a State Improvement Program (SIP), if needed, to demonstrate attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

Transportation Corridor - Major or high volume routes for moving people, goods and services from one point to another. They may serve many transportation modes or be for a single mode such as an air corridor.

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) - “Demand-based” techniques which are designed to change travel behavior in order to improve the performance of transportation facilities and to reduce the need for additional road capacity. Methods include the use of alternative modes, ride-sharing and vanpool programs, and trip-reduction programs and/or ordinances.

Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) - Authorized in 1998, TEA-21 authorized federal funding for transportation investment for fiscal 1998-2003. Approximately \$217 billion in funding was authorized, the largest amount in history, which is used for highway, transit, and other surface transportation programs.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - A staged, multiyear (typically three to five years) listing of surface transportation projects proposed for federal, state, and local funding within a metropolitan area. MPOs are required to prepare a TIP as a short-range programming document to complement its long-range transportation plan. TIPs contain projects with committed funds over a multiyear period (one to three years). Also known as a Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) in MPO areas.

Transportation Infrastructure - A federal credit program under which the U.S. DOT may provide three forms of credit assistance—secured (direct) loans, loan guarantees, and standby lines of credit—for surface transportation projects of national or regional significance. The fundamental goal is to leverage federal funds by attracting substantial

private and non-federal co-investment in critical improvements to the nation's surface transportation system.

Transportation Management Area (TMA) - All urbanized areas over 200,000 in population, and any other area that requests such designation. The MPO is responsible for transportation planning with a TMA.

Transportation Needs - These are estimates of the movement of people and goods that are consistent with an acknowledged comprehensive plan and the requirements of the Transportation Planning Rule. Needs are typically based on projections of future travel demands resulting from a continuation of current trends as modified by policy objectives, including those expressed in Statewide Planning Goal 12 and the Transportation Planning Rule, especially those for avoiding principal reliance on any one mode of transportation.

TransPlan - The Eugene/Springfield metropolitan area's long-range transportation plan.

Transportation Planning - A collaborative process of examining demographic characteristics and travel patterns for a given area. This process shows how these characteristics will change over a given period of time, and evaluates alternatives for the transportation system of the area and the most expeditious use of local, state, and federal transportation funding. Long-range planning is typically done over a period of 20 years; short-range programming of specific projects usually covers a period of 3 to 5 years.

Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) - A Central Lane MPO committee of technical staff from the public works and planning departments of Coburg, Eugene, Springfield, Lane County, LTD, LCOG, and ODOT. The committee provides technical expertise and recommendations to the policy board, MPC.

Transportation Planning Rule (TPR) - A state planning administrative rule, adopted by the Land Conservation and Development Commission in 1991 to implement Statewide Planning Goal 12, Transportation. The TPR requires metropolitan areas to show measurable progress towards reducing dependence on automobiles.

Transportation System Management (TSM) - The techniques for increasing the efficiency, safety, capacity, or level of service of the existing transportation system without increasing its size. Examples include traffic signal improvements, traffic control devices including installing medians and parking removal, channelization, access management, ramp metering, and restriping for high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes.

Transportation Systems Plan - A plan for one or more transportation facilities that are planned, developed, operated and maintained in a coordinated manner to supply continuity of movement between modes, and within and between geographic and jurisdictional areas. Usually, a plan produced by a local government (e.g., City of Coburg, Lane County, etc.)

Travel Mode - The means of transportation used, such as automobile, bus, bicycle, or by foot.

Trust Fund - A fund credited with receipts that are held in trust by the government and earmarked by law for use in carrying out specific purposes and programs in accordance with an agreement or a statute.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) - The management plan for the (metropolitan) planning program. Its purpose is to coordinate the planning activities of all participants in the planning process.

Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) - A site-specific line in the Metro Plan that separates existing and future urban development from rural lands. Urban levels and densities of development, complete with urban levels of services, are planned within the UGB. A requirement of the state land use planning program.

Urbanized Area - Area that contains a city of 50,000 or more population plus incorporated surrounding areas meeting size or density criteria as defined by the U.S. Census.

Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) - The sum of distances traveled by all motor vehicles in a specified region. A requirement of the state Transportation Planning Rule is reducing vehicle miles traveled per capita.

APPENDIX 2

Public Involvement Tools



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This appendix of the Public Participation Plan lists public involvement tools, separating them into two categories—participation tools and information tools. The list of tools describes the core public involvement tools that the MPO uses for the key MPO products (summarized in Table 1, Chapter III of the Public Participation Plan) and other optional tools which the MPO may use to design a public outreach strategy for a specific update of a key product.

The IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum is included in this appendix as a framework for designing a public outreach strategy that considers the public participation goal and the promise to the public for each public outreach tool. IAP2 stands for International Association of Public Participation. It is a professional association for public involvement specialists.

Participation Tools

Availability Sessions/Open Houses

Availability sessions and open houses are informal meetings in a public location where people can talk to involved officials on a one-to-one basis. The meetings allow citizens to ask questions and express their concerns directly to project staff. This type of gathering is helpful in accommodating individual schedules. These techniques can be set up to allow citizens to talk with representatives from all interested organizations. Citizens can find out more about all sides of a permitting issue through conversations with agency officials, facility staff, and representatives of involved interest groups and civic organizations.

Citizen Advisory Committee

A local Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) may be formed for MPO planning activities, either as a standing committee to be used on an ongoing basis or an ad hoc committee for a specific update or study. The CAC provides input from citizens representing potentially affected areas or special interest groups and can be used on an ad hoc or ongoing basis. Elected officials usually appoint the members of the CAC.

Representatives of neighborhoods or groups with a vested interest are encouraged to be members of the CAC, along with representatives of traditionally underserved groups. Typically, the CAC meets several times throughout a study with the consultants, MPO, and Oregon Department of Transportation staff. The CAC plays a major role in the development of performance measures and alternatives during the study process, and may make recommendations to the elected officials.

Comment Form

Comment forms are often used to solicit public comment on specific issues presented at a workshop, open house, or other public meeting or hearing. Comment forms can be very general in nature or can ask for very specific feedback. For example, a comment form may ask for comments on specific alignment alternatives considered during a corridor study, or may ask for a person's general feelings about any aspect of transportation. Comment forms can also be included in publications and on websites to solicit input regarding the subject of the publication and/or the format of the publication or website.

Contact Person or Office

This is a designated staff member who is responsible for responding to questions and inquiries from the public and the media. The MPO may distribute lists of contact persons who are responsible for answering questions in certain topic areas.

Focus Groups

Focus groups involve an invited group of participants interacting with an experienced moderator. The focus group consists of screened participants, usually selected randomly from a targeted group or groups. Often, the moderator uses the same discussion outline or questions to obtain input from several focus groups, each group targeting a different segment of the community, such as from a particularly geographic location or age group. The focus group provides qualitative feedback from the community and offers flexibility for the moderator to probe relevant topics that arise in the discussion. Examples of uses for focus groups include identifying perceptions and misperceptions around issues, and identifying potential problem areas and barriers for particular user groups. Focus groups complement interviews during community assessments or important activities surrounding a project. The MPO may want to consider focus groups to gauge public opinion before controversial activities or processes.

Informal Meetings with Other Stakeholders

Informal meetings are meetings the MPO may attend or host with individual stakeholder groups that have particular interest in an activity. These meetings may be in the setting of an existing group unrelated to the MPO. They may also be held in an informal setting, such as a resident's home or a local meeting place. Informal meetings allow interested citizens and local officials to discuss issues and concerns. Staff responsible for the facility receives first-hand information from interested community members, special interest groups, and elected officials, while citizens have the opportunity to ask questions and explore topics of interest regarding a project in question.

Internet Message Boards

Interactive message boards are used to facilitate discussion and solicit public comment regarding specific MPO projects or issues. The message board can be used for a wide array of activities, from public input on an ongoing basis about MPO activities to specific studies and public comment periods on major MPO activities such as the regional transportation plan.

Public Comment Period

These are designated time periods in which citizens can formally review and comment on the agency's or facility's proposed course of action or decision. Comment periods for MPO activity is generally at least 30 days.

