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- City of Yelm
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- Lacey Fire District #3
- Puget Sound Regional Council
- The Evergreen State College
- Thurston Conservation District
- Thurston Economic Development Council
- Timberland Regional Library



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Policy Board

FROM: Veena Tabbutt, Deputy Director
Theresa Julius, Transportation Modeler
Sara Porter, Assistant Planner

DATE: June 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) Amendment 22-06 and review of Contingency Project List

PURPOSE

Requesting the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) to act on a proposed amendment to the 2022-2025 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) and review the contingency project list. Additional federal funds may become available from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). These additional funds may require an amendment to the 2022-2025 RTIP.

Summary:

- In late April, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) received unexpected obligation authority from the federal infrastructure bill. They have indicated that they will consider awarding additional funding to local projects, or fund new or existing transit, and new design (preliminary engineering) and planning projects.
- Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) staff worked with local partners to develop a list of projects to submit to WSDOT. There is no guarantee of funding. WSDOT has requested a list from all Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) throughout the State.
- Public comment will be provided to TPB at the meeting.
- Adding projects to the RTIP may trigger a State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) amendment, which will allow the projects to go forward.
- This project amendment is consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).
- TRPC will review the project list at their June meeting.

REQUESTED ACTION

Amend the 2022-2025 Regional Transportation Improvement Program to include the Contingency Project List, on page 3.

tj:bl

BACKGROUND

About the RTIP and STIP

The RTIP is a four-year programming document derived from the comprehensive six-year Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) that each local agency develops and adopts annually. In turn, the RTIP is used by the state to prepare the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

The RTIP serves these main purposes:

- 1) It identifies a list of transportation projects that will be forwarded to the state for inclusion in the STIP. For federally funded projects, even if project funding has been awarded, it is not available to jurisdictions and agencies until the project is included in the STIP. To be included in the STIP, projects must be programmed for funding (funding-secured) in local Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) in the four-year period for both urban and rural areas and meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - a. Have federal funding.
 - b. Are WSDOT projects.
 - c. Are regionally significant, regardless of funding source.
- 2) It demonstrates financial constraint for the projects referenced above.
- 3) It demonstrates consistency with RCW 36.70A, Section 70 of the Washington State Growth Management Act requiring transportation planning to be coordinated and consistent with local comprehensive plans.
- 4) It demonstrates that regionally significant projects programmed for funding during the time period will not cause or contribute to any new violation of the federal air quality standards for particulate matter of 10 microns or less (PM₁₀), will not increase the frequency or severity of any existing violation of the standards, nor delay timely attainment of the standards.
- 5) It identifies other programmed and planned transportation projects adopted in local six-year Transportation Improvement Programs.

RTIP and STIP Amendments

Federal requirements stipulate that changes to the RTIP require an amendment to the original document, which then triggers an amendment to the STIP. This is important because a jurisdiction cannot proceed with a project for which it has been awarded federal money until the STIP is formally amended and approved by the federal agencies.

Depending upon the kind of change required of the RTIP, this amendment may be a “formal amendment” process or a streamlined “administrative modification.” TRPC’s amendment and modifying processes for the RTIP incorporates guidance provided by WSDOT on amending and modifying the STIP. The project under consideration today requires an amendment to the RTIP, which in turn will trigger an amendment to the STIP.

In November 2017 TRPC approved a change to the RTIP amendment process such that the TPB is now the approving body for formal RTIP amendments.

EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

How has equity been considered in this agenda item?

This agenda item will help position the region to receive additional federal funding for transportation projects.

RTIP Amendment 22-06 and Contingency Project List

Partner	STIP-ID	Project/Proposal	Phase*	Proposed Additional Funding		
				Federal Funds	Matching Funds	Total
Thurston County	WA-11389	Littlerock Road & 113th Ave. SW Bridge and Intersection Improvements	PE	\$400,000	\$62,428	\$462,428
Tumwater	WA-12858	X Street Roundabout	ROW	\$1,296,030	\$160,829	\$1,456,859
Tumwater	WA-11046	Israel Rd & Linderson Way Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements	PE	\$100,000	\$15,607	\$115,607
Intercity Transit	IT-09458	Pattison MOA Rehabilitation, Expansion & Modernization	CN	\$343,227	\$53,567	\$396,794
Intercity Transit	IT-2223	Propane-Fueled Vans for Dial-A-Lift Service	CN	\$1,079,510	\$168,478	\$1,247,988
Intercity Transit	WA-12934	Bus Stop Enhancements	CN	\$384,733	\$60,045	\$444,778
Thurston County	WA-11392	Yelm Hwy. at Spurgeon Creek Rd SE	PE	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000
Thurston County	WA-12305	Rochester Main St Improvements	PE	\$600,000	\$0	\$600,000
Tumwater	WA-13558	Tumwater Boulevard Interchange	PE	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$1,500,000
Tumwater	WA-12859	I-5 & SR121/93rd Ave SE Interchange Improvements Study	PL	\$200,000	\$0	\$200,000
TRPC	WA-12789	Freight Goods and Services Mobility Strategy	PL	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000
TRPC	WA-12787	Countywide Bicycle Connectivity Strategy	PL	\$310,000	\$0	\$310,000
TRPC	WA-12790	Regional Multimodal Level of Service	PL	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000
Total				\$7,263,500	\$520,955	\$7,784,455

* Phases
PL = Planning
PE = Preliminary Engineering
ROW = Right of Way
CN = Construction

TRPC is soliciting public comment through its website (www.trpc.org). As of the writing of this report, none has been received. Additionally, TRPC will receive a copy of this staff report as an informational item in their packet. Due to the New Year holiday, the TPB meets before TRPC for their January meeting. Therefore, TRPC will not have the opportunity to comment on the project prior to TPB action. However, due to the routine nature of this project and amendment, TPB can make an informed decision without comment from TRPC. If public comment is received, it will be provided at the TPB meeting.