

Agenda Items VI. And VII.

Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Study:
Resolution 03-16-03, Action
Resolution 03-16-04, Action

Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Study



At a Glance:

- ◆ *Resolution 03-16-03: Amends the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Study using \$150,000 in Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program funds, and amends the FY2016 UPWP*
- ◆ *Resolution 03-16-04: Authorizes entering into an agreement for professional services for the study*

Introduction

- ◆ BOS Study is follow up to AO Study recommendations adopted by RTC Board in November 2014
- ◆ RTC staff completed draft scope of work for BOS Feasibility Study
- ◆ Review and input by agency staff from WSDOT, ODOT, C-TRAN, Tri-Met, and Metro

AO Study Recommendations

Roadway Improvements

Added 2035 Projects into the 2014 RTP

WSDOT lead to implement short term operational improvements

Transit Operations

Bus on Shoulder assessment found time savings, reliability and improved commuter ridership potential

Recommended feasibility study to address viability, engineering, costs, and constraints

Phase One Outcomes

- ◆ Identify engineering, technical, operational, institutional, and policy considerations for BOS
- ◆ Determine viability and recommend whether the region should proceed with a comprehensive phase two implementation planning study
- ◆ If stakeholders agree to advance phase two, consider adopting regional BOS policies to guide how and when to consider BOS in other corridors

What is BOS?

- ◆ Transit vehicles can use the shoulder when mainline speeds fall below a predetermined speed or dynamic BOS
- ◆ Traffic speed threshold is generally 35 mph, with buses allowed 15 to 20 mph faster
- ◆ Different than hard shoulder running which can carry general purpose traffic and carpools with much higher vehicle volumes
- ◆ In 2014, more than 15 BOS systems in the US

BOS in Minneapolis-St. Paul



Minneapolis-St. Paul

- ◆ 300 mile network with no TOD restriction
- ◆ Outside shoulder system
- ◆ Bus shoulder use when freeway speeds drop below 35 mph
- ◆ Priority for shoulder use is always for emergencies and law enforcement
- ◆ First BOS lanes based on opportunity for easy implementation
- ◆ Shoulder width and pavement depth standards developed later

Triangle Transit

Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina



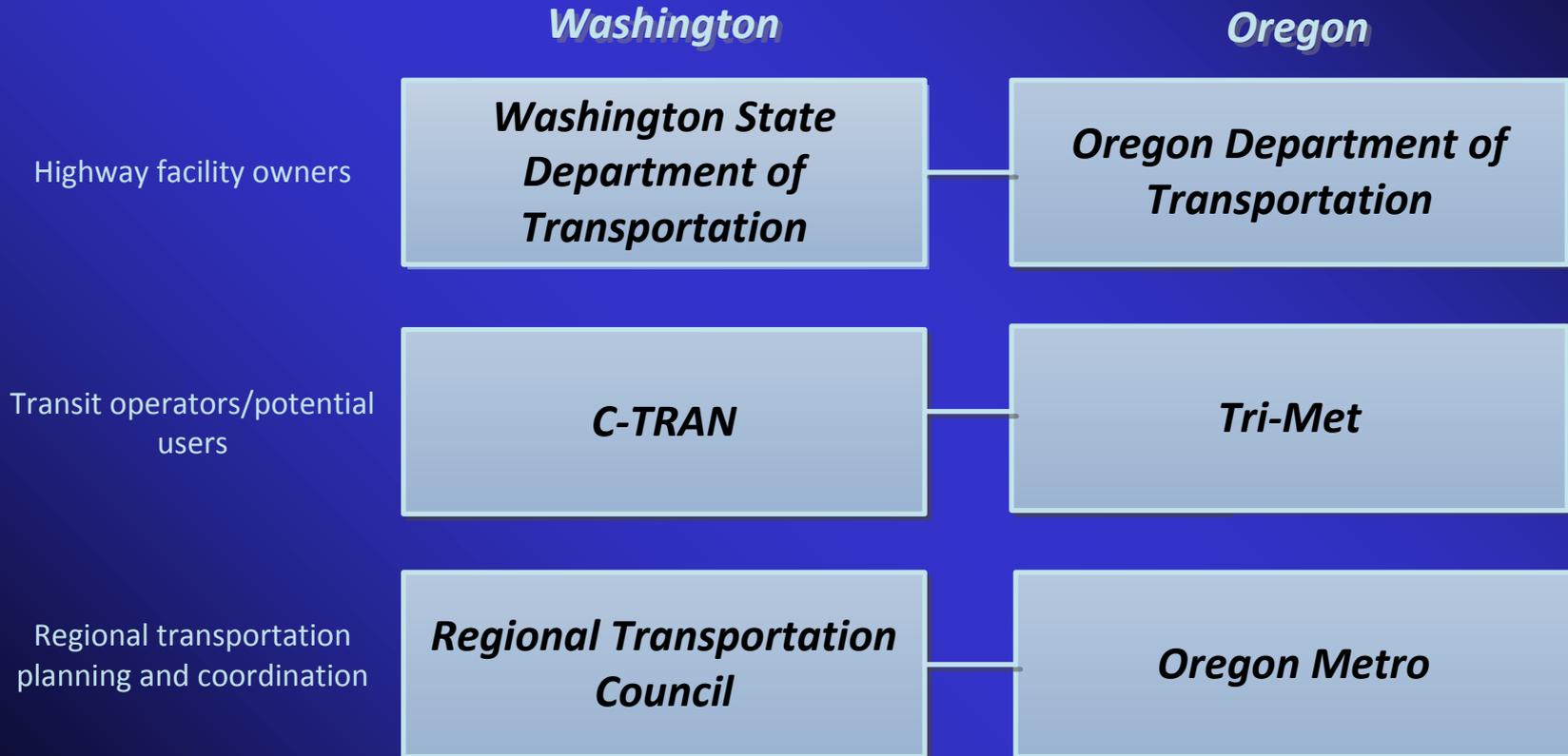
Triangle Transit

- ◆ 40 miles of outside shoulder system on I-40 used by 9 bus lines implemented in 2013
- ◆ BOSS initiative is partnership between NCDOT and GoTriangle
- ◆ Modeled after bus on shoulder program in Minnesota with same operating rules
- ◆ Shoulder priority for emergency responders eased their concerns
- ◆ Cost effective approach to improve transit efficiency and reliability

Consultant Selection Process

- ◆ RFQ advertised on October 21, 2015; responses submitted by DEA, HDR, and AECOM
- ◆ Selection of staff from WSDOT, C-TRAN, ODOT, Tri-Met, Metro, and RTC
- ◆ DEA team was unanimously recommended as most qualified

Partner Stakeholders



Study Engagement



Discuss and Adopt Study
and Policy
Recommendations

RTC Board of Directors

Other Policy Boards:

JPACT

Bi-State Coordination Committee

Discuss and Advance Policy
Recommendations to RTC
Board

***Regional Transportation
Advisory Committee***

Technical Workshop

*BOS operations, opportunities, constraints,
and safety*

Develop BOS concept

Analysis Support, Technical
Review, Agency Policies,
Study Recommendations

***BOS
Technical Advisory Committee***

Participation by study stakeholders
including: policy, management, and
technical agency staff

Budget Implication

Study Budget is \$173,410

- ◆ TIP Amendment
 - ◆ \$150,000 CMAQ funds; \$23,410 local match
- ◆ Scope of Work
 - ◆ \$137,600 in professional services; \$35,810 in agency funds

Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Study:



Actions

Resolution 03-16-03

- ◆ Amends the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to program the Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Study using \$150,000 in Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program funds
- ◆ Amends the FY2016 UPWP and

Resolution 03-16-04

- ◆ Authorizes the Executive Director to enter into a consulting services agreement for the study