Public Hearings

These are public meetings used to solicit public comment on a project or issue being considered by the MPO. Hearings provide a formal setting for citizens to provide comments to the MPO or other decision-making body. They are recorded and transcribed for the record. All the major MPO activities, such as the Metropolitan Transportation

Improvement Program and the Regional Transportation Plan, require a public hearing as part of the adoption process.

Public Information Meetings

There are various kinds of public meetings. (See also the descriptions in this appendix for Public Meetings, Public Workshops, and Question and Answer Session.) The public information meeting is sometimes used by the Army Corps of Engineers after the close of the formal public comment period for an application as part of their information gathering process. The agency uses the comments received during the comment period as a gauge to indicate whether a public information meeting is needed. The meeting starts with all the players, such as the decision making agencies and the applicant, briefly explaining their role and process. Then, the meeting is opened for questions and comments from the audience, with staff on hand to provide answers. The success of a meeting like this depends on structure—an active, neutral, facilitator calls on those who wish to speak and keeps the meeting on track, making sure that all attendees are subject to the same rules of conduct. A court reporter produces transcripts that become part of the official record of the application and are kept on file.

Public Meetings

Public meetings are different from public hearings. Public hearings are regulatory requirements that provide a formal opportunity for the public to present comments and oral testimony on a proposed agency action. Public meetings, on the other hand, are less formal: anyone can attend, there are no formal time limits on statements, and the permitting agency and/or the facility usually answer questions. The purpose of the meeting is to share information and discuss issues, not to make decisions. Due to their openness and flexibility, public meetings are preferable to hearings as a forum for discussing complex or detailed issues. Public meetings sometimes complement public hearings. Public meetings can be especially useful for allowing discussion before a public hearing and can be scheduled immediately before the hearing. [See Public Workshops and Availability Sessions/Open Houses.] Comments made during a public meeting do not become part of the official administrative record as they do during a hearing. Public meetings provide two-way communication, with community members asking questions and the permitting agency providing responses. Public meetings are open to everyone. While public meetings are usually called and conducted by the MPO, it is common for civic, environmental, and community organizations to hold public meetings where ideas can be discussed freely.


Public Outreach Strategy

A public outreach strategy is developed for the update of each specific work product. It includes details, such as location and timing, about the core public involvement tools for the specific update as well as any additional tools, if appropriate and affordable. The public outreach strategy will be tailored to the unique aspects of the process, depending on the geographic scope, scale of the product update (e.g., major or minor), the type of projects included, the characteristics of affected communities, and the level of public interest.



IAP2'S PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SPECTRUM

The IAP2 Federation has developed the Spectrum to help groups define the public's role in any public participation process. The IAP2 Spectrum is quickly becoming an international standard.

INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION 					
	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision. We will seek your feedback on drafts and proposals.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work together with you to formulate solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

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Public Participation Plan

A Public Participation Plan, sometimes called a public involvement plan, is an adopted document that directs the MPO regarding the core public involvement tools to use when developing the key MPO products. The purpose of the plan is to provide broad public participation during the development, review, and refinement of regional transportation programs.

Public Workshops

Workshops are seminars or gatherings of small groups of people, usually between 10 and 30, led by a small number of specialists with technical expertise in a specific area. In workshops, participants typically discuss a specific project or design where citizens comment on proposed response actions and receive information on the technical issues associated with the project. Experts may be invited to explain certain aspects of the project. Workshops may help to improve public understanding and to prevent or correct misconceptions. Workshops also may identify citizen concerns and encourage public input.

Workshops can also be set up as open houses. [See Availability Sessions/Open Houses.] These are public meetings that are generally open and informal, with information displays, handouts, and project team members interacting with the public on a one-on-one basis. Usually set up on a drop-in basis, but may include short presentations. Used for wide range of MPO activities, from general to specific. The purpose is to provide project information to the public and to solicit public comment. An attendance record is kept and attendees are given the opportunity to sign up for the mailing list.

Workshops can focus on a single site or topic area. These types of workshops may be by invitation, last one-half to one whole day, and involve a site visit.

Question and Answer Session

These sessions make knowledgeable staff available to stakeholders to discuss activities, projects, or issues. Question and answer sessions typically accompany a presentation, briefing, or meeting. Anyone at the event who needs more information will have the opportunity to speak with officials after the event. These sessions can be informal or formal.

Small Group Meetings

Meetings with small groups that have an interest in projects such as planning studies. Meetings could be with homeowners or neighborhood groups, civic groups, special interest groups, or other groups of affected or interested parties. The meetings generally include a presentation by staff followed by a question/answer period. Staff follows up on questions and comments by responding back to the group and documenting the comments through meeting notes.

Speakers' Bureau Presentations

This tool involves assembling and training a group of speakers available to make presentations upon request to committees, civic or interest groups, and other organizations. Or, the MPO may proactively request agenda time to make such

presentations. Examples include local newspaper editorial boards, bicycle committees, downtown commissions, chambers of commerce, neighborhood groups, and development groups. The speakers are primarily staff, but also may include stakeholders and public officials. The format usually consists of a slide or video presentation, informational handouts, distribution of comment forms, and a discussion period. Attendees are given the opportunity to sign up for the mailing list. Speakers' bureau presentations can be used for ongoing communication with key interested parties and part of concentrated outreach for large projects such as the update of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

Stakeholder and Community Interviews

Stakeholder and community interviews are informal, face-to-face or telephone interviews held with local residents, elected officials, community groups, and other individuals to acquire information on citizen concerns and attitudes about a facility. The interviews may be conducted by facility staff, a citizen advisory committee, other volunteers, or public interest groups as part of the community assessment.

Interviews can play an important role in the community assessment, which usually takes place at the beginning of a process or project. Interviews will not be necessary in every situation. They are particularly helpful in situations where there is perceived controversial issues or there is potential to receive high levels of public interest. This method allows the MPO, related agencies, and public interest groups to tailor regulatory requirements and additional activities to fit the needs of particular areas. Information obtained through these interviews is typically used to assess the community's concerns and information needs and to prepare a public participation plan, which outlines a community-specific strategy for responding to the concerns identified in the interview process.

Surveys, Questionnaires, and Telephone Polls

Surveys are used when very specific input from the public is desired. A survey can be used to ask very specific questions such as whether a person supports a specific alignment in a corridor study. Surveys also are used to gather technical data during corridor and planning studies. An attitude and awareness survey can measure public awareness about transportation choices. Other uses for surveys include gathering information about daily travel patterns, gathering input on proposed strategies or alternatives, and asking the public about the best way to involve them in transportation planning. Surveys may be either oral or written, used in person or by mail, and distributed either to specific segments of the community or to representative samples. Informal surveys can be a short questionnaire on the comment sheet, verbal at the sign-up table, or even asking meeting attendees a few questions to gauge the group's sentiment on an issue.

Symposiums

The symposium is an intense, half to full day, in depth session or series of sessions with an invited group of participants who represent a comprehensive cross-section of the community who have a vital interest in the project or process. A series of symposiums is a way to achieve sustained public involvement over the course of a long project. The symposium expedites the exchange of information amongst interest groups, public

officials, and staff. The format consists of in depth presentations of technical material followed by discussion groups. The small group work can be designed to focus on a variety of things, such as brainstorming and ranking issues, or providing input on plan concepts and direction.

Task Force

The task force is comprised of invited participants with a high level of knowledge about transportation planning and a willingness to commit to what is usually an extended meeting or series of meetings. The work of the task force is in depth and often technical in nature, such as: identifying and evaluating strategies for achieving the goals and objectives of a specific plan; providing input on ways to reduce demand on the transportation system; and evaluating strategies for urban development that reduce the need to rely on the automobile. The task force requires a high level of involvement on the part of both participants and staff, but provides more extensive and in depth input than possible with outreach techniques that target the general public.

