

**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@house.gov. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact David Skillman at [503-231-7000](tel:503-231-7000).

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:

Transit Station Area Connectivity Program

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

Metro Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Program (600 NE Grand Ave, Portland, OR 97232)

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

Megan Gibb, Manager

Development Center

Metro

503-231-7000
503-231-7000 x

megan.gibb@oregonmetro.gov

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

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 the project is to enhance the connectivity of the road and pedestrian networks within transit station areas (½-mile walksheds) throughout the region. By improving accessibility and providing infrastructure for future transit oriented development (TOD), the program will increase transit ridership by bringing more potential users to the existing corridors rather than extending the system. In addition to promoting transit oriented economic development over the longer planning horizon, the project will directly create short-term construction jobs throughout the region.

6. Are you requesting Federal funds for more than one project in this bill? Yes
If Yes, this project is priority 3 of 4 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? Rep. David Wu, Rep. Kurt Shrader

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):

Linda Gehrke, Deputy Regional Administrator

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

Metro

600 NE Grand Ave

Portland, OR 97232

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.)

Federal funds would be used along with local match to enhance the connectivity of the road and pedestrian networks at station areas throughout the Metro region to enhance development opportunities and contribute to more complete communities at these locations. Projects would meet RTP goals of completing the mobility network and 2040 goals of targeting development in centers and station areas. Funds would be limited to road, bicycle and pedestrian improvements with a physical or functional relationship to transit including local streets, sidewalks, lighting, green street elements, and other amenities. Examples of existing areas already identified with strong needs include: Beaverton Central, Portland Eastside MAX station communities, and Gresham Civic Neighborhood. Future alignments such as the I-205 Green Line, Milwaukie LRT, and Portland-Lake Oswego Streetcar are anticipated to have similar challenges.

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 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?

\$25,000,000

What amount is being requested? \$20,000,000

What percentage of the total estimated cost is the request for Federal funding? 80%

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:

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:

In Planning

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)? FY2016

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 Transit Station Area Connectivity Program has both regional and national significance. At the metropolitan level, the program would promote economic activity by facilitating urban development near high capacity stations and reducing household transportation costs. Nationally, the program will foster interstate commerce by easing congestion on highway facilities parallel to transit

corridors.

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).)

By providing multimodal connections in station areas throughout the region, the project will serve to create a more direct and convenient network of safe routes to transit. Added connectivity should also help alleviate congestion related incidents along nearby collectors and arterials.

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

In the near-term, the project will directly create local construction jobs in jurisdictions throughout the region. Given the cost and complexity of building new infrastructure, the project will also help leverage private investment and longer-term economic development by constructing the critical "building blocks" of vital urban neighborhoods including a favorable street and block pattern.

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

The project will increase multimodal access to the region's high capacity transit system. By establishing a more robust street grid, the project will also create more developable blocks and lots near stations, thereby bringing more transit users to the system through new housing and employment opportunities.

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

The project will help reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by enhancing access to the region's high capacity transit system. Within project station areas, new pedestrian and bicycle connections will increase the number of internal walking and bicycle trips. Added street connectivity will also help reduce vehicular queuing and idling on existing corridors by providing new routes to destinations.

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.

Design and build street and pedestrian improvements within transit station areas and other infrastructure to support commercial and/or residential development physically or functionally connected to transit.

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 Transit Station Area Connectivity Program is a unique project that will address an unmet need for station area infrastructure funding in the region. Though it is not a traditional public transit project, it will cost effectively increase the efficiency of the existing system by bringing more users to its primary market areas (i.e. within a 1/2-mile

walk of stations).

Please return this form and at least one local or state letter of support

