

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 214-5414, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DIRECTING THE ALLOCATION OF \$13.6 MILLION OF FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION REDISTRIBUTION FUNDS TO PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Date: June 21, 2024
Department: Planning, Development, and Research
Meeting Date: July 11, 2024

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Presenter(s): Ted Leybold,
Length: 20 minutes

ISSUE STATEMENT

As a reward for meeting our Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) transportation funding obligation target schedule, The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has made available additional funds for allocation to Metro area transportation projects and programs. Approximately \$13.6 million is available for allocation.

This resolution directs the allocation of these funds to transportation projects and program activities.

ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt Resolution No. 24-5414.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

The region's policy for priority of investments in the transportation system is identified in the Metro Council adopted Regional Transportation Plan. Resolution No. 24-5414 directs the investment of federal redistribution funds in the region's transportation system in a manner to advance the five RTP goal areas: Equitable Transportation, Safe System, Climate Action and Resilience, Mobility Options, and Thriving Economy.

POLICY QUESTION(S)

This direction on the allocation of federal redistribution funds is an opportunity to advance the region's priority transportation investment goals as identified above, and to ensure the region remains eligible to receive future federal redistribution funds through investments that help the region continue to meet targets for obligating existing federal transportation funds on schedule.

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

At the May 7, 2024, Metro Council work session, Council received an update on the regional discussion occurring with TPAC and JPACT on direction for the allocation of federal redistribution funds.

In that work session, Metro staff briefed Council on the proposed options and received general feedback in support to move forward with the allocation direction of:

- advance the region's priority goals as defined in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

- ensure the region continues to meet our obligation targets to
 - remain eligible for future additional redistribution funds,
 - to avoid funding penalties for not meeting our obligation targets
- be able to obligate these funds quickly as they are currently available

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The funding allocation provided in Exhibit A to Resolution 24-5414 is recommended by TPAC, JPACT as best implementing the allocation direction described above. It was also reviewed and supported by Metro Council at the May 7th Council work session.

1. **Known Opposition:** None known at this time.
2. **Policy Development Stakeholders:** Input has been received during briefings with Metro Councilors, TPAC and JPACT. By request, Metro staff also briefed and gathered input at county transportation coordinating committees. The RFFA program direction supports and implements the 2023 RTP goals, which were determined through an extensive public process undertaken throughout the development of the Plan.
3. **Legal Antecedents:** Implements the 2023 RTP adopted on November 30, 2023 by Metro Council Ordinance 23-1496.
4. **Anticipated Effects:** Adoption of this resolution directs the allocation of \$13.6 million of federal transportation redistribution funds to projects and programs in the region.
5. **Financial Implications:** There may be a small, required match of 10.27% for a portion of the \$250,000 allocation for data management and project tracking systems. The Planning, Development, & Research Department will provide that from existing local funds over the course of one to three years.

BACKGROUND

As a reward for meeting the Metro area's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) federal transportation funding obligation target schedule, The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has made available additional funds for allocation to Metro area transportation projects and programs. Approximately \$13.6 million is available for allocation.

To help the region meet its funding obligation targets, several initiatives have been undertaken in recent years improve on-time local project delivery. These efforts have contributed to the region's initial success in meeting our obligation targets and qualifying for the additional redistribution funding. These efforts include:

- better project monitoring and active management of project development progress
- an updated approach to programming of funds for local projects that emphasize local agency demonstration of readiness to proceed
- a more rigorous application question and assessment process for candidate projects regarding risks to project readiness
- improved reporting tools on project progress

It will be necessary to continue to utilize and refine these initial efforts and to instigate new efforts to achieve a sound project delivery pipeline and continue to qualify for additional redistribution

funding. Meeting the federal funding obligation target schedule also keeps the region from being subject to funding penalties against existing federal transportation funds.

JPACT, at its meeting on June 20, 2024, unanimously recommended adoption of Resolution 24-5414.