Meeting Notes 1979-09-13

Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation

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Agenda

Date: September 13, 1979
Day: Thursday
Time: 7:30 AM
Place: Town & Gown Room
Mt Hood Community College

1. FUNDING AUTHORIZATION OF THE PHASE II - I-5 NORTH PROJECT

Major Issue:
Funding for a major new project addressing corridor mobility problems in the northern corridor.

TPAC Concerns:

A. How does this project get coordinated with Washington State officials? Response: A coordination process already exists. In accordance with the MSD/RPC Memorandum of Agreement, the proposed project will be transmitted to Clark County RPC for their review and comment. Further interstate coordination mechanisms are being considered to ensure adequate coordination of bi-state transportation planning issues.

B. Could the Delta/Denver TSM proposal go ahead without waiting for the entire Slough Bridge project? Response: This issue does not relate directly to the I-5 Phase II project. ODOT will look into the possibility of implementing this phase of the Slough Bridge project at the same time as the ramp metering project previously funded by MSD.

C. Have the Rivergate access questions been answered? Response: A coordination meeting is to be called by MSD staff. The section of the Systems Planning Report dealing with this subject can be eliminated without jeopardizing the report.

D. Is the possibility of light rail in the northern corridor being eliminated? Response: Light rail in the I-5 North alignment is not feasible and should not be further considered. Light rail in the northern corridor in other alignments continues to be a long-range alternative (beyond the next 15 years).

TPAC & Staff Recommendation:

Recommend the Council authorize funds for the I-5 project. Forward the Systems Planning Report (with Section 6-Rivergate access eliminated) to the Council.
2. AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDING FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING AND RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION OF THE BANFIELD PROJECT

Major Issue:

Maintenance of implementation schedule for the Banfield project.

TPAC Concerns: None

TPAC & Staff Recommendation:

Approve and forward funding authorization to the Council.

3. AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDING FOR THE POWELL II PROJECT

Major Issue:

Use of reserved funds for the Powell II project.

TPAC Concerns: None

TPAC & Staff Recommendation:

Approve and forward funding authorization to the Council.

4. FUNDING OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN AIR QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM FOR THE MCLAUGHLIN BLVD AND SUNSET/217 INTERCHANGE PROJECTS

Major Issue:

How to collect air quality data this winter so as not to lose a year's time on the projects.

TPAC Concerns: None

TPAC & Staff Recommendation:

Approve and forward funding authorization to the Council with the understanding that a Systems Planning report will be written before detailed preliminary engineering studies commence.

5. STATUS REPORT - REGIONAL PLAN

Major Issue:

Focus of the regional transportation plan.

TPAC Concerns:

A. How can energy considerations be given more importance? Response: Council priorities are not clear. By addressing energy concerns in the regional plan, a direction in this important area can be specified.
B. Will elderly and handicapped planning issues be included? Response: Tri-Met will be developing a "special needs" plan and is setting up a committee to deal with special transportation needs. Major policies developed in this effort should be considered for inclusion in the plan.

TPAC & Staff Recommendation:
No action requested. A special meeting of TPAC is to be held in October to review an initial plan outline.

6. STATUS REPORT - CORRIDORS

Major Issue:
Progress in implementing the corridor improvement strategy.

TPAC Concerns:

A. How can the $20 Million MSD Reserve decisions be timed so as to ensure coordination with corridor studies? Response: A change in the decision schedule was recommended. Projects relating to the Westside and Southern corridors would be evaluated as part of the corridor studies, with June, 1980 as a target decision date. Other projects would be evaluated as originally scheduled with a funding decision in February. Only a portion of the funds would be allocated at that time.

B. MSD & ODOT need to examine progress in implementing projects in all the Interstate Transfer funding categories. Response: A meeting will be called by MSD and ODOT to discuss funding categories, schedules and project status.

TPAC & Staff Recommendation:
Approve and forward to Council for adoption a revised $20 Million Reserve schedule.
September 12, 1979
Telephone 238-8226

LETTER TO JPACT COMMITTEE

Subject: Preliminary Engineering on 217/Sunset Interchange

Item 4 of the JPACT agenda for September 13, 1979 recommends authorizing $22,700 in federal funds for initiating preliminary engineering (air data collection) for the Sunset/Highway 217 interchange. This project is identified as a major priority problem area in the region. The time frame for implementing a major project of this size dictates that the project should move to preliminary engineering.

Due to the critical timing of this project and the project's relationship to major land use changes being proposed in the immediate area and its critical linkage to the west side transitway study, the Oregon Department of Transportation requests approval to initiate the first phase of preliminary engineering on this project as soon as possible. A systems planning report from MSD staff is due in the near future for this project.

It is requested that $250,000 in preliminary engineering be authorized from the west side transitway reserve to be repaid from the I-505 funds in order to initiate the programming of the funds with the Federal Highway Administration and the Urban Mass Transportation Administration. This will enable the initial preliminary engineering on the project to begin in FY 1980.

I appreciate your approval of this request.
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