

**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@house.gov](mailto:Skillman.David@house.gov). If you have any questions or concerns, please contact David Skillman at [503-237-1101](tel:503-237-1101).

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:

Portland to Milwaukie Light Rail Project

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

Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (TriMet)
4012 SE 17th Street
Portland, OR 97202

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

Neil McFarlane
Telephone: 503-237-1101
Fax: 503-237-1101
Neil.McFarlane@trimet.org

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

710 NE Holladay Street
Portland, OR 97232

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 project's purpose is to implement a major transit improvement in the South Corridor that maintains livability in the metropolitan region, supports land use goals, optimizes the transportation system, is environmentally sensitive, reflects community values, and is fiscally responsive.

The new alignment would have the long-term capacity of approximately 5,320 persons per hour (at the peak load point), equivalent to the capacity of approximately 3.5 additional highway lanes. In 2030, the Yellow MAX line, between the existing Expo Center station in north Portland and the new SE Park Avenue station in Milwaukie, would connect with a one-seat ride 123,600 residents and 221,200 jobs within its station areas.

In-vehicle transit travel times between downtown Milwaukie and downtown Portland would be reduced to 25 minutes, compared to 28 minutes for automobiles and 37 minutes for buses. Similarly, transit times to Portland State University would be 19 minutes, compared to 28 minutes for automobiles and 40 minutes for buses.

Construction activities generate jobs in three ways: direct employment tied to the job site; indirect employment through manufacturing building materials or design professions, legal, accounting and real estate; and multiplier or ancillary work in other service areas, whereby income from the first two categories is spent on goods and services, such as retail, restaurants, etc.

Economists currently use a factor of 20 jobs per million dollars of construction to estimate jobs created by projects. The construction component of this project is estimated at \$598,759,000, resulting in approximately 11,975 jobs.

6. Are you requesting Federal funds for more than one project in this bill? Yes
If Yes, this project is priority 3 of 12 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? Yes
If Yes, which Members? Congressman David Wu, Congressman Kurt Schrader

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? Select One

Located on the National Highway System? Select One

Located on the Interstate System? Select One

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? Select One

If Yes, which entity confirmed the project eligibility?

FHWA, FTA, State DOT, or Public Transit Agency:

FTA

Contact information (Name, Position, Phone):

Amy Changchien, Regional Engineer

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

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.

Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (TriMet), 4012 SE 17th Ave., Portland, OR 97202 - public transit agency

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 Project will construct new light rail transit connecting downtown Portland with the city of Milwaukie and northern Clackamas County and points in-between. The project will serve the Central City, the South Waterfront District, the Central Eastside Industrial District, Southeast Portland neighborhoods, the Milwaukie Town Center, and the urbanized portion of Clackamas County. The project will add approximately 7.3 miles of new double-track to the existing regional light rail network, construct 10 new stations, add approximately 2,000 park-and-ride spaces, and construct an exclusive transitway between SW 1st Avenue and SE 8th Avenue as part of a new bridge across the Willamette River for pedestrians, bicycles, buses, light rail, and potentially streetcar in the future.

Project Activities: (May select more than one.)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> construct | <input type="checkbox"/> plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> design | <input type="checkbox"/> engineer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> conduct | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> environmental review | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> acquire right-of-way | | <input type="checkbox"/> conduct alternatives analysis | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> research | <input 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?

\$1.417 billion

What amount is being requested? \$850.60 million

What percentage of the total estimated cost is the request for Federal funding? 60%

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: See below

Amount of Funding: (rounded, in millions)

State of Oregon	\$250.0
MTIP	\$ 72.5
In Kind	\$38.0
Project Interest	\$100.0
Other local	\$106.5
Total	\$567.0

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? Yes

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): 09/2006

Title of the plan: Oregon Transportation Plan

The Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP) is the state's long-range multimodal transportation plan. The OTP is the overarching policy document among a series of plans that together form the state transportation system plan. It does not include a list of projects.

14. Is the project included in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and/or the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)? Yes

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: Yes

Date of approval (MM/YYYY): 8/2007; amended 4/2009

Title of the Program: Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program

Portland Metropolitan Area

Listed in STIP: Yes

Date of approval (MM/YYYY): 1/2008

Title of the Program: Oregon Statewide Transportation Improvement 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:

In Preliminary Engineering

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)? 2015

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):

The South/North corridor is located in the Portland, Oregon metropolitan region, the population and economic center of an extensive area that includes southern Washington. The corridor includes the city of Milwaukie and much of southeast Portland and the Portland Central City. These areas have some of the region's highest concentrations of population and employment and major educational, health services, government, civic and entertainment facilities.

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).)

The project is estimated to reduce vehicle miles traveled by 69,000, vehicle hours traveled by nearly 6,300 and vehicle hours of delay by about 450 hours per average weekday.

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

Since the inception of light rail transit in the Portland metropolitan area, approximately \$7 billion in investment has occurred within .5 mile of stations. Similar development is expected in this corridor.

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

The project is expected to provide between 22,000 and 25,500 daily trips on light rail in the corridor by the year 2030. Total transit travel time savings is estimated from one to four minutes to Pioneer Square, 18 minutes to Portland State University, and between 29 and 33 minutes for transit trips between Milwaukie and the South Waterfront area, which is not currently a direct route.

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

The project would reduce total regional energy consumption, with a reduction of up to $.354 \times 10^9$ Btu per average weekday.

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?

Select One

Source: State of Oregon
Amount of Funding: \$250 million
Amount Obligated: \$250 million- bonds sold in March.

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.

Design and construct Portland to Milwaukie Light Rail Project

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:

TriMet project priorities

1. TriMet buses
2. South Corridor I -205/Portland Mall Light Rail
3. Portland to Milwaukie Light Rail
4. Portland to Lake Oswego Streetcar

5. Portland to Tigard and Sherwood/ 99W Barbur Blvd Alternatives Analysis
6. West Metro HCT Bus Rapid Transit Alternatives Analysis
7. Central East HCT Bus Rapid Transit Alternatives Analysis
8. Prototype DMU
9. College Station TOD
10. Hillsboro to Forest Grove Alternatives Analysis
11. East Metro North South HCT Alternatives Analysis
12. Light Rail to Oregon City Alternatives Analysis

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

D:

house.gov

**Washington, D.C. Contact for Rep. Blumenauer: David Skillma
Oregon Contact for Rep. Blumenauer: Sarah Masterson, (5**

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