

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 20-5062 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE FY 2019-20 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) TO ADD FUNDING FOR THE REGIONAL MOBILITY POLICY UPDATE

Date: December 17, 2019
Department: Planning
Meeting Date: February 20, 2019

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ISSUE STATEMENT

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is developed annually and documents metropolitan transportation planning activities performed with federal transportation funds. The UPWP is a living document, and may be amended periodically over the course of the year to reflect changes in project scope or budget.

This legislation amends the project description and objectives to reflect the work plan and the stakeholder engagement plan approved by the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and the Metro Council in fall 2019 and increases the amount of funds anticipated to be available for consultant services.

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval of the requested amendment to the 2019-20 UPWP.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

The near-term investment strategy contained in the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) focuses on key priorities for the purpose of identifying transportation needs, including projects and the planning activities contained in the UPWP. These investment priorities include a specific focus on four key outcomes:

- Equity
- Safety
- Managing Congestion
- Climate

The planning activity proposed to be amended in the 2019-20 UPWP is consistent with 2018 RTP policies and will help the region achieve each of these outcomes. As directed by the 2018 RTP, this project will update the 20-year old “interim” mobility policy that is used to define and measure mobility in regional and local transportation system plans (TSPs) and during the plan amendment process in the Portland area. The project will develop a holistic alternative mobility policy and associated measures, targets, and methods for the Portland region that focuses on system completeness for all modes and system and demand management activities to serve planned land uses. The project will advance the RTP policy goals for addressing equity, climate, safety and congestion as well as support other state, regional and local policy objectives, including implementation of the 2040 Growth Concept and the region’s Climate Smart Strategy.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Approve Resolution No. 20-5062 and amend the FY 2019-20 UPWP.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

When the mobility policy update was defined and adopted unanimously in Chapter 8 of the 2018 RTP, the JPACT and the Metro Council recognized this work must holistically advance the RTP policy goals for addressing equity, climate, safety, and congestion as well as support other state, regional and local policy objectives, including implementation of the 2040 Growth Concept and the region's Climate Smart Strategy. This understanding was reflected in the draft project objectives and proposed approach prepared by Metro and ODOT staff for further stakeholder review as part of the project's scoping phase.

From April to November 2019, Metro and ODOT worked closely together and with local, regional and state partners to scope the project, seeking feedback on the project objectives and proposed approach. Overall, there is broad support and enthusiasm for an updated policy that accounts for all modes of travel and a broader array of outcomes beyond the level of congestion. Stakeholders also broadly supported the draft project objectives and the need for an updated policy. The comments and feedback received throughout the scoping phase shaped the final work plan and the stakeholder engagement plan approved by JPACT and the Metro Council in fall 2019.

Known Opposition

No known opposition

Legal Antecedents

- Metro Council Resolution No. 19-5048 (For the Purpose of Approving the Work Plan and Stakeholder Engagement Plan for Updating the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Mobility Policy), adopted on December 5, 2019.
- Metro Council Resolution No. 19-4979 (For the Purpose of Adopting the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Unified Planning Work Program), adopted on May 16, 2019.
- Metro Council Ordinance No. 18-1421 (For the Purpose of Amending the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan to Comply with Federal and State Law and Amending the Regional Framework Plan), adopted on December 6, 2018.

Anticipated Effects

Approval will mean that contracts can be executed so work can commence on this planning project between now and June 30, 2020, in accordance with established Metro priorities.

Financial Implications

This project is accounted for in the 2019-20 budget approved by the Metro Council on June 20, 2019 and the 2019-2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) approved by the Metro Council on May 16, 2019. The project will rely on a combination of Metro's federal transportation planning grants and additional anticipated funds identified by ODOT and Metro.