Technical Advisory Committee

The Technical Advisory Committee is a way to involve professionals other than staff who have particular expertise that enables them to provide input on the technical aspects of a study or planning activity. The Technical Advisory Committee brings a citizen perspective to staff's technical function, broadening the perspective and helping to ensure the consideration of a wide array of interpretations and alternatives. The Technical Advisory Committee generally is convened on an ad hoc basis for a specific project.

Town Hall Meetings

These meeting formats are more informal than, for example board meetings, and open communication between the public and members of the representative organization. The main purpose of a town hall meeting is to develop open communication between the members and those individuals who control the organization or committee.

Visual Preference Survey

The visual preference survey involves many citizens in a unique, interactive manner. Participants rate images of development and facilities based on their initial reaction. A primary goal of this technique is to offer "regular citizens" a way to participate by evaluating the desirable and undesirable physical, visual, and spatial features of transportation systems and development. A questionnaire obtains a demographic profile of the participants. Participation can be through a slide show or PowerPoint presentation at viewing events, rental videos, or cable television.

Webcasting

Webcasting is part of a newer generation of internet technology that allows a viewer to choose from a list of news items and hear streaming audio and video presentations. A "player" is required (e.g., RealPlayer or Windows Media Player) in order to view or hear the material online. Webcasting is also called "netcasting," "internet broadcasting," or "data broadcasting." Although webcasting is more associated with streaming video and audio, think of webcasting as full multimedia broadcasting. This technique can be used to broadcast public meetings, integrate animated graphics to help explain a concept, or

add text to an audio presentation. These techniques are also beneficial for those who are sight or hearing impaired, as webcast presentations can be enhanced to meet the needs of all citizens.

Website

General or project-specific websites offer an opportunity for public input that is flexible and not staff intensive. The general MPO site provides background information about the MPO, its activities, the transportation planning process, and opportunities for the public to become involved. Project-specific websites can be used to display extensive information about individual projects, such as major MPO activities like the Regional Transportation Plan. These sites are used when project information is too extensive to be included on the MPO site.

Project websites can contain study area maps, meeting announcements, descriptions of potential alternatives, comment forms, user surveys, and project team contact information. The general MPO site provides links to project sites. The public may provide input through either the MPO website or project-specific websites. Websites offer the option of interactive ways to reach the public, such as interactive, “real time” voting, video games, and chat rooms.

Toll-Free Hotline

A telephone hotline is a toll-free (or local) telephone number people can call to ask questions and obtain information promptly about MPO activities. Some hotlines allow people to order documents. These numbers augment specific contact people and website information.

Video Kiosk

This tool involves setting up a portable booth in a high pedestrian area, such as downtown or in a shopping mall, to gather input from the person-on-the-street. The booth would have a video or computer so citizens could watch a short video, record answers to a set of questions or survey, and/or record comments to provide input to decision-makers.

Information Tools

Briefings

Briefings are useful for sharing information with key stakeholders, whether they are involved regulators, elected officials, or members of involved public interest or environmental groups. Briefings can be used to inform other stakeholders about the status of a project or corrective action; to provide them with materials such as technical studies, results of the technical field and community assessments; and engineering designs. These sessions are conducted in person, and the briefings usually precede release of information to the media or occur before a public meeting. Briefing key stakeholders is particularly important if an upcoming action might result in political controversy.

Broadcast Announcements and Advertisements

Notices for public meetings or other information share can be, and sometimes must be, broadcast over radio or another medium. [See Webcasting.] Providing notice via a paid TV advertisement or over a local cable TV station can be an effective way to disseminate information. [See Metro Television.] Paid advertisements can be expensive and may be seen by the public as “taking a side.” This drawback can be eliminated by limiting information to the facts (e.g., time, date, location of the meeting). Some local access cable TV stations run a text-based community bulletin board, which may provide a useful way to distribute information.

Database and Distribution Lists

MPO staff maintains a master database of all contacts, both business and public, on a continuous basis. The database includes committee membership, mailing information, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail and internet addresses. Mailing lists are both important databases and essential communication tools. Mailing lists ensure that concerned community members receive relevant information. The database is used for maintaining up-to-date committee membership lists, interested parties, special interest groups, homeowner’s association contacts, and the newsletter mailing list. Mailing lists typically include concerned residents, elected officials, appropriate federal, state, and local government contacts; local media; organized environmental groups; civic, religious and community organizations; facility employees; and local businesses. The database will be used to establish and maintain a list of e-mail contacts for electronic meeting notification and announcements. The database is used to enhance other public involvement activities.

Direct Mailings

Used to announce upcoming meetings or activities or to provide information to a targeted area or group of people. Direct mailings can be post cards, letters, or fliers. An area may be targeted for a direct mailing because of potential impacts from a project. Groups are targeted that may have an interest in a specific issue, for example, avid cyclists may be targeted for greenways and trail projects. Mailings may announce project-specific meetings, public hearings, workshops, open houses, corridor studies, small-area studies, other planning studies, new publications, special events, or major activities.

Display Ads

These ads are used to promote meetings that are not regularly scheduled, such as public workshops for the TIP, project specific meetings, or public hearings. They are published in the local section of the newspaper to reach a larger audience than those that typically read legal ads.

Door-to-Door Canvassing

Door-to-door canvassing is a way to collect and distribute information by calling on community members individually and directly. Public interest groups have long used such techniques, and they also may be useful for facility owners as a way to gauge public interest during the community assessment stage. The MPO may consider using this tool to interact with the community in situations where public interest is very high or in other situations where direct contact with citizens is essential. During these interactions,

canvassers can field questions about activities, discuss concerns, and provide fact sheets or other materials. Some citizens may want to find out more about the activity by signing up for mailing lists or by attending an upcoming event.

Email Address for the MPO

The MPO has an [email](#) address to make it easier for citizens to contact the MPO with questions, requests for documents or other information, and to make informal and formal comments. Staff monitors the inbox, responds, and follows up further as appropriate to the nature of the contact.

Email Announcements

Meeting announcements and MPO information is e-mailed to interested persons that have submitted their e-mail addresses to MPO staff. The e-mail can provide updates or announcements about corridor studies, small-area studies, other planning studies, regular meetings, public comment periods, public hearings, workshops, open houses, recruitment to fill openings on a Citizen Advisory Committee, and other major MPO activities.

Exhibits, Displays, Signs, and Bulletin Boards

A variety of exhibits and displays can provide general information, such as introducing a large project, or specific information, such as about proposed land use strategies. Locations for the displays include community workshops, on the mall (“City Hall on the Mall”), public locations such as a city hall or permit center, open houses, and public works days, or similar events designed to attract the public. Signs can be a useful means of public notice, especially for residents and neighbors of the facility or planned facility. A sign on the site should be large enough so that passers-by, whether by foot or by vehicle, can read it. If few people are likely to pass by the site, consider posting the sign at the nearest major intersection. Another option is to place posters or bulletins on community bulletin boards (in community centers, town halls, grocery stores, on heavily-traveled streets) where people are likely to see them. The signs should contain the same information as a written or broadcast notice.

Existing Newsletters and Free Publications

Placing a notice in a newsletter distributed by a local government, a civic or community organization, neighborhood association, or in other free publication (e.g., a paper that highlights local or community activities) is a generally inexpensive way to target a specific audience or segment of the community. At the same time, some publications may not be appropriate for communicating information from your organization. By publishing information through a group that has a specific political interest or bias, your organization may be perceived as endorsing these views. Permitting agencies may want to avoid associations with groups that appear to represent the agency’s interests. In any case, the relationship between your organization and the newsletter or publication should be clear to the public. Local governments, planning commissions, zoning boards, or utilities often distribute regular newsletters; they are often willing to include information about permitting activities. Newsletters distributed by civic, trade, agricultural, religious, or community organizations can also disseminate information to interested readers at low cost. Some segments of the affected community may rely on a free local flyer, magazine, independent or commercial newspaper to share information.

