
AGENDA
Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board

Date: April 20, 2021
Time: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Location: Virtual meeting. Participation information provided below:

Register in advance to participate in this meeting:

Zoom Link: https://bendoregon.gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YJ58oNjaQHiA3nzGm4Xi1g

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar and call in options.

Join by Phone: 888 788 0099 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 974 8482 2817 Passcode: bmpo

To comment during the meeting: Please use the "raise hand" feature and staff will call on you. Phone in callers use *9

YouTube Stream Option: posted on bendmpo.org prior to the meeting

Contact: Tyler Deke, BMPO Manager (541) 693-2113 or tdeke@bendoregon.gov

1. **Call to Order & Introductions.....Barb Campbell**
2. **Virtual Meeting Guidelines.....Jovi Anderson**
3. **Public Comment.....Barb Campbell**

Action Items

4. **Meeting Minutes.....Barb Campbell**
Review and approve the March 16, 2021 Policy Board (**Attachment A**) and March 23, 2021 Budget Committee (**Attachment B**) draft meeting minutes

Recommended Language for Motion: I move approval of the March 16, 2021 Policy Board and March 23, 2021 Budget Committee draft meeting minutes as presented.

5. 2021-2022 Approved Budget Public Hearing and Adoption.....Staff

Background: Staff will provide an overview of the Budget Committee approved budget for fiscal year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, including a summary of major work tasks and funding sources. The purpose of the hearing is to review the approved budget, receive comment, and adopt the approved budget. A public meeting of the Budget Committee was held on March 23. The Budget Committee recommended Policy Board approval of the proposed budget.

Attachments: *Resolution 2021-02 to adopt the budget (**Attachment C**)
The 2021-2022 Approved Budget is posted on the BMPO website:
<https://www.bendoregon.gov/home/showpublisheddocument?id=49331>

Action Requested: Hold public hearing and consider adoption of the 2021-2022 Approved Budget (via Resolution 2021-02)

Recommended Language for Motion: I move to adopt the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Approved Budget and make appropriations by means of Resolution 2021-02.

6. 2021-2022 Unified Planning Work Program Adoption.....Staff

Background: The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) outlines all planning activities to be undertaken in the BMPO area each fiscal year. ODOT, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, BMPO Policy Board and the Technical Advisory Committee have reviewed the draft 2021-22 UPWP.

Attachments: *Resolution 2021-03 to adopt the UPWP (**Attachment D**)
The draft 2021-22 UPWP is posted on the BMPO website:
<https://www.bendoregon.gov/home/showpublisheddocument?id=49341>

Action Requested: Review and consider adoption of the draft 2021-2022 UPWP (via Resolution 2021-03)

Recommended Language for Motion: I move to adopt the 2021-22 Unified Planning Work Program by means of Resolution 2021-03

7. 2021-2024 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program

Amendments.....Jovi Anderson

Background: Amendments are proposed for the 2021-2024 MTIP. The amendments were noticed on the bendoregon.gov website and through email notification to the MPO email lists and news media. Any comments received will be discussed at the MPO meeting. Staff will provide an overview of the proposed amendments.

Attachments: Summary of proposed MTIP amendments (**Attachment E**)

Action Requested: Review and consider approval of the proposed amendments

Recommended Language for Motion: I move approval of the proposed amendments to the 2021-2024 MTIP as presented

8. Surface Transportation Block Grant funding.....Andrea Napoli

Background: The Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) is one of the core federal transportation funding programs. ODOT distributes a portion of its STBG funds to cities, counties, and small MPOs through a cooperative process. Staff will discuss options for allocating additional funding expected to be received during the 2021-2024 timeframe.

Attachments: None. Information may be distributed at the meeting.

Action Requested: Discuss possible uses of future STBG funding allocations to Bend MPO.

9. Bikeshare Update.....Tobias Marx, City of Bend

Background: A bikeshare system was operational in Bend from 2016 to 2020. City staff had proposed a bikeshare relaunch project in the MPOs last project solicitation in 2020. The project was not funded at that time. City staff will provide an update on a possible reintroduction of a bikeshare system in Bend.

Attachments: None. Information may be distributed at the meeting.

Action Requested: Discussion of unfunded projects from prior application process in consideration of new STBG funds available.

