

**OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZATION
HIGH PRIORITY PROJECT REQUEST FORM**

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2009

This form must be filled out in its entirety. It must be accompanied by at least one letter of support from a state, regional, or local governmental official specifically supporting the project request. This letter should discuss the merits of the project; specify the process to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the project; and identify the other sources of Federal, state, or private funding that will be used to complete this project or project phase. This letter must contain an explicit statement of support for the project. In addition, if you are requesting less than 80 percent of the total estimated cost of the specific segment or activity, the letter must identify other specifically designated Federal, state, local, or private funding sources that, combined with this request, equal at least 80 percent of the total estimated cost. Please use **boldface font** to highlight these statements in the letter.

The deadline to submit this form and the support letter is Friday, April 24, 2009. No exceptions. Please submit this form along with any supplementary materials to David Skillman via email at David.Skillman@hawaii.house.gov. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact David Skillman at 808-933-3333.

Form instructions: This form contains drop-down menus to answer some questions. To access the drop-down menu, run your cursor over "Select One" or "Select One if Applicable" and click your mouse. A drop-down menu will appear and you can select the appropriate answer. Additionally, written answers should be typed in the gray boxes provided.

1. Project Title:

Civic Neighborhood Multi-Modal Center/Light Rail Parking Facility

2. Organization (project sponsor) Name and Address: (if state or local entity, please identify specific department requesting funding)

City of Gresham, Department of Environmental Services, 1333 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham, Oregon, 97030

3. Primary contact name, phone number, mobile phone number, fax number, and e-mail:

David Skillman, 503-933-3333, 503-933-3333, David.Skillman@hawaii.house.gov; email: David.Skillman@hawaii.house.gov

4. Project location address (if different from organization):

This project is in the Civic Neighborhood in Gresham. The neighborhood is bounded by Burnside Road and Division Street to the north and south, and Wallula Avenue and Eastman Parkway to the west and east.

5. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

The purpose of this project is to develop Civic Neighborhood in Gresham into a strong Regional Center by improving access to light rail and supporting higher and better uses of public land. The project consists of planning, design, and construction of a multimodal passenger facility that

includes a park and-ride structure to serve passengers using light rail in the Civic Neighborhood. The facilities will be constructed on publicly owned land and incorporate smart parking technology. The easy-access multi-modal facility and parking structure will be used by regional commuters as well as visitors and residents traveling to and within Gresham.

The project will leverage the City's efforts to attract more transit-oriented development by accomodating a portion of parking that would otherwise be required on-site. In turn, more land will be available to accomodate residential, retail, and commercial uses. In this regard, the project incentivizes compact, dense, urban form by minimizing the need for surface parking.

This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it supports an increase in the volume of transit ridership in the region, relieving congestion on crowded roadways and reducing automobile vehicle miles traveled. Furthermore, it will enhance the identity of Civic Neighborhood, a transit-oriented Regional Center programmed for a mix of land uses and where capacity for development exists. Residential, retail, and employment development in the Civic Neighborhood will help to alleviate an imbalance in the region of the location of jobs and housing, minimizing the need to commute long distances by automobile.

Federal funding for this project will provide the City needed leverage to attract new development for higher and better land uses in the neighborhood. It will support more efficient use of existing infrastructure and help to keep the Civic Neighborhood economically viable and attractive.

It is estimated that this project will support 167 jobs, 57 of which are construction.

6. Are you requesting Federal funds for more than one project in this bill? Yes
If Yes, this project is priority 2 of 3 total requests for your organization.
(For example, priority 1 of 3 requests or priority 3 of 3 requests.)

7. Are you requesting funds from other Members of Congress? No
If Yes, which Members?

8. Please select which type of eligible project under Title 23 (Highways) or Chapter 53 of Title 49 (Public Transit) of the U.S. Code for which you are requesting funding. (Note: The Committee will not accept requests for non-surface transportation projects, such as transportation museums, horse trails, or historic battlefields, as part of the High Priority Projects program.)
Highway Project (Title 23)

Type: Not a Highway Project

Located on a Federal-aid highway? No

Located on the National Highway System? No

Located on the Interstate System? No

Public Transit Project (Chapter 53 of Title 49)

Indicate Type with an 'X':

Passenger Vehicles

Transit Bus or Van

Transit Rail Car or Locomotive, including Streetcars

Transit Ferry

Transit Facilities

- Vehicle Maintenance or Administration Facility
- Passenger Facility, including Intermodal Facilities, stations, and terminals

Transit Rights-of-Way

- Property Acquisition Corridor Development
- Rail Track Construction or Maintenance
- Bus-only Lane Construction or Maintenance

Transit Equipment

- Vehicle-related Equipment System-related Equipment

New Start Project (A New Start project is a major *new* fixed guideway capital project seeking more than \$75 million in Federal funds.)

