

**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 [dskillman@blumenauer.gov](mailto:dskillman@blumenauer.gov). If you have any questions or concerns, please contact David.

**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:**

South Corridor I-205/Portland Mall Light Rail

**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 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Portland, OR 97202

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

Neil Mc...  
Tele:  
Fax:  
lortsk...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 will improve public transportation in the downtown Portland central business district and in the South/North Corridor. Since the decision to build light rail in the Portland region, over \$7 billion of development has occurred within walking distance of MAX. The project supports implementation of the region's 2040 plan, which focuses on regional and town centers, all served by TriMet's high capacity transit system.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement (page 3-18) published in November 2004 reflects 2,760 direct jobs, 1,780 indirect jobs and 3,040 induced jobs giving a total of 7,580 jobs. The direct (construction and manufacturing) jobs are calculated used 6.98 direct jobs per million dollars of capital cost; 4.51 indirect jobs per million dollars of capital costs; and 7.70 induced jobs per million dollars of capital costs.

**6. Are you requesting Federal funds for more than one project in this bill? Yes**  
**If Yes, this project is priority 2 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? Yes**

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, 4012 SE 17th Ave., Portland, OR 97202  
- public 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 add an 8.3 mile light rail extension connecting downtown Portland with Clackamas Regional Center and points in-between. The project will construct 15 new stations, and add 2,00 park-and-ride spaces. The project includes real property acquisition, final design, civil construction and track work, signals, communications, traction electrification, central control, fare collection and 22 low floor light rail vehicles. It is on schedule to open for revenue service in September 2009.

Project Activities: (May select more than one.)

- |  |                                       |  |                                   |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> construct            | <input type="checkbox"/> plan         | <input type="checkbox"/> design                        | <input type="checkbox"/> engineer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> conduct                         |                                       | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> install              | <input type="checkbox"/> mitigate     | <input type="checkbox"/> implement                     | <input type="checkbox"/> realign  |

What is the total estimated cost?

\$575.7 million

What amount is being requested? \$105.413 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: Local agencies listed (24%) under question #21.

Amount of Funding: \$139.3 million - local

Other federal funding (16%):

MTIP backed GARVEE bonds \$64.8

Oregon Department of Transportation Surface Transportation Program

\$23.0 million

Section 5309 bus / 5307 for preliminary engineering \$3.1 million

Total Other Federal \$90.9 million

**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.)

N/A

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): 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.

**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): 01/2008

Title of the Program: Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program

Portland Metropolitan Area

Listed in STIP: Yes

Date of approval (MM/YYYY): 01/2008

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:

Under Construction or Procurement

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)?** Revenue service is scheduled to begin September 12, 2009. The Full Funding Grant Agreement reflects completion date of June 30, 2012, including project close-out and before-and-after study.

**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 Corridor is part of the larger South/North Transit Corridor within the Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, Washington metropolitan region. Travel times from downtown Portland to the Clackamas Regional Center are projected to increase by 58 percent by 2025. By 2025, the project is expected to reduce average regional weekday vehicle miles of congestion by approximately 125,000 miles (.4%), overall regional weekday vehicle miles by .4% .

**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).)

Projections of vehicles miles traveled reflect doubling of the miles of major roads that are congested (volumes in excess of 90% of the design capacity) in the South Corridor by 2025. The project is expected to reduce regional hours of delay by approximately 1.1% by 2025.

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

Regional and local comprehensive plans have targeted new growth and development to a number of activity centers, such as the Portland Central City, the Gateway and Clackamas regional centers, and the Lents Town Center (Final Environmental Impact Statement pg 3-19). Transit capacity is required to meet the anticipated higher-density development within the Urban Growth Boundary.

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

The Final Environmental Impact Statement reports expected reduction in average regional weekday vehicle miles of congestion of approximately 125,000 (pg S-15). Average weekday ridership is estimated at 46,500 (pg 4-21)

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

The Final Environmental Impact Statement reports expected reductions in carbon monoxid, nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds as well as annual operational energy savings (pgs S-17 through S-19)

**20. Has the project previously received any Federal funding? Yes**

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

Section: 5309 New Starts

Project Number: OR-03-0124

Amount of Funding: \$345,413,000

Amount of Funding Amount Obligated: \$240,000,000

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? Yes**

Source: see below

Amount of Funding: \$139.3 million

Amount Obligated:

All amounts obligated; in millions, rounded

City of Portland, Portland Development Commission \$50.0 million

Clackamas County \$39.3 million

TriMet \$27.8 million

City of Portland Local Improvement District \$19.0 million

Private land donation \$3.1 million

Total Local \$139.3 million

**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.

Construct South Corridor I-205/Portland Mall 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:**

The project will open this fall. The Full Funding Grant Agreement includes funding of \$80 million in fiscal year 2010 and \$25.413 million in fiscal year 2011.

TriMet project rankings

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

Note from Question #20 - other Federal funding previously received

SAFETEA-LU (P.L.109-59) funding

Section 5309 Bus Funds

Project Number: OR-03-0110

Amount of Funding: \$2,916,087

Amount Received: \$2,916,087

June 2004

Section 5307 CMAQ

Project Number: OR-90-X116

Amount of Funding: \$230,700

Amount Received: \$230,700

March, 2005

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

**)mail.house.gov**

**Washington, D.C. Contact for Rep. Blumenauer: David Skill**

**Oregon Contact for Rep. Blumenauer: Sarah Masterson,**