Fact Sheets or Brochures

Fact sheets or brochures provide summary information regarding MPO policy, process, programs, and projects. Fact sheets can be distributed at public meetings, on the MPO website, at grocery stores during the after-work rush, and in public places such as libraries and community centers. Individuals and special interest groups can request fact sheets directly from the MPO staff office or download them from the MPO website. The fact sheet or brochure should be citizen-friendly—brief, easy to read and understand, written for the eighth grade reading level, use direct to-the-point language free of acronyms and jargon, and include liberal use of graphics to help deliver the message.

Information Repository

An information repository is a collection of documents related to an activity, program, or corrective action. A repository can make information readily available to people who are interested in learning about, or keeping abreast of MPO activities in or near their community in greater detail. Websites are good resources for storing detailed information in an organized manner. An office accessible to the public is also an option for storing hardcopies of document, maps, and multimedia resources. The information that goes in the repository can differ from case to case, depending on what information will be most useful according to the specifics of the case at hand. For instance, multi-lingual fact sheets and other documents will be most appropriate in situations where there are many non-English-speakers in an affected community. Similarly, if the community needs assistance in understanding a very technical situation, then the agency and the facility should provide fact sheets and other forms of information that are more accessible to the non-technical reader.

Legal Advertisements

The Oregon Public Meetings Law and federal transportation planning regulations require advertisement of any public meeting where a decision could be made or that may be attended by more than one elected official. The MPO advertises meetings of the Metropolitan Policy Committee or any other meetings that meet the requirements in Oregon law. The ads include the time, place, and agenda for any regular, special, or emergency meeting, along with contact information.

Logo

A logo representing the MPO is used to identify products and publications of the MPO. A logo helps the public become familiar with the different activities of the MPO by providing a means of recognizing MPO products. The logo should be used on all MPO publications; including those developed by consultants working on MPO sponsored projects.

Media Coverage and News Conference

News conferences are information sessions are held for representatives of the news media and may be open to the general public. News conferences provide all interested local media and members of the public with accurate information concerning important developments during a MPO-regulated process.

Metro Television

Lane Council of Governments maintains a public access cable channel. In addition to rolling message scripts, Metro Television also broadcasts select meetings, both live and pre-recorded, and short informative programs about departmental activities or projects of interest to the entire population. Information about meetings of the MPO policy board is provided to Metro Television to be included in scrolling announcements. Metro TV is a TV channel administered by Lane Council of Governments.

Newsletters

Newsletters, hard copy or e-mail, can be used for ongoing communication or for an as-needed project-specific basis. Distribution can be general or targeted. The general mailing list includes interested parties, municipalities, media, and other agencies. Targeted mailings usually are sent to residents, businesses, and property owners in the area impacted by a particular study. Citizens are added to the general distribution list by their own request. Opportunities to request being added to the list occur during public meetings hosted by the MPO, on the MPO website, and when citizens contact MPO staff. Each issue of the newsletter includes staff contact information, upcoming meeting schedules, the MPO website address, project highlights, and current planning project status reports. The newsletter can be used to highlight major MPO projects or activities, such as the adoption of project priorities, and report information regarding significant transportation issues, MPO awards, and other one-time activities. The newsletter can be used to inform the public of upcoming decisions to be made by the MPO or other agencies, so that they have time to prepare meaningful comments prior to the decision being finalized. The newsletter is used to promote regular and special meetings, alternatives being proposed in an area, planning studies, publications, and work products. When MPO or project-specific newsletters are not used, articles may be prepared for publication in other newsletters produced by municipalities, neighborhood groups, homeowner associations, church groups, civic groups, or others that may have an interest in the project. These articles are subject to the publication dates and space restrictions of the individual publishers.

Newspaper Advertisements

Traditionally, public notices have often appeared as legal advertisements in the classified section of a newspaper. While this method provides a standard location for the ads, display advertisements (located along with other commercial advertisements) are more likely to reach a larger audience. Display advertisements offer an advantage since they are larger, easier to read, and are more likely to be seen by the casual reader.

Newspaper Inserts

Inserts stand out from other newspaper advertisements since they come as a “loose” section of the newspaper (a format often used for glossy advertisements or other solicitations). Using texture or shapes works well to set insert apart from other text or advertising. They provide a way to reach beyond the most-involved citizens to inform a broader segment of the community.

Notice to Interested Parties

There are a few different types of notices. An introductory notice explains the agency process for applications, participation, etc. It may also explain a review process or the corrective action process and the opportunities for public participation in that process. A notice of decision presents the agency decisions regarding projects, processes, or modifications to incorporate changes such as a corrective action remedy.

Pre-Existing Stakeholder Meetings and Functions

Permitting agencies, facilities, local governments, and environmental organizations, religious and civic groups may all hold meetings or other gatherings during a citizen involvement process. Some may be required by regulation and others may be informational meetings or discussions of important issues. As an involved stakeholder, an organization can learn more about the views of other stakeholders by attending their meetings. Often, there are opportunities to join in important discussions and provide information. Some groups will invite the guest organization to give a presentation or a briefing.

Posters and Flyers

Posters and flyers are used to announce meetings and events and are displayed at public places such as city halls, libraries, the interior of buses, and community centers. They also may be inserted into another publication, such as a neighborhood newsletter. The announcement may contain a brief description of the purpose of the meeting, the time, location, and contact information. Posters and flyers may be used to reach a large audience that cannot be reached using direct mailings and/or newsletters.

Press Releases and Press Kits

Press releases are statements that the MPO organization sends to the news media. They are used to publicize progress or key milestones in the MPO process. Press releases can effectively and quickly disseminate information to large numbers of people. They also may be used to announce public meetings, report the results of public meetings or studies, and describe how citizen concerns were considered in the permit decision or corrective action. Press kits consist of a packet of relevant information that your organization distributes to reporters. The press kit should summarize key information about the permitting process or corrective action activities. Typically a press kit is a folder with pockets for short summaries of the permitting process, technical studies, newsletters, press releases, and other background materials. The public information officer of an organization is often the lead staff for media contacts.

Public Service Announcements

Radio and television stations often broadcast, without charge, a certain number of announcements on behalf of charities, government agencies, and community groups. In particular, they are likely to run announcements of public meetings, events, or other opportunities for the public to participate. One drawback with a public service announcement is that you have no guarantee that it will go on the air. If it does go on the air, it may come at odd hours when relatively few people are listening.

Response to Comments

Often called a Comments and Response Summary, this documents and responds to the comments received during a formal public comment period. This document, or a separate one, includes staff recommendations to decision-makers for changing the draft project or document in response to the comment, and the reason for those changes. The response to comments briefly describes and responds to all significant comments that were received during the public comment period. The response to comments should be written in a clear and understandable style so that it is easy for the community to understand the reasons for the final decision and how public comments were considered.

Telephone Networks or Phone Trees or Automated Phone Messages

This method provides an inexpensive, yet personal, manner of spreading information. The lead agency, facility, or organization calls the first list of people, who, in turn, are responsible for calling an additional number of interested people. Phone trees are a good way to provide back up plans or reminders while reducing the number of calls made by individual staff members. As an alternative to calling the first tier, the lead agency, facility, or organization may want to distribute a short written notice. Using an automated phone message system is another alternative.

Presentations: Videos, PowerPoint, and Slide Shows

Videos, PowerPoint presentations, and slide shows can be used as informational tools and to document public involvement events. They help improve public understanding of the issues associated with a permitting or corrective action. They can be broadcast on Metro Television, shown at public involvement events such as workshops, shown to citizen groups, be part of presentation to public officials, and used for speakers bureau presentations. These graphic tools are an effective way to stretch staff resources in making presentations and help generate interest in the topic.

Social Media

Social media refers to an internet-based application in which individuals create, share, and exchange information through virtual communities and networks. Social media differs from traditional media in many ways, including quality, reach, frequency, usability, permanence, and immediacy. This form of outreach is ideal for disseminating concise and basic information to large and diverse audiences, for little cost. Social media platforms may be particularly effective communicating with tech-savvy individuals or younger generations.

Unsolicited Information and Office Visits

In order to seek input from interested at-large citizens, information may arrive in the form of phone calls, letters, and meetings. While this type of information is not always asked for, it can be helpful. Citizens or stakeholders from other groups may want to visit the agency's office or the facility. In this situation, the visiting stakeholders will want to meet with the person who works most directly with their concerns.