10. Comment letters.....Tyler Deke

Background: The draft Environmental Assessment has been released for the proposed multi-use trail connecting Baker Road to Lava Lands Visitor Center. Staff will briefly discuss the proposed trail and a proposed letter of support.

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) is a document issued by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) that specifies the standards by which traffic signs, road surface markings, and signals are designed, installed, and used. The MUTCD is being updated and there is interest to improve the document to better consider urban issues, including bicycling and walking. Staff will briefly discuss the update and a proposed comment letter.

Attachments: Draft support letter for Bend to Lava Lands Trail (**Attachment F**). The draft MUTCD comment letter will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Action Requested: Consider approval of the comment letters

Information Items

11. ODOT Projects Overview.....ODOT Staff

Background: ODOT has large number of projects (planning, design and construction) underway or planned in the MPO area. ODOT staff will provide an overview of these projects and answer Board questions.

Attachments: None. Information about ODOTs projects is posted on the following site:
<https://www.oregon.gov/odot/regions/pages/region-4-central-oregon.aspx>

Action Requested: None. Information item.

12. Other Business.....Barb Campbell

13. Public Comment.....Barb Campbell

14. Next Policy Board Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Policy Board is scheduled for May 18 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.

15. Adjourn

Additional Attachments

- US97/Murphy Rd interchange federal funding support letter (**Attachment G**)



Accessible Meeting/Alternate Format Notification

This meeting event/location is accessible. Sign or other language interpreter service, assistive listening devices, materials in alternate format, such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, or any other accommodations are available upon advance request at no cost. Please contact Jovita Anderson no later than 24 hours in advance of the meeting at (541) 693-2122, or janderson@bendoregon.gov. Providing at least 2 days-notice prior to the event will help ensure availability.

DRAFT
BEND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
POLICY BOARD
Virtual Meeting – MINUTES
March 16, 2021

Policy Board Members Present

Bend City Councilors: **Chair** Barb Campbell, **Vice-Chair** Megan Perkins, Rita Schenkelberg
Deschutes County Commissioner: Phil Chang
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Region 4 Area Manager: Bob Townsend

Policy Board Alternates

ODOT Region 4: David Amiton, *Planning Manager*

MPO Staff: Tyler Deke, *Manager*; Jovi Anderson, *Program Coordinator*; Andrea Napoli, *Senior Planner*; Cameron Prow, TYPE-*Write II* (minutes contractor)

Visitors: Cristel Taylor, *City of Bend Senior Budget & Financial Analyst*; Donald Morehouse, *Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)*; Greg Bryant, *Bend MPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)* and *Bend MPO Budget Committee*; Theresa Conley, *ODOT Public Transit*

Media: None

(Agenda items appear in discussion order. The 3 digits after a motion title show the number of member jurisdictions voting in favor/opposed/abstaining.)

1. Call to Order – Introductions

Chair Campbell called the regular meeting of the Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization (Bend MPO) Policy Board to order at 11:36 a.m. on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, with a quorum of member jurisdictions present (3 of 3). Vice-Chair Perkins arrived at approximately 11:42 a.m., after approval of the minutes but before Motion 2.

2. Virtual Meeting Guidelines

Ms. Anderson reviewed the meeting guidelines.

3. Public Comment

None.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Review/Approve Policy Board Minutes

Data: February 16, 2021 (Agenda Attachment A) and February 23, 2021 (Agenda Attachment B)

Motion 1 (3/0/0): Mr. Chang moved approval of the February 16, 2021, and February 23, 2021, draft meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Townsend seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

5. 2020-2021 Budget Adjustment

Data: Issue Summary and Resolution 2021-01 to adopt the budget amendment (Agenda Attachment C)

Ms. Anderson provided an overview of the proposed adjustment to the fiscal year (FY) 2020-2021 Budget adopted in May 2020. This supplemental budget will add \$20,205 in Resources to align the budget with the annual funding agreement (#34292) between ODOT and the Bend MPO.

Policy Board concerns included how the City of Bend/Deschutes County In-Kind Match funds worked.

Motion 2 (3/0/0): Mr. Chang moved approval of the [fiscal year] 2020-21 Supplemental Budget by way of Resolution 2021-01. Ms. Schenkelberg seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

6. 2021-2024 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program

Data: Summary of proposed MTIP amendments (Agenda Attachment D)

Ms. Anderson outlined the proposed MTIP amendments. Mr. Deke provided additional details about the proposed amendments Key 22395 and to Cascades East Transit's Bend-to-Mt. Bachelor-and-Elk Lake summer service route. Ms. Napoli stated she was updating the MPO outreach plan to expand the notification process.

