

**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 skillman@congress.gov or by mail to skillman.house.gov. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact David Skillman at [503-986-3432](tel:503-986-3432).

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:

US 26 Safety Improvements (Clackamas County)

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

Oregon Department of Transportation, Highway Division
355 Capitol Street NE Room 135
Salem, OR 97301

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

Travis Brown, Federal Affairs Advisor
503-986-3432 (cell); 503-986-3432 (fax)
travis.brown@dot.or.gov

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

Between Sandy and Government Camp on US 26, Clackamas County

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 section of US 26 (Mount Hood Highway) between Sandy and Government Camp suffers from significant safety problems. There have been numerous lane departure (cross-over and run-off-the-road) vehicular accidents in this section, including crashes resulting in multiple fatalities.

This section of US 26 is within a designated safety corridor, and in 2007 ODOT installed cable barrier in the 8 foot wide median for nearly two miles. This experimental project has been shown to be effective in reducing cross over crashes, and ODOT is now studying other locations in this corridor for expanding its use.

This project would seek to expand on cable barrier and other safety efforts to reduce crashes on this corridor through improvements developed through a Road Safety Audit (RSA). This RSA will utilize safety experts from around the country with experience in improving similar safety corridors.

6. Are you requesting Federal funds for more than one project in this bill? Yes

If Yes, this project is priority 6 of 8 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: Highway/Road

Located on a Federal-aid highway? Yes

Located on the National Highway System? Yes

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, ODOT Federal Funding Coordinator,

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.

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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.)

With this project ODOT would focus on reducing fatal and serious injuries associated with lane departure accidents between Sandy and Government Camp. ODOT plans to

conduct a Road Safety Audit (RSA) utilizing safety experts from around the country with experience in improving similar safety corridors. These experts will help identify appropriate locations for additional cable barrier and identify other safety improvements to mitigate lane departure accidents.

Funding made available through an earmark will allow ODOT to implement the safety improvements identified in the RSA. The project will design and construct safety improvements in the safety corridor as identified and prioritized in the RSA to mitigate lane departure accidents including crossover prevention measures, widening of shoulders and other lane delineation improvements for run-off-the-road prevention measures, signage improvements and intersection improvements.

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 type="checkbox"/> environmental review | |
| <input checked="" 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 million

What amount is being requested? \$5 million

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:

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:

In Planning

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)? 2014

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? No

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

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).)

This section of US 26 is a designated safety corridor that suffers from significant safety problems. There have been numerous lane departure (cross-over and run-off-the-road) vehicular accidents in this section, including crashes resulting in multiple fatalities. This project would expand safety measures and reduce the number and severity of crashes.

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

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

Crashes can cause traffic backups on US 26, particularly when the crash involves an injury or fatality during peak travel times (including during ski season and during summer recreation season). Reducing congestion associated with crashes would improve mobility on a designated freight corridor that is one of the top truck routes across the Cascades.

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

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 construct US 26 safety improvements, Clackamas County

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:

Because it will consist of a number of small-scale safety improvements, this project will be highly phaseable. ODOT will be able to move forward with safety improvements even if the full amount requested is not secured.

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