Webcasting

Webcasting is part of a newer generation of internet technology that allows a viewer to choose from a list of news items and hear streaming audio and video presentations. A

player is required (e.g., RealPlayer or Windows Media Player) in order to view or hear the material online. Webcasting is also called “netcasting,” “Internet broadcasting” or “data broadcasting,” although webcasting is more associated with streaming video, and audio. Think of webcasting as full multimedia broadcasting. This technique can be used to broadcast public meetings, integrate animated graphics to help explain a concept, or add text to an audio presentation. These techniques are also beneficial for those who are sight or hearing impaired, as webcast presentations can be enhanced to meet the needs of all citizens.

Website Notice

The Central Lane MPO website provides basic information about the MPO process, members, meeting times, and contact information. The site includes information about specific products of the MPO, such as an update of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). MPO documents, such as the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP), are available for downloading from the site. The site provides many links to other transportation related sites from the local to national level. The site is continually maintained and updated by MPO staff. The site is used to promote regular and special meetings, planning studies, publications and work products. Project-specific websites can be used to make available more detailed project information, such as study area maps, meeting announcements, descriptions of potential alternatives, comment forms, user surveys, and project team contact information. Links to project sites are provided on the MPO site. The public may provide input through either the MPO website or project-specific websites. Websites offer the option of interactive ways to reach the public, such as interactive, “real time” voting, video games, and chat rooms.

APPENDIX 3

Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Policies Concerning Public Involvement in Transportation Planning



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EXCERPT FROM

**CHAPTER 53 OF TITLE 49—UNITED STATES CODE
AS AMENDED BY MOVING AHEAD FOR PROGRESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY
SECTION 5303—METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
Subpart 6—Participation by Interested Parties**

Sec. 5303 Metropolitan Transportation Planning**(6) PARTICIPATION BY INTERESTED PARTIES.**

(A) IN GENERAL.— Each metropolitan planning organization shall provide citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walk ways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, and other interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the transportation plan.

(B) CONTENTS OF PARTICIPATION PLAN.—A participation plan—

- (i) shall be developed in consultation with all interested parties; and
- (ii) shall provide that all interested parties have reasonable opportunities to comment on the contents of the transportation plan.

(C) METHODS.—In carrying out subparagraph (A), the metropolitan planning organization shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

- (i) hold any public meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times;
- (ii) employ visualization techniques to describe plans; and
- (iii) make public information available in electronically accessible format and means, such as the World Wide Web, as appropriate to afford reasonable opportunity for consideration of public information under subparagraph (A).

EXCERPT FROM

TITLE 23—HIGHWAYS

CHAPTER I—FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF

TRANSPORTATION

PART 450—PLANNING ASSISTANCE AND STANDARDS

Subpart B—Statewide Transportation Planning and Programming

Sec. 450.210 Interested parties, public involvement, and consultation

(a) In carrying out the statewide transportation planning process, including development of the long-range statewide transportation plan and the STIP, the State shall develop and use a documented public involvement process that provides opportunities for public review and comment at key decision points.

(1) The State's public involvement process at a minimum shall:

(i) Establish early and continuous public involvement opportunities that provide timely information about transportation issues and decision-making processes to citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, providers of freight transportation services, and other interested parties;

(ii) Provide reasonable public access to technical and policy information used in the development of the long-range statewide transportation plan and the STIP;

(iii) Provide adequate public notice of public involvement activities and time for public review and comment at key decision points, including but not limited to a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed long-range statewide transportation plan and STIP;

(iv) To the maximum extent practicable, ensure that public meetings are held at convenient and accessible locations and times;

(v) To the maximum extent practicable, use visualization techniques to describe the proposed long-range statewide transportation plan and supporting studies;

(vi) To the maximum extent practicable, make public information available in electronically accessible format and means, such as the World Wide Web, as appropriate to afford reasonable opportunity for consideration of public information;

(vii) Demonstrate explicit consideration and response to public input during the development of the long-range statewide transportation plan and STIP;

(viii) Include a process for seeking out and considering the needs of those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, such as low-income and minority households, who may face challenges accessing employment and other services; and

(ix) Provide for the periodic review of the effectiveness of the public involvement process to ensure that the process provides full and open access to all interested parties and revise the process, as appropriate.

(2) The State shall provide for public comment on existing and proposed processes for public involvement in the development of the long-range statewide transportation plan and the STIP. At a minimum, the State shall allow 45 calendar days for public review and written comment before the procedures and any major revisions to existing procedures are adopted. The State shall provide copies of the approved public involvement process document(s) to the FHWA and the FTA for informational purposes.

(b) The State shall provide for non-metropolitan local official participation in the development of the long-range statewide transportation plan and the STIP. The State shall have a documented process(es) for consulting with non-metropolitan local officials representing units of general purpose local government and/or local officials with responsibility for transportation that is separate and discrete from the public involvement process and provides an opportunity for their participation in the development of the long-range statewide transportation plan and the STIP. Although the FHWA and the FTA shall not review or approve this consultation process(es), copies of the process document(s) shall be provided to the FHWA and the FTA for informational purposes.

(1) At least once every five years (as of February 24, 2006), the State shall review and solicit comments from non-metropolitan local officials and other interested parties for a period of not less than 60 calendar days regarding the effectiveness of the consultation process and any proposed changes. A specific request for comments shall be directed to the State association of counties, State municipal league, regional planning agencies, or directly to non-metropolitan local officials.

(2) The State, at its discretion, shall be responsible for determining whether to adopt any proposed changes. If a proposed change is not adopted, the State shall make publicly available its reasons for not accepting the proposed change, including notification to non-metropolitan local officials or their associations.

(c) For each area of the State under the jurisdiction of an Indian Tribal government, the State shall develop the long-range statewide transportation plan and STIP in consultation with the Tribal government and the Secretary of Interior. States shall, to the extent practicable, develop a documented process(es) that outlines roles, responsibilities, and key decision points for consulting with Indian Tribal governments and Federal land management agencies in the development of the long-range statewide transportation plan and the STIP.

EXCERPT FROM

TITLE 23—HIGHWAYS

CHAPTER I—FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF

TRANSPORTATION

PART 450—PLANNING ASSISTANCE AND STANDARDS

Subpart C—Metropolitan Transportation Planning and Programming

Sec. 450.316 Interested parties, participation, and consultation.

(a) The MPO shall develop and use a documented participation plan that defines a process for providing citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, and other interested parties with reasonable opportunities to be involved in the metropolitan transportation planning process.

(1) The participation plan shall be developed by the MPO in consultation with all interested parties and shall, at a minimum, describe explicit procedures, strategies, and desired outcomes for:

(i) Providing adequate public notice of public participation activities and time for public review and comment at key decision points, including but not limited to a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed metropolitan transportation plan and the TIP;

(ii) Providing timely notice and reasonable access to information about transportation issues and processes;

(iii) Employing visualization techniques to describe metropolitan transportation plans and TIPs;

(iv) Making public information (technical information and meeting notices) available in electronically accessible formats and means, such as the World Wide Web;

(v) Holding any public meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times;

(vi) Demonstrating explicit consideration and response to public input received during the development of the metropolitan transportation plan and the TIP;

(vii) Seeking out and considering the needs of those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, such as low-income and minority households, who may face challenges accessing employment and other services;

(viii) Providing an additional opportunity for public comment, if the final metropolitan transportation plan or TIP differs significantly from the version that was made available for public comment by the MPO and raises new material issues which interested parties could not reasonably have foreseen from the public involvement efforts;

(ix) Coordinating with the statewide transportation planning public involvement and consultation processes under subpart B of this part; and

(x) Periodically reviewing the effectiveness of the procedures and strategies contained in the participation plan to ensure a full and open participation process.

