



City of Tigard Memorandum

To: Metro Council President Peterson
Metro Councilors
Marissa Madrigal, Metro COO
Ted Reid, Principal Regional Planner

From: Schuyler Warren, Senior Planner

Re: River Terrace 2.0 Transportation Elements

Date: October 10, 2022

This memorandum provides a summary of the transportation element of the River Terrace 2.0 Concept Plan and provides some background on the city's position relative to Washington County's proposed extension of Tile Flat Road.

River Terrace 2.0 is planned to be an inclusive neighborhood for everyone, with options for housing, transportation, and commerce, developed in alignment with Tigard's vision for social equity and climate mitigation.

At the outset of the concept planning work for River Terrace 2.0, the City of Tigard envisioned a community developed in alignment with the city's goals around equity and emissions reduction. The result is a plan that provides housing diversity and access, a truly multi-modal transportation system with transit-supportive development patterns, and key destinations within a short distance of travel.

Consequently, the concept plan de-emphasizes automobile travel in the design of the transportation network, while recognizing that this option will still be used by many, and should be part of a fully-formed network. This approach is informed by the city's adopted Strategic Plan and its Complete Streets Policy. Further, reducing vehicle miles travelled and greenhouse gas emissions are important steps in mitigating climate impacts and making the city more carbon-responsible.

The City of Tigard is committed to a transportation network that meets regional and statewide goals.

Tigard has been a consistent voice in this region on the primacy of walkability, and the requirements of well-integrated trail networks and reliable transit access. These values have been

incorporated into the Concept Plan for River Terrace 2.0 and will be key considerations in developing the Community Plan. We are invested in seeing the Metro region achieve its goals as set out in the Regional Transportation Plan and the Climate Smart Strategies.

Because there has been some public confusion about the relationship between the City of Tigard's River Terrace 2.0 Concept Plan and Washington County's Tile Flat Road extension project, it is important to provide some clarifying background on each.

The Tile Flat Road extension is a Washington County proposal.

Washington County first identified a potential Tile Flat Road extension as part of its Cooper Mountain Transportation Study (2018). This potential extension was further studied by the County as part of the Urban Reserves Transportation Study (URTS, 2019). The City of Tigard participated in the Technical Advisory Committee for URTS, although the Tile Flat Road extension was not proposed or endorsed by the city at that time. Through its participation in the URTS study, the City of Tigard identified concerns about the road's alignment, impact, and cost, as well as general concerns about the timing of the planning for the road since it was occurring prior to completion of concept planning for the design of the urban reserves.

The River Terrace 2.0 Concept Plan is not dependent on construction of the Tile Flat Road extension.

The River Terrace 2.0 Concept Plan proposes building a neighborhood-scale transportation backbone by extending Mountainside Way from Scholls Ferry south to terminate at SW Bull Mountain Road and SW Roy Rogers Road. This neighborhood collector is sufficient to serve these areas on its own, without a connection to Tile Flat Road, and its cost can be effectively borne by development in the district.

The River Terrace 2.0 Concept Plan accommodates the County's Tile Flat Road extension, but does not propose its construction.

The Concept Plan identifies a potential connection point for the Tile Flat extension at a roundabout along the Mountainside Way neighborhood collector. This connection was identified in the Plan to demonstrate that the neighborhood's design could accommodate the Tile Flat extension, should it be constructed.

The River Terrace 2.0 Concept Plan highlights the need for more study of the Tile Flat Road extension to ensure that it meets local, regional, and statewide goals centered on social equity and climate mitigation.

Recognizing that a more robust analysis was needed to consider congestion at a larger scale, and to weigh non-congestion related factors, the City identified the Tile Flat Road extension proposal as a Special Study Area to be considered in more detail during the Community Plan stage. The potential Tile Flat Road extension is therefore designated on all River Terrace 2.0

Concept Plan document maps in this manner, and is color-coded to set it apart from the core network proposed in the plan.

As currently proposed, the Tile Flat Road extension is not in alignment with the spirit of state guidance on climate. The City's proposal for a Special Study on the short- and long-term costs and benefits of the proposed facility for the climate and the community are in alignment with the requirements of the Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities rules that will apply to any adoption of this project into the City's Transportation System Plan. The City will continue to work with the County on this Special Study through the Community Planning process. We hope make progress on a transportation system that serves mobility goals and the vision of the River Terrace community.