



CITY OF BEND

May 10, 2017

Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and  
Modernization

Senator Lee Beyer, Co-Chair  
Representative Caddy McKeown, Co-Chair  
Senator Brian Boquist, Co-Vice Chair  
Representative Cliff Bentz, Co-Vice Chair  
900 Court St NE, Room 453  
Salem, OR 97301

GROWTH MANAGEMENT  
709 NW WALL STREET  
PO BOX 431  
BEND, OR 97701  
[541] 388-5505 TEL  
[541] 385-6676 FAX  
BENDOREGON.GOV

Dear Chairs Beyer and McKeown, and Vice-Chairs Boquist and Bentz,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the transportation funding package. Please find the enclosed Bend Metro Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board letter to Representative Buehler that includes the approved list of transportation priorities for the MPO area. The City of Bend supports these priorities. The City of Bend also supports the May 8, 2017 letter sent to the Committee from the MPO areas outside the Metro area. Additionally, the City supports the objectives of the proposed transportation package that seeks to create reliable funding opportunities for all modes of travel for our community and the other MPO areas in the state.

CASEY ROATS  
*Mayor*

SALLY RUSSELL  
*Mayor Pro Tem*

JUSTIN LIVINGSTON  
*City Councilor*

NATHAN BODDIE  
*City Councilor*

BARB CAMPBELL  
*City Councilor*

Bill Moseley  
*City Councilor*

BRUCE ABERNETHY  
*City Councilor*

ERIC KING  
*City Manager*

Bend is consistently the fastest growing City on the West Coast in population and job growth. This growth has created congestion and safety pressures on Highway 97, which is the backbone of the state system east of the Cascades.

Over the last ten years the City has worked closely with the Oregon Department of Transportation Region 4 staff to create the Federal Highway approved Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Bend Parkway (Highway 97). The EIS corridor includes the Tier One projects on the MPO priority list which will ease congestion and improve safety and access on highway 97: The US97/Cooley mid-term improvements (\$50 million) and the US97/Empire interchange improvements (\$15 million). The City continues to collaborate with ODOT on the design process for the Empire Interchange and we are negotiating how the City can contribute funding for this work.

Thank you for consideration and all your hard work on the funding package.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Casey Roats".

Casey Roats, Mayor, City of Bend

*Enclosures*

CC: Mayor Pro Tem Russel, Councilor Livingston, Councilor Boddie, Councilor Campbell, Councilor Moseley, Councilor Abernethy

**Resolution Number 2017-01**  
**Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board**  
**For the Purpose of Endorsing Bend Area Transportation Priorities**

**WHEREAS**, an efficient and adequately funded transportation system is critical to ensuring a healthy economy and livable communities throughout the region and state; and

**WHEREAS**, connecting Oregon's people and businesses with local, domestic and international markets is critical for a healthy economy; and

**WHEREAS**, population growth in the region and state continues to outpace the nation, and freight volumes in Oregon are expected to double in the next twenty years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bend MPO's planning efforts have identified multiple project and funding needs for all modes of transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, a large percentage of the needed transportation improvements called for in these plans remain unfunded or underfunded; and

**WHEREAS**, there is also a funding shortfall to maintain, operate and improve the existing city, county and state road systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the need to improve and efficiently operate and maintain a multi-modal transportation system requires establishment of funding mechanisms that provide reliable and stable ongoing revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, additional funding to meet these transportation needs will create or sustain jobs and help stimulate the economy of the region and the state; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the interest of local governments within the BMPO area to jointly seek additional funding for the identified transportation deficiencies;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the BMPO Policy Board endorses the transportation priorities for the Bend area as shown in Exhibit A.

Yes:   2        No:   0        Abstain:   1  

Authenticated by the Chair this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William Moseley, Chair

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tyler Deke, MPO Manager



# Bend MPO Transportation Priorities – 2017

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## Tier One Projects:

*Tier One projects are the highest priorities for the MPO and have an approved Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).*

### North Parkway (US 97) Improvements

- **1A.** US97/Cooley mid-term improvements -- \$50 million. Improve Cooley/US 97 intersection and RR crossing consistent with ODOT North Corridor EIS Preferred Alternative. Improve the Cooley/US 20 intersection to accommodate future urban growth.
- **1B.** US97/Empire interchange improvements -- \$15 million. Design and construct improvements at the interchange, including widening NB off-ramp, Empire Ave widening, installing SB on-ramp traffic signal, and improvements to Mervin Samples Rd and Sherman Rd.

## Tier Two Projects:

*Tier Two priority projects extend and/or complete major roadways, provide bike and pedestrian overcrossings of the Bend Parkway, improve safety, preserve existing infrastructure, and improve system performance through improved technology.*

### South Parkway (US 97) Improvements

- **2A.** Bike and Pedestrian Parkway Overcrossings – \$5 million. Evaluate locations for bicycle and pedestrian overcrossings of the Parkway between Butler Market Rd. and Pinebrook Blvd., including design and construction of one overcrossing.
- **2B.** US97/Murphy – Interchange planning and project implementation -- \$15 million. Complete interchange planning and implement priority projects, including constructing NB on-ramp from half-interchange to US 97, constructing southbound off-ramp and bridge improvements.
- **2C.** Murphy Extension to 15<sup>th</sup> – \$25 million. Extend Murphy Rd. from Brosterhous Rd. to 15<sup>th</sup> St.. The extension would complete a major east-west corridor and improve transportation circulation in SE Bend.

### Empire Ave. Extension

- **2D.** Empire Extension -- \$21 million. Extend Empire Ave from Purcell Blvd to Butler Market Rd/27<sup>th</sup> St intersection. The extension would complete a major east-west corridor and reduce reliance on Highways 97 and 20 through central Bend.

### US 20/O.B. Riley Rd. & Cook Ave. Improvements

- **2E.** US20 @ Tumalo – Intersection planning and project implementation -- \$15 million. Complete planning and implement the preferred solution consistent with the approved Environmental Assessment.

### US 20/3<sup>rd</sup> St. Improvements

- **2F1.** North 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Improvements (ODOT) -- \$9 million. Improvements to US 20/3rd St. from Empire to Greenwood that include traffic signal replacements, communications and technology improvements, sidewalk construction, and pavement preservation.
- **2F2.** South 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Improvements – \$13 million. Improvements to US20/3<sup>rd</sup> St. from Franklin Ave. to Badger Rd. including pedestrian crossings and safety improvements, lighting and signal replacements.

### Public Transportation

- Implement a stable and reliable funding source for public transportation operations for MPO areas in Oregon

### Pavement Preservation

- State Highway Preservation Needs for Central Oregon -- \$50 million
- City of Bend Street Preservation Needs -- \$80 million

**Bend MPO Contact: Tyler Deke, [tdeke@bendoregon.gov](mailto:tdeke@bendoregon.gov), 541-693-2113**

**BEND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

709 NW Wall Street, Suite 102, Bend, OR 97703

[www.bendmpo.org](http://www.bendmpo.org)



**BMPO** Bend Metropolitan  
Planning Organization

April 20, 2017

Representative Knute Buehler  
900 Court St. NE, H-389  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Representative Knute Buehler,

I need your help to promote a prosperous and growing Bend. Roads with the capacity to support our community's housing and freight needs remain vital.

At the February meeting, the Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board approved a list of transportation priorities for the MPO area; see the attached Resolution Number 2017-01, as well as Bend MPO Transportation Priorities – 2017, including a map. Please help us to fund these unfunded or underfunded projects.

These projects remain crucial for meeting the transportation needs of our region's growing population. In addition, the transportation projects help support the health and growth of our local economy. The Bend area suffers from a growing backlog of roadway preservation needs. We work with local partners to expand public transit options, improve transportation system safety, and increase opportunities for bicycling and walking. However, we need additional state support to fully meet the transportation needs of Bend.

The Bend MPO supports a legislative transportation funding package that: supports job growth and economic prosperity, addresses all modes, furthers local plans, provides stable and reliable funding and preserves and expands local options.

Thank you for considering the outlined priorities. Please contact me with any questions. And let me know if you wish to meet in person to discuss our transportation issues and projects.