(2) When significant written and oral comments are received on the draft metropolitan transportation plan and TIP (including the financial plans) as a result of the participation process in this section or the interagency consultation process required under the EPA transportation conformity regulations (40 CFR part 93), a summary, analysis, and report on the disposition of comments shall be made as part of the final metropolitan transportation plan and TIP.

(3) A minimum public comment period of 45 calendar days shall be provided before the initial or revised participation plan is adopted by the MPO. Copies of the approved participation plan shall be provided to the FHWA and the FTA for informational purposes and shall be posted on the World Wide Web, to the maximum extent practicable.

(b) In developing metropolitan transportation plans and TIPs, the MPO should consult with agencies and officials responsible for other planning activities within the MPA that are affected by transportation (including State and local planned growth, economic development, environmental protection, airport operations, or freight movements) or coordinate its planning process (to the maximum extent practicable) with such planning activities. In addition, metropolitan transportation plans and TIPs shall be developed with due consideration of other related planning activities within the metropolitan area, and the process shall provide for the design and delivery of transportation services within the area that are provided by:

(1) Recipients of assistance under title 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53;

(2) Governmental agencies and non-profit organizations (including representatives of the agencies and organizations) that receive Federal assistance from a source other than the U.S. Department of Transportation to provide non-emergency transportation services; and

(3) Recipients of assistance under 23 U.S.C. 204.

(c) When the MPA includes Indian Tribal lands, the MPO shall appropriately involve the Indian Tribal government(s) in the development of the metropolitan transportation plan and the TIP.

(d) When the MPA includes Federal public lands, the MPO shall appropriately involve the Federal land management agencies in the development of the metropolitan transportation plan and the TIP.

(e) MPOs shall, to the extent practicable, develop a documented process(es) that outlines roles, responsibilities, and key decision points for consulting with other governments and agencies, as defined in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this section, which may be included in the agreement(s) developed under §450.314.

EXCERPT FROM

TITLE 23—HIGHWAYS

**CHAPTER I—FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

PART 450—PLANNING ASSISTANCE AND STANDARDS

Subpart C—Metropolitan Transportation Planning and Programming

Sec. 450.320 Congestion management process in transportation management areas.

....

(i) The MPO shall provide citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, and other interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the transportation plan using the participation plan developed under §450.316(a).

(j) The metropolitan transportation plan shall be published or otherwise made readily available by the MPO for public review, including (to the maximum extent practicable) in electronically accessible formats and means, such as the World Wide Web.

....

EXCERPT FROM

TITLE 23—HIGHWAYS

CHAPTER I—FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF

TRANSPORTATION

PART 450—PLANNING ASSISTANCE AND STANDARDS

Subpart C--Metropolitan Transportation Planning and Programming

Sec. 450.324 Development and content of the transportation improvement plan (TIP).

....

(b) The MPO shall provide all interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed TIP as required by §450.316(a). In addition, in nonattainment area TMAs, the MPO shall provide at least one formal public meeting during the TIP development process, which should be addressed through the participation plan described in §450.316(a). In addition, the TIP shall be published or otherwise made readily available by the MPO for public review, including (to the maximum extent practicable) in electronically accessible formats and means, such as the World Wide Web, as described in §450.316(a).

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EXCERPT FROM
OREGON TRANSPORTATION PLAN, 2006

Coordination, Communication, and Cooperation

To pursue coordination, communication and cooperation among transportation users, providers and those most affected by transportation activities to align interests, remove barriers and bring innovative solutions so the transportation system functions as one system.

Policy 7.3 Public Involvement and Consultation

It is the policy of the State of Oregon to involve Oregonians to the fullest practical extent in transportation planning and implementation in order to deliver a transportation system that meets the diverse needs of the state.

Strategy 7.3.1

In all phases of decision-making, provide affected Oregonians early, open, continuous, and meaningful opportunity to influence decisions about proposed transportation activities. When preparing and adopting a multimodal transportation plan, modal/topic plan, facility plan or transportation improvement program, conduct and publicize a program for citizen, business, and tribal, local, state and federal government involvement. Clearly define the procedures by which these groups will be involved.

Strategy 7.3.2

Consult with federal and state agencies, Area Commissions on Transportation, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, affected non-metropolitan officials, tribal governments and other stakeholder groups in the development and implementation of the Oregon Transportation Plan.

Strategy 7.3.3

Seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected including traditionally underserved populations.

Strategy 7.3.4

Coordinate public outreach activities among local, regional and state agencies as appropriate.

Strategy 7.3.5

Provide ongoing communication to federal and state agencies, local governments and the public regarding the goals, policies and implementation of the OTP. Provide public information and education about financing transportation and construction, operations and maintenance activities.

Policy 7.4 – Environmental Justice

It is the policy of the State of Oregon to provide all Oregonians, regardless of race, culture or income, equal access to transportation decision-making so all Oregonians may fairly share in benefits and burdens and enjoy the same degree of protection from disproportionate adverse impacts.

Strategy 7.4.1

Provide equal access to public information and decision-making about transportation planning, financing, construction, operations and maintenance activities.

EXCERPT FROM

OREGON HIGHWAY PLAN, 1999
(Including amendments November 1999 through 2006)

Policy Element

The Oregon Transportation Plan stresses the importance of public participation, information, and education in the development and implementation of policies, programs, and projects to achieve the state's transportation goals. Public involvement programs are an important part of building relationships with users and communities to ensure that highway development and maintenance projects meet Oregonians' needs.

Policy 1G: Major Improvements

It is the policy of the State of Oregon to maintain highway performance and improve safety by improving system efficiency and management before adding capacity. ODOT will work in partnership with regional and local governments to address highway performance and safety needs.

...

Action 1G.2

Support any major improvements to state highway facilities in local comprehensive plans and transportation system plans only if the improvements meet all of the following conditions:

- The improvement is needed to satisfy a state transportation objective or objectives;
- The scope of the project is reasonably identified, considering the long-range projection of need;
- The improvement was identified through a planning process that included:
 - Thorough public involvement;
 - Evaluation of reasonable transportation and land use alternatives including measures for managing the existing transportation system and for reducing demands for highway capacity; and
 - Sufficient environmental analysis at the fatal flaw planning level.

...

Policy 2D: Public Involvement

It is the policy of the State of Oregon to ensure that citizens, businesses, regional and local governments, state agencies, and tribal governments have opportunities to have input into decisions regarding proposed policies, plans, programs, and improvement projects that affect the state highway system.

Action 2D.1

Conduct effective public involvement programs that create opportunities for citizens, businesses, regional and local governments, state agencies, and tribal governments to comment on proposed policies, plans, programs, and improvement projects.

Action 2D.2

Increase public information and education about construction, operations, and maintenance activities.

Action 2D.3

Coordinate with local governments and other agencies to ensure that public involvement programs target affected citizens, businesses, neighborhoods, and communities, as well as the general public.

Action 2D.4

Evaluate agency public involvement programs on a regular basis to ensure the programs are effective in involving a broad range of the public in agency planning and decision-making processes.

STIP PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICIES

The Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) establishes the following policy and core implementation actions to assist in meeting state and federal public participation requirements for statewide planning processes and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) development.

The OTC and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) are dedicated to the goal of developing an integrated, balanced, multimodal statewide transportation system that moves people, goods and services safely and efficiently throughout the state. Achieving this goal requires a unified transportation plan that incorporates general policies and addresses specific needs. In pursuit of this goal, ODOT has made a substantial commitment to planning and research. It is through this planning effort that future transportation needs will be met most effectively and efficiently.

The products of this planning effort are the statewide long-range transportation plan (the Oregon Transportation Plan and its supplemental plans) and the statewide transportation improvement program (the STIP).

In order to encourage public involvement in the development and major revision of Oregon's statewide long-range transportation plan and statewide transportation improvement program, ODOT is committed to providing public involvement processes which are "proactive and provide complete information, timely public notice, full public access to key decisions, and opportunities for early and continuing involvement." (*Statewide Planning; Metropolitan Planning 23 CFR 450.210(a)*)

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCEDURES

ODOT will abide by all applicable state and federal laws in implementing its public involvement processes for the development and major revision of the statewide long range transportation plan and statewide transportation improvement program.

ODOT will follow the requirements of the Oregon Public Meetings Law (ORS 192.610 to 192.690) for all advisory committees appointed by or reporting to the OTC.

ODOT will maintain a broad based, statewide list of stakeholders—individuals and organizations who are interested in or affected by transportation decisions—including representatives of Indian tribal governments in Oregon and organizations that reach those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems.

ODOT will provide these stakeholders with timely information about transportation issues and adequate notice of key decision points leading to the development or major revision of the statewide long-range transportation plan and statewide transportation improvement program.

ODOT will provide reasonable public access as required by the Oregon Public Records Law (ORS 192.420 to 192.505) to technical and policy information used in the development or major

revision of the statewide long-range transportation plan and statewide transportation improvement program. (Charges will be assessed per ODOT, Administrative Instruction #5).

ODOT will provide a 45-day public review of the proposed statewide long-range transportation plan, a 45-day public review of the proposed statewide transportation improvement program, and a 45-day public review of a major revision of either document following adoption of the plan or program by the OTC.

ODOT will provide statewide opportunities for public comment on the proposed statewide long-range transportation plan and proposed statewide transportation improvement program by scheduling at least two public meetings in each of ODOT's five regions prior to adoption of the plan or program by the OTC.

ODOT will work with metropolitan planning organizations to coordinate public involvement for the statewide long-range transportation plan and statewide transportation improvement program with public involvement for the metropolitan plan and transportation improvement program.

ODOT will consider all public comment on the proposed statewide long-range transportation plan and proposed statewide transportation improvement program prior to adoption of the plan or program by the OTC.

ODOT will publish and distribute the adopted statewide long-range transportation plan and statewide transportation improvement program.

ODOT will coordinate public involvement for the statewide long-range transportation plan and statewide transportation improvement program with public involvement for project development.

ODOT will submit the proposed public involvement policies and procedures contained in this document to a 45-day public review before their adoption by the OTC, and will submit a major revision of the adopted document to a 45-day public review.

ODOT will publish and distribute the adopted public involvement policies and procedures.

ODOT will review periodically the effectiveness of the public involvement policies and procedures.

EXCERPT FROM
OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
Chapter 660 Division 12
Land Conservation and Development Department

Transportation Planning

660-012-0050 Transportation Project Development

(2) Regional TSPs shall provide for coordinated project development among affected local governments. The process shall include:

(a) Designation of a lead agency to prepare and coordinate project development;

(b) A process for citizen involvement, including public notice and hearing, if project development involves land use decision-making. The process shall include notice to affected transportation facility and service providers, MPOs, and ODOT;

...

EXCERPT FROM
OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
Chapter 660 Division 15
Oregon's Statewide Planning Goals and Guidelines

Goal 1: Citizen Involvement

660-015-0000(1)

To develop a citizen involvement program that insures the opportunity for citizens to be involved in all phases of the planning process.

The governing body charged with preparing and adopting a comprehensive plan shall adopt and publicize a program for citizen involvement that clearly defines the procedures by which the general public will be involved in the ongoing land-use planning process.

The citizen involvement program shall be appropriate to the scale of the planning effort. The program shall provide for continuity of citizen participation and of information that enables citizens to identify and comprehend the issues.

Federal, state and regional agencies, and special- purpose districts shall coordinate their planning efforts with the affected governing bodies and make use of existing local citizen involvement programs established by counties and cities.

The citizen involvement program shall incorporate the following components:

Citizen Involvement - To provide for widespread citizen involvement.

Communication - To assure effective two-way communication with citizens.

Citizen Influence - To provide the opportunity for citizens to be involved in all phases of the planning process.

Technical Information - To assure that technical information is available in an understandable form.

Feedback Mechanisms - To assure that citizens will receive a response from policy-makers.

Financial Support - To insure funding for the citizen involvement program.

EXCERPT FROM

OREGON REVISED STATUTES

Chapter 192 — Public and Private Records; Public Reports and Meetings

2013 Edition

PUBLIC MEETINGS

192.610 Definitions for ORS 192.610 to 192.690. As used in ORS 192.610 to 192.690:

(1) “Decision” means any determination, action, vote or final disposition upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, ordinance or measure on which a vote of a governing body is required, at any meeting at which a quorum is present.

(2) “Executive session” means any meeting or part of a meeting of a governing body which is closed to certain persons for deliberation on certain matters.

(3) “Governing body” means the members of any public body which consists of two or more members, with the authority to make decisions for or recommendations to a public body on policy or administration.

(4) “Public body” means the state, any regional council, county, city or district, or any municipal or public corporation, or any board, department, commission, council, bureau, committee or subcommittee or advisory group or any other agency thereof.

(5) “Meeting” means the convening of a governing body of a public body for which a quorum is required in order to make a decision or to deliberate toward a decision on any matter. “Meeting” does not include any on-site inspection of any project or program. “Meeting” also does not include the attendance of members of a governing body at any national, regional or state association to which the public body or the members belong. [1973 c.172 §2; 1979 c.644 §1]

192.620 Policy. The Oregon form of government requires an informed public aware of the deliberations and decisions of governing bodies and the information upon which such decisions were made. It is the intent of ORS 192.610 to 192.690 that decisions of governing bodies be arrived at openly. [1973 c.172 §1]

192.630 Meetings of governing body to be open to public; location of meetings; accommodation for person with disability; interpreters. (1) All meetings of the governing body of a public body shall be open to the public and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting except as otherwise provided by ORS 192.610 to 192.690.

(2) A quorum of a governing body may not meet in private for the purpose of deciding on or deliberating toward a decision on any matter except as otherwise provided by ORS 192.610 to 192.690.

(3) A governing body may not hold a meeting at any place where discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age or disability is practiced. However, the fact that organizations with restricted membership hold meetings at the place does not restrict its use by a public body if use of the place by a restricted membership organization is not the primary purpose of the place or its predominant use.

(4) Meetings of the governing body of a public body shall be held within the geographic boundaries over which the public body has jurisdiction, or at the administrative headquarters of

the public body or at the other nearest practical location. Training sessions may be held outside the jurisdiction as long as no deliberations toward a decision are involved. A joint meeting of two or more governing bodies or of one or more governing bodies and the elected officials of one or more federally recognized Oregon Indian tribes shall be held within the geographic boundaries over which one of the participating public bodies or one of the Oregon Indian tribes has jurisdiction or at the nearest practical location. Meetings may be held in locations other than those described in this subsection in the event of an actual emergency necessitating immediate action.

(5)(a) It is discrimination on the basis of disability for a governing body of a public body to meet in a place inaccessible to persons with disabilities, or, upon request of a person who is deaf or hard of hearing, to fail to make a good faith effort to have an interpreter for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing provided at a regularly scheduled meeting. The sole remedy for discrimination on the basis of disability shall be as provided in ORS 192.680.

(b) The person requesting the interpreter shall give the governing body at least 48 hours' notice of the request for an interpreter, shall provide the name of the requester, sign language preference and any other relevant information the governing body may request.

(c) If a meeting is held upon less than 48 hours' notice, reasonable effort shall be made to have an interpreter present, but the requirement for an interpreter does not apply to emergency meetings.

(d) If certification of interpreters occurs under state or federal law, the Oregon Health Authority or other state or local agency shall try to refer only certified interpreters to governing bodies for purposes of this subsection.

(e) As used in this subsection, "good faith effort" includes, but is not limited to, contacting the department or other state or local agency that maintains a list of qualified interpreters and arranging for the referral of one or more qualified interpreters to provide interpreter services. [1973 c.172 §3; 1979 c.644 §2; 1989 c.1019 §1; 1995 c.626 §1; 2003 c.14 §95; 2005 c.663 §12; 2007 c.70 §52; 2007 c.100 §21; 2009 c.595 §173]

192.640 Public notice required; special notice for executive sessions, special or emergency meetings. (1) The governing body of a public body shall provide for and give public notice, reasonably calculated to give actual notice to interested persons including news media which have requested notice, of the time and place for holding regular meetings. The notice shall also include a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting, but this requirement shall not limit the ability of a governing body to consider additional subjects.