Small Start Project (A Small Start project is a *new* fixed guideway capital project seeking less than \$75 million in Federal funds and with a total estimated net capital cost of less than \$250 million.)

Rail

Intercity Passenger Rail (Not commuter rail. Commuter rail should be requested under public transit)

Is the project located within a corridor previously designated by the Secretary of Transportation pursuant to section 104(d)(2) of Title 23, United States Code, or the Northeast Corridor? Select One

If Yes, which Corridor: Select One

Freight Rail
Select Rail Class

Research

- University Transportation Center
- Other

9. Did the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, State Department of Transportation, or public transit agency confirm that the project is eligible under Title 23 (Highways) or Chapter 53 of Title 49 (Public Transit) of the United States Code? Yes

If Yes, which entity confirmed the project eligibility?

FHWA, FTA, State DOT, or Public Transit Agency:
Oregon Department of Transportation

Contact information (Name, Position, Phone):
John Baker, Transportation Economist, (503)

According to the entity, is the project eligible under Title 23, Title 49, or both:
Title 23

10. Please identify the state, regional, or local governmental entity that is an eligible recipient of the funds. Please include an address. (For example, a State Department of Transportation, public transit agency, Metropolitan Planning Organization, local government, or

Federally-recognized tribe.) Note: If a project is a multi-state project, please identify the state, regional, or local governmental entity which will serve as the lead agency for the project.

City of Gresham, Oregon. Department of Environmental Services. 1333 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham, Oregon, 97030.

11. Please identify and describe the specific segment or activity for which project funding is requested. (The request must finance at least 80 percent of the total estimated cost of the specific segment or activity by either (1) the amount requested; or (2) the amount requested in addition to other specifically designated Federal, state, local, or private funding sources.)

Project Description: (Include the specific terminus points of the project or activity, as appropriate.)

The City of Gresham is seeking authorization to use federal transportation funds to plan, design, and construct a multi-modal center/light rail park-and-ride facility on publicly owned land in the Civic Neighborhood. The neighborhood is bounded by Burnside Road and Division Street to the north and south, and Wallula Avenue and Eastman Parkway on the west and east. Publicly owned land exists in areas throughout the project scope, and a location for a multi-modal center/light rail park-and-ride structure will be determined during the planning phase of this project. The neighborhood is a transit-oriented area with a mix of residential, retail, and civic uses, including Gresham City Hall. An existing Max light rail station, Gresham City Hall Station, serves the area and another station, Civic Station, is programmed to open in Fall 2010.

Project Activities: (May select more than one.)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> construct | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> design | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> conduct | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> environmental review | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> acquire right-of-way | | <input type="checkbox"/> conduct alternatives analysis | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> research | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> develop | <input type="checkbox"/> demonstrate | <input type="checkbox"/> deploy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> reconstruct | <input type="checkbox"/> rehabilitate | <input type="checkbox"/> replace | <input type="checkbox"/> retrofit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> install | <input type="checkbox"/> mitigate | <input type="checkbox"/> implement | <input type="checkbox"/> realign |

What is the total estimated cost?
\$6,000,000

What amount is being requested? \$5,000,000

What percentage of the total estimated cost is the request for Federal funding? 83%
If the percentage is less than 80% identify other specifically designated Federal, state, local, or private funding that when combined with this request equal at least 80 percent.

Source:
Amount of Funding:

12. If you are requesting funding for a specific segment or activity, please describe the overall project of which this segment/activity is a part.

Project Description: (Please limit your response to 3-4 sentences; up to 500 characters.)

Total Project Estimated cost:

13. Is the project included in the State's Long-Range Transportation Plan? No

If Yes, please provide the date of approval of the most recent version of the plan and the title of the plan.

Date of approval (MM/YYYY):

Title of the plan: NOTE: the Oregon Transportation Plan is a policy document and is not project specific. Therefore, this project is not listed in the State's Long-Range Transportation Plan.

14. Is the project included in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and/or the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)? No

If Yes, please provide the date of approval of the most recent version of the program(s), and the title of the program(s).

Listed in TIP: Select One

Date of approval (MM/YYYY):

Title of the Program:

Listed in STIP: Select One

Date of approval (MM/YYYY):

Title of the Program:

15. If the project is an intercity passenger rail project is it included in the State Rail Plan?

Not Applicable

If Yes, please provide the date on which the Governor approved the most recent version of the plan and the title of the plan.

