STAFF REPORT/RESOLUTION

TO: Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors
FROM: Matt Ransom, Executive Director
DATE: September 25, 2018
SUBJECT: 2022 Regional Competitive Grant Awards, Resolution 10-18-21

AT A GLANCE - ACTION

The action requested is to select the year 2022 regional competitive grant awards for federal STBG and CMAQ funds. The recommended action was endorsed by the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) at their monthly meeting on September 21, 2018. Awarding grant funds to priority regional projects will provide approximately $7.6 million in federal highway funds for implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan. The selected projects will be incorporated into the 2019-2022 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 4, 2018 meeting completed the first two steps, via their acceptance with the ranking of projects. Adoption of this resolution and the 2019-2022
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 2022 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 2019-2022 TIP:

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 award is recommended for funding:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>C-TRAN</td>
<td>Mill Plain Bus Rapid Transit</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>CN</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
<td>$21,025,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$2,000,000 $21,025,000

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>RTC</td>
<td>Strategic Regional Partnership Planning</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>$462,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>RTC</td>
<td>UPWP &amp; CMP Support</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$475,000</td>
<td>$549,133</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>RTC</td>
<td>VAST Coordination and Management</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
<td>$405,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>NE 137th Avenue, 49th St. to Fourth Plain</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>CN</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$1,950,000</td>
<td>$16,500,000</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>C-TRAN</td>
<td>Mill Plain Bus Rapid Transit</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>CN</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>$21,025,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Battle Ground</td>
<td>SE Grace Avenue, Main to Rasmussen</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>BW</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>$2,305,000</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Clark County</td>
<td>NE 99th St., 94th Av. to 117th Av.</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>CN</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>$13,300,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$5,575,000 $54,546,633

POLICY IMPLICATION

The 2022 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.

The Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC) reviewed the DRAFT 2022 Regional Competitive Grant Awards at their September 21, 2018 meeting and recommended RTC Board approval.

**BUDGET IMPLICATION**

Action on this resolution will select and program approximately $7.6 million in federal funds to enhance the regional transportation system in Clark County.

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Adoption of Resolution 10-18-21 “2022 Regional Competitive Grant Awards.”

ADOPTED this 2nd day of October 2018, by the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council.

SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

Ron Onslow
Chair of the Board

ATTEST:

Matt Ransom
Executive Director