



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Title: Transportation and Growth Management Grant Application

Preferred Agenda: 7/14/2020

Submitted By: Blair Larsen, Community & Economic Development Director

Reviewed By: Ray Towry, City Manager

Type of Action: Resolution X Motion ____ Roll Call ____ Other ____

Relevant Code/Policy: City of Sweet Home Transportation System Plan

Towards Council Goal: 1.2, Infrastructure Needs and Planning; 4.2, Lead Community Economic Development Efforts

Attachments: Res. No. 21 for 2020: TGM Grant, Draft Letter of Support

Purpose of this RCA:

The purpose of this Request for Council Action is to authorize a grant application to the State of Oregon Transportation and Growth Management program for an update of the City's Transportation System Plan and to refine the land uses in the North Sweet Home area.

Background/Context:

The City's Transportation System Plan (TSP) is a Council-adopted planning document that outlines the improvements and changes needed to the City's transportation system over the next 20 years in order to accommodate expected growth. The City's TSP was last updated in 2005, and changes since then necessitate an update. In addition, the transportation system is particularly weak in the northern part of Sweet Home, between the railroad and the South Santiam River—an area that includes the vast majority of the City's undeveloped land.

The Transportation and Growth Management program is administered by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Land Use and Conservation Department (DLCD). The program offers grants to Cities and Counties for transportation planning and land use planning that is related to transportation. Cities are often able to use this program to pay for land use and transportation planning that they otherwise would not be able to afford.

The Challenge/Problem:

How can the City fund an update to its outdated city wide Transportation System Plan and desperately needed land use planning of the undeveloped land in the northern part of the City?

Stakeholders:

City of Sweet Home Residents: Residents deserve a transportation system that efficiently moves people and goods, and provides access to homes, commercial areas, and places of employment.

City of Sweet Home City Council: The Council is responsible for ensuring that the City's transportation system is well planned and meets the City's needs.

City of Sweet Home Staff: City Staff benefit from a well thought out plan that meets current needs and provides clear direction for future growth.

Property Owners and Developers: Property owners and developers benefit from a Transportation System Plan that provides clear and efficient movement of people and goods and gives their property good access to transportation facilities.

Issues and Financial Impacts:

An update to the City's Transportation System Plan and a refinement of the land uses in the North Sweet Home Area is expected to cost \$250,000. This would be funded by the grant. The only match required from the City would be 12% of the project (\$30,000), coming in the form of wages and salaries to City Staff working on the project.

Elements of a Stable Solution:

A stable solution would include a project that meets the City's needs, funded by a State grant with an in-kind match from the City.

Options:

1. Do nothing. The City's TSP would remain in its current state, and no refinement of land uses in the north Sweet Home area would take place at this time.
2. Adopt Resolution No. 21 for 2020, A Resolution in Support of an Application to the State of Oregon's Transportation and Growth Management Program to Assist with Updating the City's Transportation System Plan and Refining Land Uses in the North Sweet Home Area.
3. Direct staff to make changes to the proposed resolution, or to seek other ways to fund these planning efforts.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends option 2, *motion to adopt Resolution No. 21 for 2020, A Resolution in Support of an Application to the State of Oregon's Transportation and Growth Management Program to Assist with Updating the City's Transportation System Plan and Refining Land Uses in the North Sweet Home Area.*