



## STAFF REPORT/RESOLUTION

**TO:** Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors

**FROM:** Matt Ransom, Executive Director 

**DATE:** September 26, 2017

**SUBJECT:** **2021 Regional Competitive Grant Awards, Resolution 10-17-17**

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### AT A GLANCE - ACTION

*RTC Board action is requested to select 2021 regional competitive grant awards, for federal STBG and CMAQ funds. The recommended action was endorsed by the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC). Awarding grant funds to priority regional projects will provide approximately \$9.4 million in federal highway funds for implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan. The selected projects will be incorporated into the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) along with other regionally significant projects.*

### INTRODUCTION

Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council in consultation with member agencies is responsible for selecting projects for the regional allocation of federal highway funds. This includes the regional allocation of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds.

Since the need for transportation improvements exceeds the available revenue, and as required by federal regulation, a competitive grant process is conducted for the distribution of regionally allocated federal highway funds.

The overall goal of the Regional Grant Program is to assist local agencies in implementing the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) by providing funding for regional transportation improvements.

The regional grant selection process begins with local agencies identifying and submitting priority projects for consideration. The grant selection process includes the following three steps:

1. **Project Screening:** Projects are reviewed for consistency with the Regional Transportation Plan, land use plans, air quality goals, and regional screening criteria.
2. **Evaluation and Ranking by Needs Criteria:** Each project is evaluated and ranked against a set of needs criteria which have been adopted by the RTC Board.
3. **Project Selection and Programming:** Projects are selected and programmed for funding utilizing the project information generated by the previous steps.

The RTC Board at their September 5, 2017 meeting completed the first two steps, via their acceptance with the ranking of projects. Adoption of this resolution and the 2018-2021

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will complete the final step. RTAC at their September meeting recommended that the RTC Board of Directors select the STBG and CMAQ grant awards recommended in this resolution.

## REGIONAL PROJECT SELECTION

The regional 2021 grant award is completed by matching the project ranking to the available funding levels. Based on the project evaluation and ranking step, RTAC is recommending that the following projects be selected for either STBG or CMAQ grant awards and programmed in the 2018-2021 TIP:

### Surface Transportation Block Grant

The Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) is the most flexible of all the Federal Highway programs and can be used for a wide range of transportation improvements including highway, transit, and planning projects. The following STBG-Urban grant awards are recommended for funding:

#### Proposed STBG-Urban Projects

Rank	Agency	Project	Score	Phase	Year	Award	Total
1	RTC	2020 Regional Household Travel Survey	N/A	PE	2020	\$500,000	\$578,500
1	RTC	UPWP & CMP Support	N/A	PE	2021	\$450,000	\$520,232
1	RTC	VAST/TSMO Coordination	N/A	PE	2021	\$350,000	\$405,000
4	Clark County	Highway 99 Corridor Improvement	84	CN	2021	\$1,000,000	\$1,818,000
5	Vancouver	SE 1st Street, 164th Av. to 177th Av.	83	CN	2021	\$1,857,600	\$10,000,000
6	Battle Ground	Eaton Blvd., SW 20th Av. to SR-503	69	PE	2020	\$346,000	\$400,000
				RW	2021	\$825,000	\$953,757
7	Clark County	NE 99th Street, 94th Av. to 117th Av.	64	PE	2020	\$150,000	\$1,210,000
				CN	2021	\$1,400,000	\$11,200,000
						<b>\$6,878,600</b>	<b>\$27,085,489</b>

### Congestion Management and Air Quality

The Congestion Management and Air Quality (CMAQ) program is used for projects and programs that improve air quality and reduce congestion. CMAQ projects must demonstrate an air quality improvement within the Vancouver Air Quality Maintenance Area. The following CMAQ grant awards are recommended for funding:

#### Proposed CMAQ Projects

Rank	Agency	Project	Score	Phase	Year	Award	Total
1	Clark County	NE 134th Corridor Adaptive Traffic Signals	98	PE	2020	\$95,000	\$121,000
				CN	2021	\$523,000	\$667,000
2	WSDOT	I-205 NB @ Mill Plain Ramp Meter	76	PE	2020	\$48,400	\$65,000
				CN	2021	\$298,000	\$400,000
3	Clark County	System-Wide Signal Enhancement	76	PE	2021	\$471,000	\$600,000
4	C-TRAN	Bus Replacement	60	All	2021	\$1,100,000	\$4,110,000
						<b>\$2,535,400</b>	<b>\$5,963,000</b>

**POLICY IMPLICATION**

The 2021 regional grant selection is consistent with the adopted regional process and will support the goals of and further implement the Regional Transportation Plan. Proposed projects are consistent with the Congestion Management Process, air quality requirements, and are financially constrained.

**BUDGET IMPLICATION**

Action on this resolution will select and program approximately \$9.4 million in federal funds to enhance the regional transportation system in Clark County.

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Adoption of Resolution 10-17-17 “2021 Regional Competitive Grant Awards.”

ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2017,  
by the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council.

SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON  
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

ATTEST:

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Jeanne E. Stewart  
Chair of the Board

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Matt Ransom  
Executive Director