

Memo



Date: November 22, 2023
To: Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC) and interested parties
From: John Mermin, Senior Transportation Planner
Subject: Administrative amendment to the 2023-24 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Background

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is developed annually by Metro as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Portland Metropolitan Area. It is a federally-required document that serves as a guide for transportation planning activities to be conducted over the course of each fiscal year, beginning on July 1. The UPWP is developed by Metro with input from local governments, TriMet, ODOT, FHWA, and FTA. It includes all planning projects that will be receiving federal funds for the upcoming fiscal year. The UPWP describes a process for administrative amendments: 1) Notify TPAC; 2) Send amendment to USDOT for approval.

See attached project narrative which documents (in tracked changes) an increase in the budget of Metro's Climate Smart Implementation project from a federal Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) grant. This expanded work would enhance planned (1) monitoring the progress of Climate Smart, (2) coordinating with Metro Research and State of Oregon data partners to improve regional climate data, (3) tracking and evaluation of the effectiveness of the CRP funding investments for GHG benefits and (4) ongoing and expanded communication with local partners on Climate Smart implementation.

Next Steps

Metro staff will forward notice of this amendment to USDOT staff for approval and these changes will be reflected on the Metro's UPWP webpage.

Please contact John Mermin, john.mermin@oregonmetro.gov if you have any questions about this amendment.

Climate Smart Implementation

Staff Contact: Kim Ellis, kim.ellis@oregonmetro.gov

Description

The Climate Smart Strategy Implementation program is an ongoing activity to support regional climate mitigation and local and regional implementation of the region's [Climate Smart Strategy](#) (first adopted in 2014) to meet state-mandated carbon pollution reduction targets. This includes monitoring and reporting on the region's progress in achieving the policies and actions adopted in the strategy through scheduled updates to the [Regional Transportation Plan](#) (RTP), and ensuring implementation activities and updates to the strategy meet the Oregon [Metropolitan Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Target Rule](#) and the Oregon [Transportation Planning Rule](#). The program also includes technical and policy support to ensure MPO activities, including implementation of the RTP and the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP), support regional and state greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and implementation of [climate-friendly and equitable communities rules](#) and the [Statewide Transportation Strategy for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Transportation](#). This program supports RTP policy goals: climate action and resilience, equitable transportation, safe system, mobility options, and thriving economy.

Typical program activities include maintaining a public webpage; providing technical support; and working with state, regional and local partners and Metro's regional policy and technical advisory committees to support local and regional implementation and monitoring activities. Metro staff will complete an update the region's Climate Smart Strategy as part of the update of the RTP in Fall 2023. The program will then transition to focus on supporting local and regional implementation of the updated strategy and [climate-friendly and equitable communities rules](#).

New this year, Metro will be using the Climate Smart Strategy as a policy framework to implement the new federal Climate Reduction Program funding that was allocated to TMAs in Oregon in the Bistate Infrastructure Law (BIL). