



STAFF REPORT/RESOLUTION

TO: Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors
FROM: Matt Ransom, Executive Director *MR*
DATE: April 28, 2015
SUBJECT: **FY 2016 Unified Planning Work Program, Resolution 05-15-09**

AT A GLANCE - ACTION

The action requested is adoption of Resolution 05-15-09 to adopt RTC's FY 2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). RTC's UPWP is prepared annually as a requirement for the receipt of federal and state transportation planning funds and is consistent with RTC's calendar year 2015 Work Plan and Budget. The UPWP documents the transportation planning activities carried out to comply with federal and state requirements and provides a coordination function among jurisdictions planning within the metropolitan area.

INTRODUCTION

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is prepared annually and documents the transportation planning activities to be carried out by RTC as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Clark County (within the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area). Transportation planning activities are performed in response to the requirements of all MPOs outlined in federal regulations; United States Code (USC) Titles 23 and 49. RTC's FY 2016 UPWP (see attached document) covers a one year period from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. The UPWP is consistent with RTC's calendar year 2015 Work Plan and Budget adopted by the RTC Board in December 2014 (RTC Board Resolution 12-14-23). In addition to describing upcoming transportation planning activities, the UPWP also details the funding sources and plan for implementation of the program.

The FY 2016 UPWP document outlines regional transportation planning activities focused in four major sections: (1) Regional Transportation Planning Program, (2) Data Management, Travel Forecasting, Air Quality, and Technical Services, (3) Regional Transportation Program Coordination and Management, and (4) Transportation Planning Activities of State and Local Agencies.

The UPWP must be developed by the MPO in cooperation with state Department of Transportation and transit operators. As a federally designated Transportation Management Area (TMA) serving the Clark County region (23 CFR § 450.308), the RTC's UPWP must include a discussion of the planning priorities facing the metropolitan planning area. The UPWP work tasks carry out the requirements of regional transportation planning per 23 CFR § 450.306(a), and the work program is constructed to describe who will perform the work, schedule for work completion, the resulting products, proposed funding and sources of Federal and matching funds.

POLICY IMPLICATION

The UPWP is expected to reflect federal, state, and local transportation planning emphasis areas (PEAs). The Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, and Washington State Department of Transportation annually identify transportation PEAs to be addressed in the metropolitan and statewide transportation planning processes and these are outlined on pages x through xv of RTC's UPWP. Federal emphasis is on the MPO's compliance with the federal transportation act, MAP-21, and continued implementation of a metropolitan transportation planning program that meets the requirements of 23CFR 450.308 and 23CFR 420.111. This includes addressing the eight federal transportation planning factors outlined on pages xii to xiii of RTC's FY 2016 UPWP. Implementation of MAP-21 focusses on establishing performance measures, performance monitoring and setting of transportation performance targets. Federal emphasis areas also include regional planning cooperation to ensure cooperation and coordination across MPO boundaries and "ladders of opportunity" to address transportation access to essential services, identifying transportation connectivity gaps to these services especially for those with low incomes.

Stakeholder Review

The Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) helps to develop the UPWP and has opportunity to review drafts throughout the development process. The RTC Board also had opportunity to review the draft document at its April 7 meeting. The Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area is served by two MPOs; RTC serves the Washington portion of the region and Metro serves the Oregon portion. In a bi-state region, the MPOs must cooperate and coordinate development of their respective UPWPs (see attached Metro 2015-2016 UPWP).

The draft UPWPs were jointly reviewed by the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Washington and Oregon State Departments of Transportation at a meeting with RTC and Metro staff held on February 17, 2015. The RTC Board was presented a draft FY 2016 UPWP at the April 7 Board meeting. Public notice of the draft FY 2016 UPWP was published on the RTC's website and no public comments have been received to date. The RTC's Regional Transportation Advisory Committee reviewed the proposed FY 2016 UPWP at the April 17 RTAC meeting and recommended RTC Board adoption.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

The FY 2016 UPWP budget is consistent with and extends from RTC's 2015 Work Plan and Budget adopted by the RTC Board in December 2014. Annual revenue sources assumed in the FY 2016 UPWP include an estimated: \$548,000 in Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) PL funds; \$175,000 in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds; \$172,000 in state Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) funds; and, \$104,500 of local funds (member dues). Final allocations by FHWA, FTA and the State will be set in Fall 2015, and RTC Member dues are collected in January of each year. Consistent with the MPO local funding agreement, Local funds and state RTPO funds are used to provide match for the federal funds.

Should the assumed funding allocations change significantly during the UPWP period, the Work Program will be amended accordingly.

ACTION RECOMMENDED

Adopt the FY 2016 Unified Planning Work Program and authorize the Executive Director to file applications for regional transportation funding, to execute grant agreements, and to file any assurances or required documentation relating to the FY 2016 UPWP.

ACTION REQUESTED

Adoption of Resolution 05-15-09, "Unified Planning Work Program for Fiscal Year 2016".

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2015,
by the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council.

SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

ATTEST:

Melissa Smith
Chair of the Board

Matt Ransom
Executive Director

Attachments: RTC's FY 2016 UPWP
Metro's 2015-2016 UPWP