



## STAFF REPORT/RESOLUTION

**TO:** Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Matt Ransom, Executive Director  
**DATE:** August 28, 2018   
**SUBJECT:** **City of Vancouver Project Delay Request – Mill Plain Boulevard, 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Chkalov Drive, Resolution 09-18-18**

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### AT A GLANCE - ACTION

*The RTC Board is being asked to take action to grant the City of Vancouver a 3<sup>rd</sup> year of project delay for the construction of the Mill Plain Boulevard, 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Chkalov Drive project. This action will allow the City to delay obligation of \$2 million in federal STBG funds into federal fiscal year 2019.*

### INTRODUCTION

RTC policies and procedures, as outlined in the Transportation Guidebook, allow for regionally selected federal projects to be granted additional time for project delivery under certain conditions.

RTC's process requires that projects be delivered by August in the year funds are programmed within the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). If the sponsoring agency cannot meet the August obligation deadline, the sponsoring agency must contact RTC in writing by March to request a project delay.

The basic policy/procedures for project delays are (Guidebook Policies 5.3 to 5.8):

1. Design Phase cannot be granted a delay.
2. Right of Way and Construction phases are allowed a one year delay (1<sup>st</sup> year delay).
3. If delay does not impact regional obligation authority the following additional delays can be sought:
  - a. RTAC can approve one additional year of delay (2<sup>nd</sup> year delay).
  - b. RTAC and RTC Board can approve another year (3<sup>rd</sup> year delay).

The City of Vancouver has experienced delays associated with the right-of-way phase, and is requesting a 3rd year project delay exception. The City believes that obligation will occur in 2018, but construction may need to be delayed to early 2019. Construction has previously been delayed twice. The City of Vancouver letter requesting an additional year of delay is attached.

The Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) reviewed this project delay at their August meeting and has recommended that the RTC Board approve this delay. This additional year delay will not impact the regions ability to meet our obligation targets, as long as funds are obligated by September 2019.

**POLICY IMPLICATION**

This project delay is consistent with the project delay policies as outlined in the Transportation Programming Guidebook. This will allow the Mill Plain Boulevard project to be programmed in the 2019 STIP and have construction delayed into early 2019.

**BUDGET IMPLICATION**

Action on this delay will delay \$2 million in federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds into federal fiscal year 2019. Despite this delay, the region has already met our obligation target for year 2018, and there is no concern that the region will lose federal funds. However, a delay beyond September 2019 could result in the loss of federal funds to the region.

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Adoption of Resolution 09-18-18: “City of Vancouver Project Delay Request – Mill Plain Boulevard, 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Chkalov Drive.”

ADOPTED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of September 2018, by the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council.

SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON  
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

ATTEST:

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Ron Onslow  
Chair of the Board

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Matt Ransom  
Executive Director

Attachment: City of Vancouver Letter



Matt Ransom, Executive Director  
Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council  
PO Box 1366  
Vancouver, WA 98666-1366

RE: S.E. Mill Plain Boulevard - 104th Avenue to Chkalov Drive – Extension Request

Dear Matt,

I am writing to inform you that I believe this project cannot make the August obligation deadline and would like to go through the process of requesting an extension. I do believe that we will have the construction phase obligated this year. It will not happen by August.

The main issue holding up the project is a delay in the Right of Way Phase. Access Management Approval wasn't granted by the WSDOT until late 2017. Appraisals and negotiations for purchasing Access rights and necessary Right of Way from the five abutting parcels in the proposed EB Mill Plain to SB I-205 on ramp extension (105th Ave to 107th Ave) could not begin until after the required Access Management Process. Negotiations with several of the owners are ongoing and we feel that we are close to reaching agreements with them. The City of Vancouver appreciates the opportunity to make this request.

If you have questions I can be reached at (360)487-7709 or [jeff.schmidt@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:jeff.schmidt@cityofvancouver.us)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Schmidt", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeff Schmidt, PE  
Senior Civil Engineer, Project Manager