Sincerely,

Bill Moseley  
Bend MPO Chair  
Bend City Councilor  
541-385-5505

WILLIAM MOSELEY, CHAIR  
*City of Bend Council*

GARY FARNSWORTH, VICE-CHAIR  
*ODOT Region 4*

ANTHONY DEBONE  
*Deschutes County Commission*

SALLY RUSSELL  
*City of Bend Council*

BARBARA CAMPBELL  
*City of Bend Council*

TYLER DEKE, AICP  
*Manager*

JOVI ANDERSON  
*Program Technician*



### Tier One Projects:

- Highest priorities for the MPO
- Projects have an approved EIS

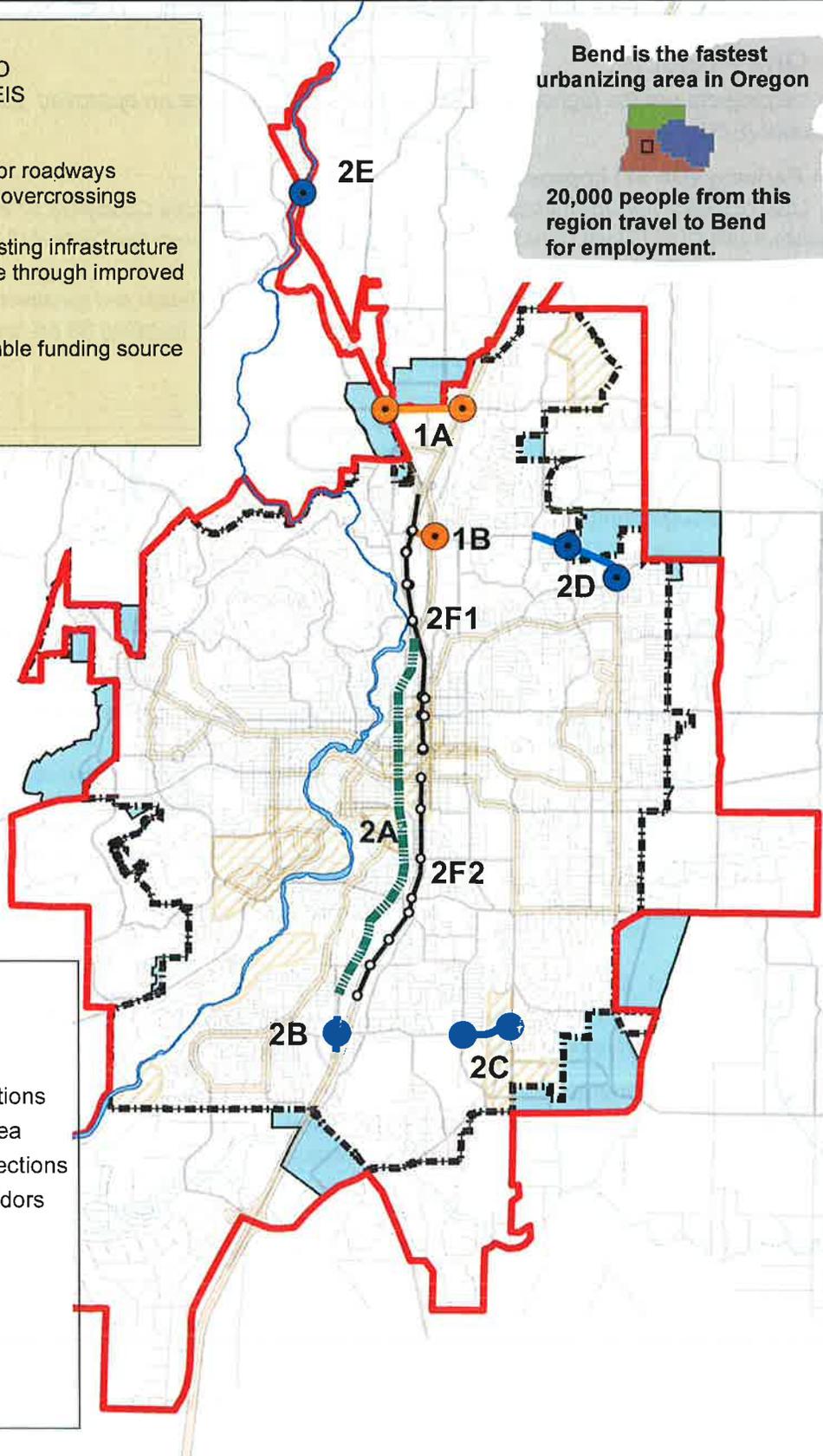
### Tier Two Projects:

- Extend and/or complete major roadways
- Provide bike and pedestrian overcrossings of the Bend Parkway
- Improve safety, preserve existing infrastructure
- Improve system performance through improved technology
- Public Transportation
- Implement a stable and reliable funding source
- Pavement Preservation
- State \$50M
- City \$80M

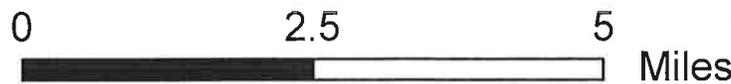
Bend is the fastest urbanizing area in Oregon



20,000 people from this region travel to Bend for employment.