Policy Board discussion covered the MPO and ODOT current public outreach processes.

Motion 3 (3/0/0): Ms. Schenkelberg moved approval of the proposed amendments to the 2021-2024 MTIP as presented. Mr. Chang seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

7. Surface Transportation Block Grant Funding

Ms. Napoli reported the MPO will receive additional STBG funding of \$127,600 per year for fiscal years 2021-2024 and COVID Relief Act funding of about \$1.5 million (must be allocated by September 30, 2024, and completed by 2029). She reviewed the Policy Board's funding decision for the projects selected in 2020. Mr. Deke added details about how the new funds could be spent.

Policy Board concerns included possible uses of future STBG allocations, stability of annual STBG funding, flexibility of new STBG funds, whether to fully fund selected projects from the 2020 competitive application process or roll the extra STBG funds into the next competitive application process (fall 2022), and staff capacity to engage in another solicitation process before fall 2022. Following discussion, Policy Board members generally supported the idea of making 2020 projects that were not fully funded "whole."

Motion 4 (3/0/0): Ms. Schenkelberg moved to approve the use of additional STBG dollars to fully fund selected projects from the 2020 STBG application process. Mr. Chang seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Following discussion, the Policy Board directed staff to study the most efficient way to move forward with allocating COVID Relief Act funding of approximately \$1.5 million and make a recommendation at the next meeting.

8. US97/Baker Road Interchange Area Management Plan

Mr. Morehouse discussed the project background, purpose, study area, draft goals, schedule, decision-making structure and public outreach, conclusions and next steps of the development process for the US97/Baker Road IAMP.

Mr. Deke noted the main driver for this project was increasing urban growth that has resulted in congestion and safety issues at the US Highway 97/Baker Road intersection.

Policy Board concerns included the MPO's role in the Project Advisory Committee, other organizations that should participate (Homeless Leadership Coalition), and if at least one Policy Board member should attend Project Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings.

Chair Campbell volunteered to attend the first PAC meeting. She directed staff to synthesize discussion from each PAC meeting at the following Policy Board meeting.

9. Proposed Federal Rule Changes

Mr. Deke discussed potential impacts on Bend MPO discretionary federal revenue streams and the planning boundary of proposed changes to the Metropolitan Statistical Area. He asked Policy Board members to share their comments with him by March 20.

Policy Board discussion covered which federal agencies were proposing the rule changes, which classification was more favorable to the MPO (Metropolitan or *Micropolitan* Statistical Areas), stability of Bend's population, if the MPO should ask its Congressional delegation to intercede, and impact on MPO staffing levels.

Mr. Deke offered to monitor the proposed federal rule changes and report to the Policy Board if Congressional intercession would be needed.

Chair Campbell suggested she and Mr. Deke write a letter for her signature on potential impacts of the proposed Metropolitan Statistical Area rule changes on the Bend MPO. Policy Board members generally agreed to her suggestion.

10. Other Business

None.

11. Public Comment

None.

12. Next Policy Board Meeting

- April 20, 2021, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (Tuesday): regular meeting

13. Adjourn

Motion 5 (3/0/0): Mr. Chang moved to adjourn. Chair Campbell seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

With no further business, Chair Campbell adjourned the meeting at 1 p.m.

DRAFT
BEND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
BUDGET COMMITTEE
Virtual Meeting – MINUTES
March 23, 2021

YouTube video link at: <https://youtu.be/cGIJ-QGFBlw>

Budget Committee Members

Policy Board: Chair Barb Campbell, Vice-Chair Megan Perkins, and Rita Schenkelberg, *City of Bend*; Phil Chang, *Deschutes County*; Bob Townsend, *Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)*

Citizens: Andrew Davis, Greg Bryant, Janet Gregor, Donald Moore, Brian Potwin

BMPO Staff: Tyler Deke, *Manager*; Jovi Anderson, *Program Coordinator*; Andrea Napoli, *Senior Planner*; Cameron Prow, TYPE-*Write II* (minutes contractor)

Visitors: David Abbas, *City of Bend Transportation & Mobility Director*; Will Green; Melissa Hodnett, *Bend Budget & Financial Planning Manager*; Karen Swirsky, *Bend Growth Management*; Cristel Taylor, *Bend Senior Budget & Financial Analyst*

Media: None

(Agenda items appear in discussion order. The 3 digits after a motion title show the number of members voting in favor/opposed/abstaining.)

