

# COBURG CITY COUNCIL ACTION/ISSUE ITEM

Topic: Ordinance A-252 Implementing a Transportation Utility

Meeting Date: May 11, 2021

Staff Contact: Anne Heath, City Administrator

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## REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

Discussion only with staff direction for final draft ordinance

**Recommended Motion:** No recommended motion at this time.

# POLICIES OR CITY COUNCIL GOAL(S)

Address Street Funding

#### **BACKGROUND**

One of the biggest concerns that the Coburg City Council and staff hear about is over the conditions of the roads in Coburg. To address this issue, the City Council approved a Pavement Management Program be designed in order to establish the condition of all streets in Coburg, and to address the treatment needed to bring streets up to an acceptable condition. Upon receiving the completed Pavement Management Program, the City Council appointed a Citizen Committee to review the report and make recommendations for how the City would fund the repairs needed as reported in the program. The Committee designed and sent out a community survey asking which funding sources the citizens would support. The citizens overwhelmingly selected an increase in fuel tax, the 2<sup>nd</sup> was the Transportation Utility Fee. The Committee made two recommendations to the City Council which included increasing the City Fuel Tax, and implementing a Transportation Utility Fee.

In November, 2019 the voters approved the increase in Fuel Tax. This was then brought to the City Council in December for approval through an ordinance.

In the early spring of 2020 the City began working on an ordinance to implement a Transportation Utility Fee. The City held public meetings, disbursed informational materials, and began the process of reviewing a draft ordinance.

In March, 2020 the Covid-19 Pandemic struck the nation and there was much uncertainty regarding the financial effects on the City and the residents of Coburg. Therefore, the Council elected to put the Transportation Utility Fee discussion on hold.

In March of 2021, the Council held a work session in which staff direction was given to begin the process of implementing the Transportation Utility Fee.

The draft ordinance contained in this packet is the result of the input from Councilors as well as legal representation. Also attached is the marked up version where there input was recorded.

#### STEPS FOR COMPLETION

- 1. Review of draft ordinance and answers to the following questions need to be decided by the City council:
  - a. What will be the standard fee for residential single family dwelling?
  - b. What will be the fee charged per equitable unit to commercial?
  - c. Will we allow for waivers? If we allow waivers, what will be the policy for granting them?
  - d. Will the City charge itself TUF Fees on all of our properties, parks, etc.?
  - e. Will the City charge other governmental units such as the Fire District?
  - f. Does the City wish to state that there could still be a LID established for an area of town based on use? Or do we say that there will not be an LID established and this will be the only fee a commercial business may face?
- Outreach to the Public regarding in the form of newsletters, brochures and social media posts providing information about when the first and second readings of the ordinance will take place as well as opportunities for public input.
- 3. Final review from staff and legal prior to the first reading of the ordinance
- 4. First and Second readings of the ordinance
- 5. Implementation of the fee if passed

#### RECOMMENDATION AND ALTERNATIVES

Staff recommends the Council consider the above questions based upon the information provided in this staff report. Staff will incorporate the direction into the final ordinance.

## **BUDGET / FINANCIAL IMPACT**

This is yet to be determined and based upon the Council decision

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Staff will disburse materials, newsletters and social media in order to make the public aware that the Council will be considering this ordinance at their June and July, 2021 meetings.

# **NEXT STEPS**

- 1. Changes made to ordinance based upon Council Direction
- 2. Final review of staff and Legal

# **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Draft Ordinance A-252
- B. Financial Spreadsheets

# **REVIEWED THROUGH**

Gary Darnielle, City Attorney Sammy Egbert, City Recorder