Date of approval (MM/YYYY):

Title of the plan:

16. Please describe the current status of the project and the expected schedule for its completion.

Federal-aid Highway projects:

Select One if Applicable

Public Transit projects:

Select One if Applicable

Rail projects:

Select One if Applicable

Research:

Select One if Applicable

17. What is the expected date of completion of the project for which you are requesting funding (Between FY2010-FY2020)? FY2014

18. Does the project have regional or national significance? (A project of regional and/or national significance is typically a high-cost transportation infrastructure facility that often includes multiple levels of government, agencies, modes of transportation, and transportation goals and planning processes that are not easily addressed or funded within existing surface transportation program categories. These projects have national and/or regional benefits, including improving economic productivity by facilitating international trade, relieving congestion, and improving transportation safety by facilitating passenger and freight movement.)

Does the project have regional or national significance? Yes

If Yes. Please describe the regional or national significance of the project. Please limit your response to 3-4 sentences (up to 500 characters):

This project is regionally significant. Civic Neighborhood lies within a Regional Center as identified in the Metro Region 2040 Growth Concept. The area is targeted for additional density and growth by the year 2040. Additional parking capacity to serve the Civic Neighborhood and Gresham City Hall and Civic light

rail stations will support park-and-ride programs to relief congestion, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote mixed-use development along this transit-oriented corridor.

19. Describe the safety, economic development, mobility, and environmental benefits associated with completion of the project.

Safety Benefits: (Please limit your response to 2-3 sentences; (500 characters).)

Safety benefits of this project include new ADA-compliant connections linking park-and-ride areas to light rail stations, enhanced lighting in those areas, and increased volume of activity in the area which serves as a crime deterrent. Furthermore, this project will reduce harmful air pollutants through increased transit ridership and reductions in automobile vehicle miles traveled.

Economic Development Benefits: (Please limit your response to 2-3 sentences; (500 characters).)

This project will serve as leverage for new development in the area. A park-and-ride structure can accommodate commuters and residents, providing parking at different peak times via shared-use parking programs. This will incentivize redevelopment of land to higher and better uses that are more dense and compact than they are today, and that might otherwise be allocated for surface parking.

Mobility Benefits: (Please limit your response to 2-3 sentences; (500 characters).)

This project will incorporate smart-parking technology, making parking easier and less time consuming for commuters and visitors. In addition, the structure will be adjacent to light rail. With ease of access to both parking and light rail, commuters and visitors will switch modes from automobile to transit when traveling to, from, and within Gresham. This will enhance mobility on local and regional roadways through a reduction in the volume of automobile trips on those systems.

Environmental Benefits: (Please limit your response to 2-3 sentences; (500 characters).)

This project reduces harmful greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles by enhancing access to light rail, thereby increasing transit ridership and reducing vehicle miles traveled by automobiles. Additionally, it incentivizes a better use of land in a transit-oriented area by reducing the need for surface parking. This in turn reduces the amount of impervious surface and the volume of stormwater runoff in the region.

20. Has the project previously received any Federal funding? No

Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (P.L.109-59)

Section:

Project Number:

Amount of Funding:

Amount of Funding Amount Obligated:

Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21) (P.L. 105-178)

Section:

Project Number:

Amount of Funding:

Amount of Funding Amount Obligated:

National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (NHS Act) (P.L. 104-59)

Section:

Project Number:

Amount of Funding:
Amount of Funding Amount Obligated:
Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) (P.L. 102-240)

Section:
Project Number:
Amount of Funding:
Amount of Funding Amount Obligated:

Appropriations act(s)

Public Law Name:
Public Law Number:
Section:
Project Number:
Amount of Funding:
Amount of Funding Amount Obligated:

Other legislation:

Public Law Name:
Public Law Number:
Section:
Project Number:
Amount of Funding:
Amount of Funding Amount Obligated:

21. Has the project received any prior funding from a state, local, or private source? No

Source:
Amount of Funding:
Amount Obligated:

22. Please provide the proposed legislative text (in no more than 250 characters) of the project as you would like it to appear in the bill. Please use action verbs to begin the description (for example, "construct," "plan," "design," "engineer," "research," or "rehabilitate"). Please note that project line items carry the force of law, and can only be amended through subsequent public laws. If Congressional intent (as established through answers listed on this form) is different from the legislative text, the entity administering the project is required to adhere to the statutory language.

Authorize the City of Gresham to plan, design, and construct a new multi-modal center/light rail parking facility on publicly owned property in Gresham.

23. Are you enclosing the letter referenced at the top of this form with the required formatting? Yes

24. Notes or anything else we should know about the project request:

Please return this form and at least one local or state letter of support no later than Friday, April 24, 2009 (via email) to:

David.Skillman@mail.house.gov

Washington, D.C. Contact for Rep. Blumenauer: David Skillman, (202) 225-4811
Oregon Contact for Rep. Blumenauer: Sarah Masterson, (503) 231-2300