1. Call Meeting to Order and Introductions

Policy Board Chair Barb Campbell called the annual Budget Committee meeting of the Bend Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (BMPO) to order at 12:02 p.m. on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, with a quorum of members present (8 of 10 members). Policy Board Vice-Chair Perkins arrived about 12:07 p.m. (quorum increased to 9 of 10 members). Ms. Schenkelberg arrived about 12:25 p.m. (quorum increased to 10 of 10 members).

2. Visitor Comments

None.

3. Review Budget Committee Member Term Assignments and Chair Assignment

Data: Bend MPO Budget Committee – 2021 (Agenda Attachment A), PowerPoint, Proposed Budget Webpage link at: www.bendoregon.gov/mpobudget

Ms. Anderson and Mr. Deke outlined the process to recruit new Budget Committee members.

Budget Committee members agreed by consensus to retain Mr. Davis as the Budget Committee Chair for 2021. Policy Board Chair Campbell passed control of the meeting to Budget Chair Davis.

4. Receive Budget Message

Data: Proposed Bend MPO Budget FY 2021-2022 (Agenda Attachment B)

Budget Chair Davis outlined presentation topics for the Draft Work Program.

Mr. Deke discussed federal rule changes under consideration regarding urbanized areas and population and how these might impact the Bend MPO.

MPO staff provided an overview of fiscal year (FY) 2021-2022 budget including expected revenues, proposed expenditures by major work task area and budget line item, 2021-22 changes/opportunities/issues, and 2021-22 priorities. Also discussed were the 2021-22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and budget schedule.

The proposed Bend MPO budget for FY 2021-2022 is broken down below to show appropriations by major work task and by budget category:

PROPOSED BMPO BUDGET FY 2021-2022	Resources
Budget Appropriations by Work Task (% of total budget)	
1-BMPO Development & Program Management (44.3%)	\$354,900
2-Short-Range Planning (11.3%)	90,800
3-Long-Range Planning (36.2%)	290,000
4-Modeling & Data Collection/Analysis (8.2%)	65,500
Total Appropriations – All Work Tasks	\$801,200

Budget Appropriations by Budget Category	
MPO Program	\$601,200
Loan Repayment	100,000
Contingency	100,000
Total Requirements	\$801,200

Budget Committee concerns included the following:

- Data collection: by other agencies, potential for new locations
- Data reporting and findings during the COVID-19 pandemic (see <https://www.bendoregon.gov/government/departments/bend-metro-planning-or-ganization/transportation-data/traffic-count-data>)
- Employee salary scales
- Federal gas tax rate
- Funding resources of other small Oregon MPOs
- Match funding percentages
- Mobility hubs feasibility study: content
- Model steering committee: purpose, membership
- MPO involvement in Safe Routes to School projects
- Legal services contract: Why separate the MPO from the City of Bend?
- Professional Services–Legal: increase over the FY 2020-21 level
- Safety data: timeliness, newer than 2 years old
- State funds received: basis for, compensating for lower distribution levels

Budget Chair Davis opened the Budget Committee public hearing on the proposed FY 2021-2022 Budget at 1:18 p.m.

Public testimony: Mr. Green asked if the MPO was interested in volunteer partnerships with local community colleges and OSU-Cascades. Ms. Napoli thanked Mr. Green for his comments.

When no further testimony was offered, Budget Chair Davis closed the public hearing at 1:23 p.m.

Motion 1 (10/0/0): Ms. Gregor moved approval and recommended MPO Policy Board adoption of the proposed Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Bend MPO Budget as presented. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Policy Board Chair Campbell thanked everyone for all their hard work.

5. 2021-2022 BMPO Budget – Public Hearing and Adoption

The public hearing for the Policy Board to adopt the 2021-2022 BMPO Budget is scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 11:30 a.m. Advance public notice of the meeting will be provided as required by budget law.

6. Adjourn

With no further business, Budget Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

**Resolution Number 2021-02
Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board**

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22

THE BEND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

To adopt the fiscal year 2021-22 budget as approved by the Budget Committee pursuant to ORS 294.456, and;

That the amount for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, for the purpose shown below, is hereby appropriated as follows:

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Fund	
MPO Program	\$ 601,200
Loan Repayment	100,000
Contingency	100,000
Total Requirements	\$ 801,200

Adopted by the Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization the 20th day of April, 2021.

Yes:_____ No:_____ Abstain: _____

Authenticated by the Chair this 20th day of April, 2021.

Barb Campbell, Chair

Attest:

Tyler Deke, MPO Manager

**Resolution Number 2021-03
Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board**

For the Purpose of Adopting the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Unified Planning Work Program for the Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization

WHEREAS, the US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census has declared that the City of Bend and the adjoining areas in Deschutes County form an Urbanized Area, named the Bend Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, the US Department of Transportation and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) have designated representatives of the said areas, together with a representative of ODOT, as the Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization (BMPO) to carry out the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Planning Organization must prepare an annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that identifies program activities and expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the BMPO has developed a UPWP for fiscal year 2021-2022, in coordination with US DOT and ODOT and in compliance with all applicable federal and state requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board did review and comment on the UPWP for fiscal years 2021-2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Policy Board of the Bend MPO approves and adopts the BMPO UPWP for fiscal year 2021-2022.

Adopted by the Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization the 20th of April, 2021

Yes: _____ No: _____ Abstain: _____

Authenticated by the Chair this 20th of April, 2021

Barb Campbell, Chair

Attest:

Tyler Deke, MPO Manager

Project Key Number	Project Name	ODOT STIP Amendment Number	Decision by MPO Policy Board	Amendment Decision Date (MPO)	Change Reason	Comments Received
Pending	5339 Transit: Vehicle Replacement	#6	Full Amendment, requires 21 day public comment	4/20/2021 Pending	Add project to MTIP. Purchase 11 transit vehicles. Vehicles purchased are estimated to include 7 low floor and 4 high floor vehicles. ODOT/COIC Agreement 34223	
Pending	5339 Transit: Hawthorne Station safety improvement and access site redevelopment.	#5	Full Amendment, requires 21 day public comment	4/20/2021 Pending	Add project to MTIP. Provide funding to design, install, or construct improvements to the existing parking lots at the Hawthorne Station in Bend, Oregon. Project will include planning and engineering analysis to improve vehicle ingress and egress at the Hawthorne Station transit hub, allow for safer on-site passenger boarding onto large transit buses, improve drainage, and improve overall passenger safety on the site. Project will also include construction to implement the recommended improvements from the planning and engineering analysis. Project will not include full redevelopment of the site but focus on mitigation measures to improve usability for the duration of the station's useful life. ODOT/COIC Agreement 34215	
22420	5310 Transit Operations, Preventative Maintenance and Contracted Services	#4	Full Amendment, requires 21 day public comment	4/20/2021 Pending	Add project to MTIP. Split this funding from a statewide funding project in the STIP. This project provides funding to continue and expand existing on-site security services for the Hawthorne Station, to purchase replacement radios for fixed route and demand response transit vehicles serving the Bend area and continuation of Bend Dial-A-Ride paratransit operations. ODOT/COIC Agreement 34247	
20357	US97: Redmond – Bend	#3	Full Amendment, requires 21 day public comment	4/20/2021 Pending	Move this project from the 2018-2021 MTIP/STIP into the current 2021-2024 MTIP/STIP. This project has speed feedback signs, pavement markings, lighting, signing and striping, enhancements. Construction of this project is scheduled for 2021. Funding moved from Construction	

					to Right of Way and Engineering. Updated Project Location to US97 MP 123.78 to 133.52, was 124.40 to 133.39.
21483	US20: Mervin Sampels – Greenwood (3 rd St., Bend)	21-24-0608 #2	Full Amendment, requires 21 day public comment	4/20/2021 Pending	Update project in the STIP/MTIP. Add Project location. US20 from MP 0.74-0.80 for Right of Way. This location is the area for the 6th Street enhanced crossing on US20.Greenwood Ave. with an Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon.
20168	Cascade East Transit Regional Shuttle Bus	4/20/2021-01 #1	Full Amendment, requires 21 day public comment	4/20/2021 Pending	Move this project from the 2018-2021 MTIP/STIP into the current 2021-2024 MTIP/STIP. This project includes funding for community connector shuttle stops and shelters.
New	Bend Transit operations capital 2020 (5307)		Full Amendment, requires 21 day public comment	4/20/2021 Pending	Add project to 21-24 MTIP and STIP Second public comment period to verify notice, (updated from 20936 to new project as of 4/13/21, reposted.).