- Tier One
- Tier Two Connections
- Tier Two Corridor
- 1A & 1B Tier One Connections
- 2A Overcrossing Study Area
- 2B & 2C & 2D & 2E Connections
- 2F1 & 2F2 Improved Corridors
- Transit Routes
- ▭ Bend MPO Boundary
- ▨ UGB Opportunity Areas
- ▭ UGB Expansion Areas
- ▭ Bend City Limits
- ▭ Deschutes River



This map is for reference purposes only. The information is derived from various sources. Care was taken in the creation of this map, but it is provided "AS IS." Please contact the Bend MPO to verify map information or to report any errors. [www.bendmpo.org](http://www.bendmpo.org)





## BEND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

709 NW Wall Street, Suite 102, Bend, OR 97703  
www.bendmpo.org

June 6, 2017

Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization  
Co-Chairs Beyer and McKeown  
900 Court Street, NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Support for HB 2017 – 3

Co-Chairs Beyer and McKeown and Co-Vice Chairs Boquist and Bentz:

The Bend MPO supports the overall bill and appreciates the work of the Joint Committee to develop a truly multi-modal transportation funding package that will benefit all Oregonians.

We are encouraged by the forward thinking of the Legislature to provide the opportunity to form a Congestion Relief District. This is a new and innovative funding opportunity for the state's metropolitan areas. The draft bill lays out a process to form a district and develop a plan, including a state legislative process.

We ask for flexibility in this program by giving us the opportunity to work directly with the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) to implement our plan and to forego a potentially lengthy legislative process. A rigorous process with the OTC would insure accountability and allow us to move forward more quickly. We already have potential revenue sources in place, including two urban renewal districts and system development charges which could provide local match against funds collected through the proposed privilege tax. As one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the United States, we are ready to move forward on our high priority projects **now**, not several years from now. We ask that you allow us to quickly move forward so we can begin building the transportation system needed to serve our residents and businesses today and into the future. Our projects are critical for economic development, congestion relief, the movement of freight, and system resiliency.

Like many areas, we face significant challenges to preserve and maintain our transportation system. Over time, the bill would provide significant new revenues that would allow us to begin addressing this backlog and improve our transportation system. Maintaining and improving our transportation system is critical to our rapidly growing population and the local, regional and statewide economies.

BILL MOSELEY, CHAIR  
*City of Bend Council*

GARY FARNSWORTH, VICE-CHAIR  
*ODOT Region 4*

ANTHONY DEBONE  
*Deschutes County Commission*

SALLY RUSSELL  
*City of Bend Council*

BARBARA CAMPBELL  
*City of Bend Council*

TYLER DEKE  
*Manager*

JOVI ANDERSON  
*Program Technician*

The bill includes dedicated safety funding. We have benefited from ODOT's safety program over the past few years and look forward to the continued improvement of our transportation system so it is safe for all users.

Bend's rapid growth includes large numbers of families. The draft bill includes dedicated funding for the Safe Routes to Schools program that would help improve accessibility to many of our schools.

The public transportation system in Bend is relatively new and is becoming an integral part of our region's transportation system. The revenue generated through the bill for public transportation would help address some of our challenges to not only operate the existing system but to allow it to expand and better serve our rapidly growing population and economy, including the OSU Cascades campus.

The Bend area has benefitted tremendously from the Connect Oregon program, particularly with significant investments at the Bend airport. The Bend airport is one of the busiest airports in Oregon. The airport not only serves general aviation, but it also functions as an employment center. We have been able to use relatively small amounts of Connect Oregon funding to successfully leverage significant amounts of FAA funding. To meet the growing use of the airport, our next major capital projects include lengthening our runways and constructing an operations tower. Future Connect Oregon funding will be crucial as we work to implement those projects.

Thank you again for providing this opportunity to comment on the draft transportation bill. This draft bill is landmark legislation that lays out a vision and path forward for the next decade.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Bill Moseley

C: Bend MPO Policy Board