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January 31, 2012

Mayor Adams and Portland City Council
Portland City Hall
1121 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

RE: Recommendation for Approval of Minor Transportation System Plan Amendment for Portland Milwaukee Light Rail and Land Use Final Order

Dear Mayor Adams and Members of the Portland City Council:

On December 13th, 2011, the Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) held a public hearing on a request to amend the Transportation System Plan, a component of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The project is about implementation of the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail and the changes were required by a Land Use Final Order (LUFO) - a Federal order through Metro.

Portland Milwaukee LRT is listed in the 2002 and 2006 TSPs and is now in the implementation stage. As a part of this process, four previous City Council decisions were made by resolution (Water Avenue Realignment; Clinton to the River Multi-Use Path; North Macadam; and South Waterfront Street Plan), which informed the LUFO, and now LUFO informs the need to amend the TSP.

The amendment is to reflect the project that will be built, so that it is in alignment and meets the Federal requirement.

All four previous projects had public involvement and outreach; this particular project had an open house in September 2011. PSC held a hearing because there is not a process in our City code for LUFO amendments, so we wanted to give the public an opportunity to comment. There was no public testimony.

The City is under periodic review for the Comprehensive Plan, which includes TSP updates. There is an allowance for minor amendments to implement existing projects already in the TSP, and this project fits that criteria. Also the Federal government through the LUFO requires the City to make the changes. DLCD approved the process as well.

For a Transportation Plan Amendment, the PSC's role is to determine the amendment's compliance with relevant city plans and policies. The Commission finds that the amendment meets the plans and policies as presented in the staff findings.



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Recommendation:

- Amend the City's Transportation System Plan, the Comprehensive Plan, and the Public Facilities Plan as specified in the staff report and ordinance; and
- Adopt the ordinance as drafted.

Sincerely,



Andre' Baugh
Chair, Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission

