



DATE: March 1, 2013

TO: House Committee on Transportation and Economic Development

FROM: Jerri Bohard, Administrator
Transportation Development Division

SUBJECT: HB 2311

INTRODUCTION

HB 2311 builds on language in the Jobs and Transportation Act (JTA) of 2009 by adding another consideration to the list of Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) criteria considerations. The proposed addition adds multimodal connectivity to the list of considerations.

BACKGROUND

ODOT has a history of working with the STIP Stakeholder Committee, a group of 20 on criteria and other processes for STIP project selection. The committee is made up of twenty members representing many varied transportation interests including private business, freight, environmental, local governments, and state agencies.

The JTA directed the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) to work with stakeholders to update STIP criteria and listed 10 considerations to use when revising the project selection criteria. The current 10 considerations cover topics such as safety, efficiency, freight needs, economic development, livable communities, environment, and greenhouse gas reduction. HB 2311 adds an 11th consideration for the OTC to use when working with stakeholders to develop STIP criteria – multimodal connectivity.

All the criteria considerations, including the proposed 11th, align well with existing policy and recent initiatives. The considerations are consistent with Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP) goals and align with the intent of recent STIP criteria. The STIP considerations also work well with the analytical categories of ODOT's least cost planning process. The benefit categories in the 2015-2018 STIP application acknowledged the existing 10 STIP considerations. This proposed additional consideration can already be found in the application process in the descriptions of accessibility, mobility and livability.

SUMMARY

HB 2311 adds a further consideration to the list of 10 included in the JTA for the OTC to use when working with stakeholders to develop project selection criteria for the STIP. Adding multimodal connectivity to the list of existing considerations provides clarity and aligns well with ODOT's recent initiatives aimed at evaluating projects more holistically.