

**Metro****BOARD MEETING
MARCH 23, 2006****SUBJECT: 2006 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN STATUS REPORT****ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE****RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file status report on the development of the 2006 Long Range Transportation Plan Update.

ISSUE

Staff are in the process of updating Metro's Long Range Transportation Plan. This report is to brief the Board regarding the status of the 2006 Long Range Transportation Plan Update and the schedule for its completion.

DISCUSSION

Staff are proceeding with the development of the 2006 Long Range Transportation Plan Update. In October 2005, staff presented an overview of the plan development process to the Planning and Programming Committee, the Executive Management Committee and the Finance and Budget Committee.

This presentation indicated that staff were updating the 2001 Long Range Transportation Plan to extend the planning horizon from 2025 to 2030, to update the financial forecast, and to recommend those programs and projects that could be funded beyond existing Board commitments. Similar to the 2001 Plan, the 2006 Plan will include a Constrained (funded) Plan as well as a Strategic (unfunded) Plan which includes projects that could be funded if additional money becomes available. The initial funding assumptions of the plan were also discussed. Staff also identified various corridors that would be evaluated beyond existing Board commitments and could be added to the Constrained or Strategic elements of the Plan.

In November 2005, staff provided the Planning and Programming Committee, the Executive Management Committee, and the Finance and Budget Committee, a presentation on the performance measures that will be used to evaluate new transportation projects beyond the 2001 Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan. These performance measures include system performance measures for mobility, cost-effectiveness, air quality, and access for the transit dependent, as well as corridor performance measures for corridor mobility and corridor need.

Since November, staff have been proceeding with the transportation modeling necessary to evaluate system and corridor level performance. Staff also have been updating the financial model to determine the amount of funds available for new projects. The results of these analyses will be presented to the Board in April.

The following identifies the major steps for the development, review, and approval of the 2006 Long Range Transportation Plan:

- **April 2006:** Staff will present the results of the performance analysis of the transportation system and various transportation corridors. Staff will also provide an update on financial assumptions, including the amount of funds available for new projects beyond existing Board commitments through the year 2030.
- **May 2006:** Staff will present recommendations to the Board for programs and projects that could be included in the Constrained Plan element or the Strategic Plan element. Upon Board action, staff will integrate Board recommendations into a draft LRTP.
- **July 2006:** Staff will provide the Board with the final draft Long Range Transportation Plan Update and seek Board approval to release the document for a 45-day public review period.
- **October 2006:** Upon review of comments received during the public review process, staff will present to the Board any recommendations for changes to the draft Plan. The Board will then take final action to approve the 2006 Long Range Transportation Plan Update.

NEXT STEPS

Staff are proceeding with the technical work necessary to assess system and corridor performance, and to update the financial model. The results of this effort will be presented to the Board in April.

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