(2) If an executive session only will be held, the notice shall be given to the members of the governing body, to the general public and to news media which have requested notice, stating the specific provision of law authorizing the executive session.

(3) No special meeting shall be held without at least 24 hours' notice to the members of the governing body, the news media which have requested notice and the general public. In case of an actual emergency, a meeting may be held upon such notice as is appropriate to the circumstances, but the minutes for such a meeting shall describe the emergency justifying less than 24 hours' notice. [1973 c.172 §4; 1979 c.644 §3; 1981 c.182 §1]

192.650 Recording or written minutes required; content; fees. (1) The governing body of a public body shall provide for the taking of written minutes of all its meetings. Neither a full transcript nor a recording of the meeting is required, except as otherwise provided by law, but the

written minutes must give a true reflection of the matters discussed at the meeting and the views of the participants. All minutes or recordings shall be available to the public within a reasonable time after the meeting, and shall include at least the following information:

- (a) All members of the governing body present;
- (b) All motions, proposals, resolutions, orders, ordinances and measures proposed and their disposition;
- (c) The results of all votes and, except for public bodies consisting of more than 25 members unless requested by a member of that body, the vote of each member by name;
- (d) The substance of any discussion on any matter; and
- (e) Subject to ORS 192.410 to 192.505 relating to public records, a reference to any document discussed at the meeting.

(2) Minutes of executive sessions shall be kept in accordance with subsection (1) of this section. However, the minutes of a hearing held under ORS 332.061 shall contain only the material not excluded under ORS 332.061 (2). Instead of written minutes, a record of any executive session may be kept in the form of a sound or video tape or digital recording, which need not be transcribed unless otherwise provided by law. If the disclosure of certain material is inconsistent with the purpose for which a meeting under ORS 192.660 is authorized to be held, that material may be excluded from disclosure. However, excluded materials are authorized to be examined privately by a court in any legal action and the court shall determine their admissibility.

(3) A reference in minutes or a recording to a document discussed at a meeting of a governing body of a public body does not affect the status of the document under ORS 192.410 to 192.505.

(4) A public body may charge a person a fee under ORS 192.440 for the preparation of a transcript from a recording. [1973 c.172 §5; 1975 c.664 §1; 1979 c.644 §4; 1999 c.59 §44; 2003 c.803 §14]

192.660 Executive sessions permitted on certain matters; procedures; news media representatives' attendance; limits. (1) ORS 192.610 to 192.690 do not prevent the governing body of a public body from holding executive session during a regular, special or emergency meeting, after the presiding officer has identified the authorization under ORS 192.610 to 192.690 for holding the executive session....[1973 c.172 §6; 1975 c.664 §2; 1979 c.644 §5; 1981 c.302 §1; 1983 c.453 §1; 1985 c.657 §2; 1995 c.779 §1; 1997 c.173 §1; 1997 c.594 §1; 1997 c.791 §9; 2001 c.950 §10; 2003 c.524 §4; 2005 c.22 §134; 2007 c.602 §11; 2009 c.792 §32]

192.670 Meetings by means of telephonic or electronic communication. (1) Any meeting, including an executive session, of a governing body of a public body which is held through the use of telephone or other electronic communication shall be conducted in accordance with ORS 192.610 to 192.690.

(2) When telephone or other electronic means of communication is used and the meeting is not an executive session, the governing body of the public body shall make available to the public at least one place where, or at least one electronic means by which, the public can listen to the communication at the time it occurs. A place provided may be a place where no member of the governing body of the public body is present. [1973 c.172 §7; 1979 c.361 §1; 2011 c.272 §2]

EXCERPT FROM
**EUGENE/SPRINGFIELD METROPOLITAN AREA GENERAL PLAN
(2004)**

K. Citizen Involvement Element

Active, ongoing, and meaningful citizen involvement is an essential ingredient to the development and implementation of any successful planning program. Citizens in the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area have participated in and articulated their concerns on planning activities and decisions as individuals and through various private interest groups, community and neighborhood organizations, and citizen advisory committees.

....

Goal

Continue to develop, maintain, and refine programs and procedures that maximize the opportunity for meaningful, ongoing citizen involvement in the community's planning and planning implementation processes consistent with mandatory statewide planning standards.

Findings

1. The Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area has a history of encouraging and recognizing citizen involvement as an essential element in its planning program.
2. Citizen advisory committees have been established to provide the citizen's perspective on a variety of metropolitan-wide planning and related issues.
3. Springfield, Lane County, and Eugene each use either their local planning commission or a committee for citizen involvement in monitoring citizen involvement in the planning process.
4. JPCC has been designated as the citizen organization for developing and conducting a citizen involvement program for the *Metro Plan*, including update processes.
5. The governing bodies have furthered their efforts at citizen involvement through the development and support of community neighborhood organizations, community surveys, citizen involvement advisory committees, and various media techniques for citizen involvement and education.
6. How effective the *Metro Plan* will be depends to a large extent upon how much support is provided by the metropolitan area residents in seeing that the *Metro Plan* is implemented.
7. Successful *Metro Plan* development and implementation is dependent on a joint effort of citizens, public and semi-public agencies, and elected officials.
8. Benefits of an ongoing metropolitan area planning advisory committee to provide citizen perspective include an accumulation of knowledge and experience in the planning process.
9. In 1984, an ongoing metropolitan policy committee, the Metropolitan Planning Committee, was formed to provide policy direction for the *Metro Plan* 2-1/2-Year Mid-

Period Review. It was comprised of two elected officials and one Planning Commissioner each from Eugene, Springfield, and Lane County, and one representative of the metropolitan citizen committee participates as a non-voting member.

10. In 1987, the Metropolitan Planning Committee was replaced by the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC). The MPC is comprised of two elected officials each from Eugene, Springfield, and Lane County. The chief administrative officers of the three jurisdictions serve as non-voting, ex-officio members of the MPC. When the MPC is considering metropolitan transportation matters, the two members of the Lane Transit District (LTD) Board shall serve as voting members and the General Manager of LTD and the Director of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) shall also serve as non-voting, ex-officio members of MPC.

Objectives

1. Promote and strengthen communication and coordination among various citizens organizations; business, industrial, and other groups in the community; and between these groups and government.
2. Insure adequate opportunities and provide adequate support for citizen involvement in metropolitan planning and related issues.
3. Insure that the roles and responsibilities of the various citizen advisory committees remain effective and responsive vehicles for citizen involvement.
4. Maintain a permanent citizens advisory committee to monitor the adequacy of citizen involvement in metropolitan-wide planning processes.

Policies

- K.1 Maintain an ongoing citizens advisory committee to the governing bodies of Springfield, Eugene, and Lane County to monitor the adequacy of citizen involvement in the update, review, and amendments to the *Metro Plan*.
- K.2 Maintain and adequately fund a variety of programs and procedures for encouraging and providing opportunities for citizen involvement in metropolitan area planning issues. Such programs should provide for widespread citizen involvement, effective communication, access to technical information, and feedback mechanisms from policymakers. These programs shall be coordinated with local citizen involvement programs and shall be prepared on the metropolitan level by the JPCC, a committee composed of two representatives from each of the three metropolitan planning commissions.
- K.3 Improve and maintain local mechanisms that provide the opportunity for residents and property owners in existing residential areas to participate in the implementation of policies in the *Metro Plan* that may affect the character of those areas.
- K.4 Maintain an ongoing metropolitan region policy committee, known as the MPC, to provide policy direction on major *Metro Plan* updates, *Metro Plan* amendments, and special studies. MPC shall resolve land use issues and other disagreements at the elected

official level among the two cities and the county and fulfill other intergovernmental functions as required by the three metropolitan governments.

- K.5 In addition to its citizen involvement responsibilities, JPCC shall provide guidance for intergovernmental studies and projects and shall provide a forum at the Planning Commission level for resolving intergovernmental planning issues, including proposed *Metro Plan* amendments.