See our website www.bendmpo.org for more details regarding the Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program. Your comments and review are welcome and valued. Visit our [website](http://www.bendmpo.org) for ways to provide your opinion.



BEND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
709 NW Wall Street, Suite 102, Bend, OR 97703
www.bendmpo.org

April 20, 2021

Kevin Larkin, District Ranger
Bend-Fort Rock Ranger District
63095 Deschutes Market Road
Bend, OR 97701

Re: Draft Environmental Assessment – Bend to Lava Lands Paved Path Project

Dear Mr. Larkin,

I am writing on behalf of the Bend MPO Policy Board to express our support for the proposed alternative in the draft Environmental Assessment for the Bend to Lava Lands Paved Path Project.

This proposed trail section is an important phase of an overall regional trail system that is adjacent to or parallels the Deschutes River. When complete, the trail will extend from Sunriver through the Newberry National Volcanic Monument and into and through Bend. Development of this trail is identified in several plans including the Bend Park and Recreation District Trails Master Plan.

Completing this trail segment will fulfill a long-standing regional priority to develop a parallel route along US97 for bicyclists and pedestrians to travel between Bend and the High Desert Museum, Lava Lands Visitor Center, and Sunriver.

The Bend MPO supports development and construction of this important trail project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Barb Campbell, Chair

BARBARA CAMPBELL, CHAIR
City of Bend Council

MEGAN PERKINS, VICE-CHAIR
City of Bend Council

RITA SCHENKELBERG
City of Bend Council

PHIL CHANG
Deschutes County Commission

ROBERT TOWNSEND
ODOT Region 4

TYLER DEKE, AICP
Manager

JOVI ANDERSON
Program Coordinator

ANDREA NAPOLI, AICP
Senior Planner



BEND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
709 NW Wall Street, Suite 102, Bend, OR 97703
www.bendmpo.org

April 7, 2021

Re: City of Bend funding request for US97/Murphy Road interchange

Dear Congressman Bentz,

I am writing on behalf of Bend MPO Policy Board to express our support for the City of Bend’s request for funding to complete the US97 interchange at Murphy Road. I serve on the Bend City Council and am chair of the Bend MPO. I have served on both for 6 years and have learned that a robust transportation system is essential for an excellent city.

Completion of the interchange will create opportunity for developing a mix of residential and employment lands in our most recent urban growth boundary expansion. A complete interchange will allow road grid systems in large vacant parcels that currently have limited road access. Development of these lands and transportation networks align with the goals of several transportation and land use plans.

Bend has consistently been one of the fastest growing cities in the US for much of the past 20 years. This interchange serves a rapidly growing area in southern Bend.

- Thousands of homes have been approved for construction or are in the planning review process
- A new high school is also under construction in this area
- The Bend Park and Recreation District is currently building a new regional park
- Significant employment lands will be served by this interchange

Completing this interchange is critical to provide transportation routes choices in SE Bend, improve safety and to alleviate congestion on other roadways in that area.

Our residents approved a general obligation bond in November 2020 to construct a wide range of transportation improvements throughout the City. Included in that bond is \$10 million to put toward completion of this

BARB CAMPBELL, CHAIR
City of Bend Council

MEGAN PERKINS, VICE-CHAIR
City of Bend Council

RITA SCHENKELBERG
City of Bend Council

PHIL CHANG
Deschutes County Commission

ROBERT TOWNSEND
ODOT Region 4

TYLER DEKE, AICP
Manager

JOVI ANDERSON
Program Coordinator

ANDREA NAPOLI, AICP
Senior Planner

interchange. The City is seeking additional funding to fully construct the interchange and an associated frontage road.

We know there is fierce competition for transportation funding. The residents of Bend have demonstrated their commitment to building a robust transportation system, and we support the City's request for federal funding to complete this important project.

Thank you for your consideration of this project funding request. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Barb Campbell