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February 27, 2017

Patrick Brennan, Committee Administrator
(Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization)
Legislative Policy and Research Office
Oregon State Capitol

Dear Mr. Brennan:

After the conclusion of Monday's meeting of the Joint Committee's Congestion Work Group and the discussion of major congestion projects in the Portland area, I talked with Senator Boquist about major congestion projects in the Salem and Mid-Willamette area. The Senator recommended I submit those additional projects to the Work Group via yourself.

As you may recall, the Mid-Willamette Area Commission on Transportation (MWACT) hosted members of the Joint Committee on May 27, 2016 and provided a list and map of high priority projects in the Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties. Within the Salem-Keizer Metropolitan Planning Area, the highest priority congestion-relief project is the construction of a new bridge (the Salem River Crossing aka "3rd Bridge") over the Willamette River connecting Salem (north of downtown) to West Salem and Highway 22. The project's Locally Preferred Alternative has been selected, and the Final Environmental Impact Statement is being prepared with the expectation that a federal Record of Decision will occur by the end of 2017.

Outside the Salem-Keizer area, the major congestion-relief projects are the completion of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass, infrastructure changes on OR 18 (near Grand Ronde) to fix the bottlenecks and the need for an interchange at Valley Junction, and fixing/rebuilding the I-5 Aurora-Donald Interchange to reduce congestion that spills back onto Interstate-5.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information and for your work assisting the Joint Committee.

Sincerely,

Michael Jaffe
Transportation Planning Director
Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments

MJ:lm

Enclosure: Map of High Priority Projects

MWACT High Priority Projects, 2017

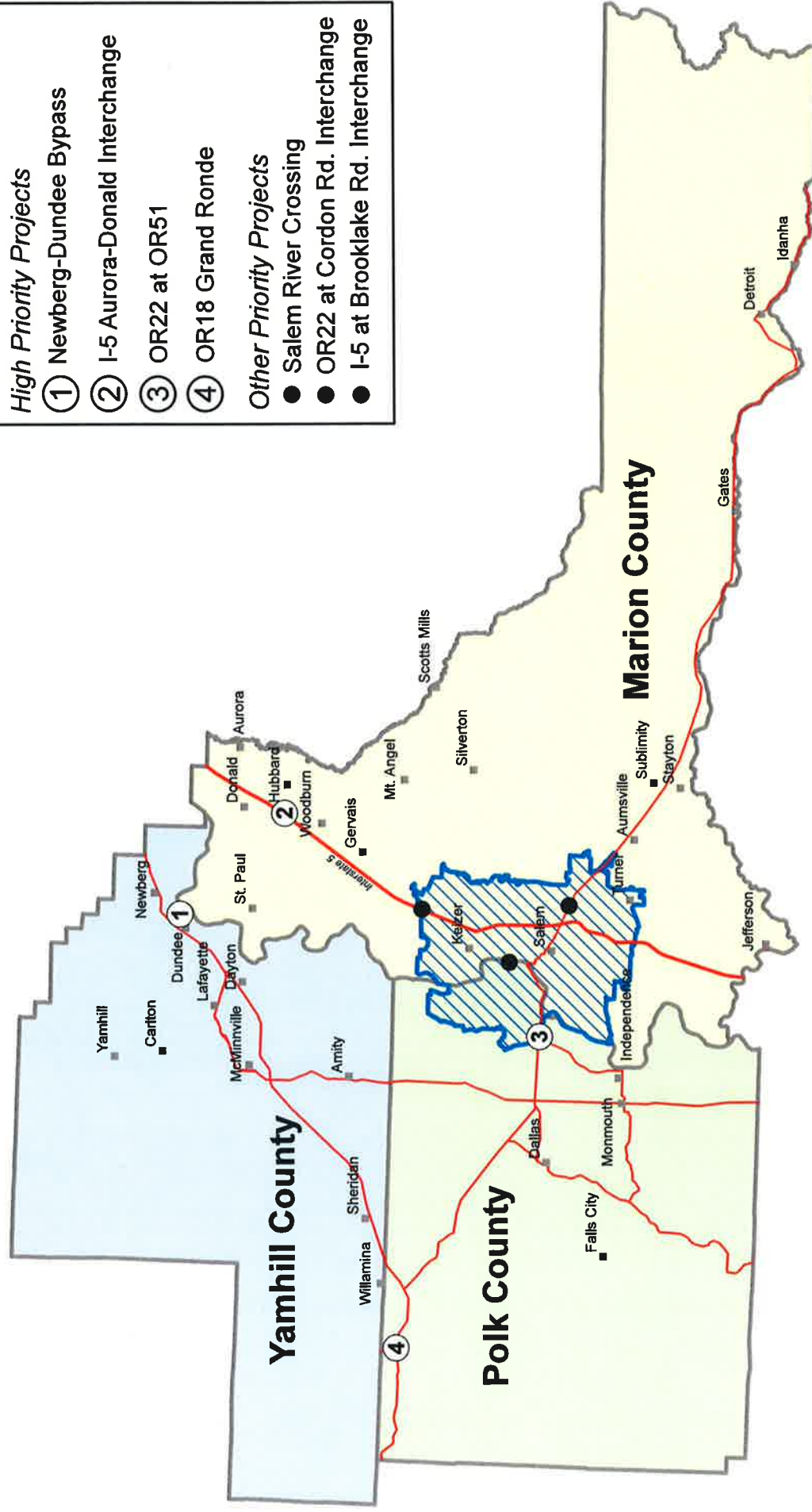
Project Legend

High Priority Projects

- ① Newberg-Dundee Bypass
- ② I-5 Aurora-Donald Interchange
- ③ OR22 at OR51
- ④ OR18 Grand Ronde

Other Priority Projects

- Salem River Crossing
- OR22 at Cordon Rd. Interchange
- I-5 at Brooklake Rd. Interchange



 Salem-Keizer-Turner Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
(SKATS- Salem Keizer Area Transportation Study)



10 5 0 10 Miles

