



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 6/24/13)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 12/3/13
Agenda Item #: B.4
Est. Start Time: 11:30 am
Date Submitted: 10/30/13

Agenda Title: **Board Briefing on Fish Passage Assessment for County Road Culverts**

Note: Title should not be more than 2 lines but be sufficient to describe the action requested.

Requested Meeting Date: November 12, 2013 **Time Needed:** 20 min.
Department: Community Services **Division:** Road Services
Contact(s): Roy Iwai, Water Resources Specialist
Phone: 503-988-5050 **Ext.** 28031 **I/O Address:** 425/1st Floor
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Roy Iwai, Water Resources Specialist

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

None. This is an informational briefing on the Fish Passage Assessment for County Road Culverts, a project funded by a one-time only request in the FY2013 budget in support of the Watershed Health component of the County Climate Action Plan 2030..

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

Fish passage at a road culvert is often limited by the old design standards that adequately passed water downstream, but unfortunately did not account for the upstream migration of salmon and resident fishes. As a result, many miles of historic salmon and trout habitat have been blocked by these culvert barriers. Changes in culvert assessment protocols to determine fish passability and new data of fish presence in County streams necessitated a new assessment fish passage at our culverts.

County Road Services has now completed an assessment of fish passage at all County-owned culverts on fish bearing streams. This assessment quantifies level of fish passability at each culvert so that fish needs can be determined for each watershed. Culvert condition is also addressed so that watershed health and private property can be protected. This assessment will lead to a new prioritization of culvert replacement projects using the best available science and social equity considerations.

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

None. The assessment will lead to a comprehensive prioritization of capital projects. Funding for actual projects is beyond the scope of this work.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

No immediate legal concerns. This work supports the habitat for federally listed endangered and threatened fish species. Existing fish passage barriers do not trigger Oregon fish passage rules.

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

Prioritization of culvert barrier replacement and actual project development will occur with input from local partners: adjacent city governments (Troutdale, Fairview, Gresham, Portland), Metro regional government, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Watershed Councils and non-profits.

Required Signature

Elected Official

or Department/

Agency Director:

Kim Peoples /s/

10/30/13

Date:

Note: Please submit electronically. Insert names of your approvers followed by /s/ - we no longer use actual signatures. Please insert date approved."