

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING TWO NEW)	RESOLUTION NO. 20-5068
PROJECTS TO THE 2018-21 METROPOLITAN)	
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT)	Introduced by: Chief Operating Officer
PROGRAM INVOLVING RIDE CONNECTION IN)	Andrew Scott in concurrence with
SUPPORT OF SENIOR AND DISABLED)	Council President Lynn Peterson
PERSONS NEEDS AND ODOT IN SUPPORT OF)	
THE COLUMBIA BOTTOMLANDS		
CONSERVATION PROJECT (JA20-07-JAN)		

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) prioritizes projects from the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) to receive transportation related funding; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and the Metro Council approved the 2018-21 MTIP via Resolution 17-4817 on July 27, 2017; and

WHEREAS, JPACT and the Metro Council must approve any subsequent amendments to add new projects or substantially modify existing projects in the MTIP; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) has issued clarified MTIP amendment submission rules and definitions for MTIP formal amendments and administrative modifications that both ODOT and all Oregon MPOs must adhere to which includes that all new projects added to the MTIP must complete the formal amendment process; and

WHEREAS, MTIP amendments now must also include assessments for required performance measure compliance, expanded RTP consistency, and strive to meet annual Metro and statewide obligation targets resulting in additional MTIP amendment processing practices and procedures; and

WHEREAS, Ride Connection, a non-profit organization that provides free transportation services to people with disabilities and older adults has been operating since 1986 to provide customer-focused, safe, reliable transportation options for individuals in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties; and

WHEREAS, Ride Connection has successfully obtained a discretionary Federal Transit Administration (FTA) federal grant award of \$96,921 from the FY 2019 Access and Mobility Partnership Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the grant award supporting Ride Connection's Providence Health and Services Mobility Resource Desk project will be used to implement mobility management services focused at two Providence hospitals for senior and disabled persons, offering individual travel options, counseling and clinic support to integrate transportation referrals; and

WHEREAS, MTIP programming is required in order for Ride Connection to submit and secure their FTA Transit Award Management System (TrAMS) grant approval to begin expending the federal FTA funds; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) Columbia Bottomlands Mitigation/Conservation project is intended to develop a long term mitigation conservation bank in the

lower Willamette Watershed that will generate credits for aquatic resources to be used by the greatest number of Endangered Species Act listed fish species; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia Bottomlands mitigation bank site will meet long-term mitigation needs for STIP projects in the Lower Willamette watershed that spans much of ODOT Region 1 and a portion of Region 2; and

WHEREAS, the proposed bank at Columbia Bottomlands will also increase the speed of permit approvals by avoiding compensatory mitigation design for individual projects, at the same time providing economies of scale that reduce environmental mitigation costs; and

WHEREAS, the application of compensatory mitigation includes the use of off-site restoration activities to mitigate unavoidable disturbances that occur during the construction phase of a project resulting in the generation of conservation credits supporting specific ecological needs; and

WHEREAS, the requested funds would establish a large scale aquatic resource restoration site at the Columbia Bottomlands location (along Highway 30 near Scappoose); and

WHEREAS, MTIP programming is required for the Columbia Bottomlands project and will add the Preliminary Engineering plus Right-of Way phases to the 2018-21 MTIP with the entire project including the Construction phase planned for federal fiscal year 2022 added to the new draft 2021-2026 MTIP; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia Bottomlands Mitigation/Conservation project required approval from the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) which occurred during their December 2019 meeting resulting in an approved total funding commitment to the project totaling \$2,950,000; and

WHEREAS, the a review of Appendix F, Environmental Assessment and Potential Mitigation Strategies, to the approved 2018 Regional Transportation Plan affirms consistency between the Columbia Bottomlands Mitigation/Conservation project and the RTP; and

WHEREAS, the MTIP's financial constraint finding is maintained as proof of funding has been verified from the FTA Access and Mobility Partnership program for Ride Connection and OTC for the Columbia Bottomlands Mitigation/Conservation project; and

WHEREAS, no negative impacts to air conformity will exist as a result of the changes completed through the January Formal MTIP Amendment consisting of both projects; and

WHEREAS, both projects successfully completed a required 30-day public notification/opportunity to comment period without any significant issues raised; and

WHEREAS, Metro's Transportation Policy and Alternatives Committee (TPAC) received their notification, amendment summary overview, and recommended approval to Metro Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) on January 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, JPACT received their notification on January 16, 2020 and provided an approval recommendation to Metro Council; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council hereby adopts the recommendation of JPACT on February 6, 2020 to formally amend the 2018-21 MTIP to include Ride Connection's Providence Health and Services Mobility Resource Desk project and ODOT's Columbia Bottomlands Mitigation/Conservation project.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this ____ day of _____ 2020.

Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:

Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney