



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Transportation

Office of the Director

Rm 135

355 Capitol St. NE

Salem, Oregon 97301-3871

DATE: October 2, 2007
TO: Oregon Transportation Commission

FROM: Matthew L. Garrett
Director

FILE CODE:

SUBJECT: Workshop 3 ~ Transportation Funding

Requested Action:

No action is required at this time.

Background:

Governor Kulongoski has identified funding for transportation as a top priority for the 2009 legislative session. This workshop item will give Commission members the opportunity to have a discussion of transportation funding, including the current perception of the transportation system by Oregonians, a look at current local proposals that are being considered, and information on the current efforts to make additional transportation funding investments in 2009.

This portion of the workshop will be divided into three parts:

Part one will be a presentation by Tim Hibbitts. Mr. Hibbitts is a partner in the public opinion firm of Davis, Hibbitts and Midghall. Mr. Hibbitts will share his results of extensive survey work over the last two years in Oregon and give the Commission a sense of how Oregonians feel about their transportation system, including their attitudes and ideas about funding it. Mr. Hibbitts has over 20 years experience in all phases of opinion research and is one of the most recognized and respected pollsters in Oregon.

Part two of the agenda will be a review of the current proposals by other jurisdictions as they move forward with their own transportation funding agendas. Items to be reviewed include proposals by the City of Portland, Washington County and Seattle-area counties. Portland City Commissioner Sam Adams has been working on a number of funding scenarios for operations and maintenance for the city of Portland. Washington County Commission Chair Tom Brian is leading an effort to make additional transportation investments. Washington County has been very successful with its Major Streets Transportation Improvement Program (MSTIP) over the last several years in investing local dollars in the transportation system and is considering expanding the program. Finally, we will examine the current campaign in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties in Washington where this November there is a ballot measure to raise \$18 billion in a road and transit package.

Part three will be a discussion of the possibility of a funding proposal. The Commission's work on the update of the Oregon Transportation Plan did an exemplary job of laying out the challenges facing

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Oregon's transportation system. With that information in hand, a concerted effort by the Commission, the department, the legislature, the Governor, local governments and all of the stakeholders, must be made to implement as much of its funding strategies as possible. With the 2007 session behind us, it is imperative to examine the role the Commission and the department can play in the successful implementation of a funding package during the 2009 legislative session. This discussion will begin a strategic dialogue on how to effectively muster our resources for success.

Copies to:

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