

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION NO. 09-108

Endorsing the Request of the East Multnomah County Transportation Committee to the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation for Inclusion of Funding for a Comprehensive Study of the I-84 to US 26 Corridor in the 2009 Revision of the Regional Transportation Plan

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. As of July 1, 2008, the combined population of the cities of Fairview, Gresham, Troutdale and Wood Village (Cities) increased by 11.4% from the 2000 Census, according to estimates by the Population Research Center at Portland State University.
- b. East Multnomah County contains large amounts of unutilized and underutilized land designated for industrial development such as the Columbia Cascade River District, the Gresham Strategic Investment Zone, and the Springwater Area.
- c. Economic development in the area is dependent on a clear understanding of current and future transportation needs.
- d. The Cities wish to maintain the livability and character of their respective cities while accommodating the expected growth and needed economic development.
- e. The I-84 to US 26 corridor was recognized as a need of the metropolitan region in the 2004 Regional Transportation Plan.
- f. JPACT has listed I-84 to US 26 as one of the five crucial corridors for corridor refinement plan.


The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:

1. To endorse the East Multnomah County Transportation Committee's letter dated July 16, 2009, requesting the inclusion of funding for a comprehensive transportation study of the I-84 to US 26 corridor in the 2009 revision of the RTP. A copy of the letter is attached as Exhibit "A".
2. To work cooperatively with; the Cities, Metro, the Oregon Department of Transportation, and other affected regional parties to conduct a comprehensive study of the corridor, reach consensus on preferred corridor alternatives, and jointly advocate for its implementation.

ADOPTED this 3rd day of September 2009.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON


Ted Wheeler, Chair

REVIEWED:

AGNES SOWLE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By 
Matthew O. Ryan, Assistant County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY:
Diane McKeel, Commissioner District 4

East Multnomah County Transportation Committee

City of Fairview City of Gresham City of Troutdale City of Wood Village Multnomah County

July 16, 2009

Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation
Attn: Carlotta Collette, Chair
Metro
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232-2739

SUBJECT: Funding the I-84 to US 26 Corridor Refinement Plan through East Multnomah County

For many years now, there has been a significant and growing need for additional transportation capacity in East Multnomah County for commercial traffic between I-84 and US 26. As populations have shifted east, the roads of the region are moving far more personal vehicles and commercial traffic than ever intended.

Economic development in the east metro area is a shared interest of Multnomah County; the Cities of Fairview, Gresham, Troutdale, and Wood Village (Cities); Clackamas County and its incorporated cities. Improved north-south transportation connection between I-84 and US 26 is essential for fostering the east regional industrial areas, including the Columbia-Cascade River District, Springwater, and Damascus. The east metro cities acknowledge the need to agree on how to solve this issue.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the Cities dated April 26, 2007 and approved via resolution by the city of Damascus noted the I-84 to US 26 corridor as the primary transportation concern of the area. The four possible alternatives mentioned in the MOU are; 181 Avenue, Fairview Parkway, 242nd Avenue and 257th Avenue. This corridor has been identified as a regional need as recently as the 2004 Regional Transportation Plan and has been included by JPACT on the list of the five most crucial regional corridors for refinement planning. The MOU also acknowledged improvements are needed to the east-west I-205 to US 26 corridor as its second priority. The Cities and neighboring jurisdictions are relying on the results of an independent and unbiased comprehensive study of the I-84 to US 26 Corridor to effectively plan their transportation and economic futures.

The East Multnomah County Transportation Committee (EMCTC) urges you to take the necessary steps to make the I-84 to US 26 Corridor Refinement Plan the highest priority for a corridor study in the 2009 Regional Transportation Plan in compliance with the

2007 MOU dated April 26, 2007. The Cities and Multnomah County will work cooperatively with Metro, the Oregon Department of Transportation, and other regional partners to conduct a comprehensive study in accordance with the MOU, to reach consensus on a preferred corridor alternative(s), and jointly advocate for its implementation.

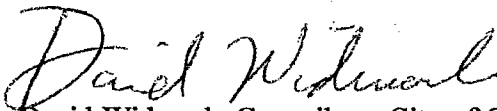
Sincerely,



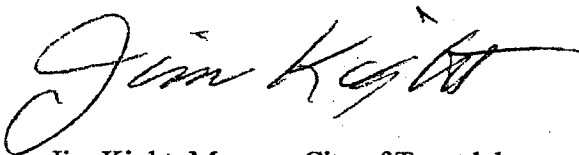
Commissioner Diane McKeel, EMCTC Chair, Multnomah County Commissioner, Dist 4



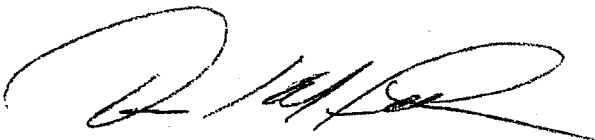
Larry Cooper, Councilor – City of Fairview



David Widmark, Councilor – City of Gresham



Jim Kight, Mayor – City of Troutdale



Dave Fuller, Mayor City of Wood Village

Enc: List of supporters for funding an I84 to US 26 corridor study.