

Memorandum

Date: June 5, 2017
To: Lane County Legislative Delegation
From: Mayor Lucy Vinis

Subject: HB2017-Transportation Bill-Eugene Requests

The City of Eugene thanks the Lane County Legislative Delegation for the tremendous effort to craft Transportation Legislation that will invest in Oregon's future. The City is supportive of the bill in the current form, with a few minor adjustments outlined within this Memo. Please feel free to follow up with me or Ethan Nelson, our Intergovernmental Relations Manager, should you have further questions.

1. Traffic Congestion Relief and Freight Mobility

The proposed legislation incorrectly identifies Delta Highway and Territorial Road as congestion relief priorities for the Central Lane MPO (CLMPO). At the June 1, 2017 meeting of the CLMPO the voting members agreed to prioritize the Beltline Hwy Project (River Road to Coburg Road), the I-5/Coburg interchange and 42nd Street Improvements in Springfield as the congestion relief priorities for the MPO.

- a. Revise Section 119h(3)c from: 'For the Central Lane Congestion Relief District, the Delta Highway and Territorial Road Project' to '**For the Central Lane Congestion Relief District, the Beltline Highway Project (River Road to Coburg Road), the I-5/Coburg interchange and 42nd Street Improvements.**'
- b. Eugene supports the approach of the proposed legislation that allows the Oregon Transportation Commission the flexibility to collaboratively determine the matching funding requirements with the Congestion Relief District.

2. Transfers

The City of Eugene requests to include authorizing language for an intergovernmental agreement between the City and the state Department of Transportation to complete the jurisdictional transfer and request \$5 million in funding for improvements for portions of Hwy 99. This will advance our multi-modal efforts within our 'Moving Ahead' corridor investments and improvements to Eugene's community gateway from the Eugene Airport in advance of hosting the 2021 IAAF World Championships.

- a. Revise Section 71a(3)b(B) to read: "**(B) Region two.....\$112.95 million**".
- b. Add Section 71a(5)h to read: "**(h) Spent by the department for the improvements to U.S. Highway 99 prior to the jurisdictional transfer under section 134 of this 2017 Act.**"

- c. Add Section 134(5) to read: **“(5) Department of Transportation to transfer jurisdiction of the portion of U.S. Highway 99 to the City of Eugene from Walnut Street to I-5 and Washington Street to Beltline Highway, not including the two bridges.”**

3. Snow Removal

The proposed legislation places an undue financial burden on local governments in regard to the requirements for road clearing during snow events. The City of Eugene Public Works’ current snow event operations provides ample response to address safety and movement concerns. This change in statute would require local governments to update and revise their National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, due to the increased pollutant discharge from use of the materials, negatively impacting local efforts to advance green infrastructure. Lastly, the proposal seems to have been devised without input from cities and the estimated cost of this new requirement to the City of Eugene is roughly \$250,000

- a. Remove Section 137(1) mandating new requirements for local governments.

4. Safe Routes to School

The City of Eugene’s Climate Recovery Ordinance, Vision Zero Policy, and the State’s Climate Goals all require enhanced investment in bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure, specifically in the vicinity of schools. To meet the goals of our local and state policies, this transportation bill must provide greater state support-by reducing local match requirements, and increased eligibility for high schools.

- a. Revise Section 123(2)b to decrease the required local financial match for projects from 40% of project cost to 30%.
- b. Revise Section 123(4) to increase eligible project range from current ¼ mile radius to ½ mile radius from school, and allow high schools to be eligible to participate in program.

5. Connect Oregon Priorities

The Eugene Airport serves as a key element in our region’s economic future, annually serving over 1 million passengers, reflecting on the strength of local companies visiting other communities, visitors from around the globe coming to our area, and local residents realizing the convenience of flying locally. The access and support roads to the airport are in dire need of improvement and were proposed for ConnectOregon VI funding in 2016.

- a. Revise Section 71d(2) to include: **‘(f) To the City of Eugene for the Airport Roadway Improvement Projects, \$1.5 million’**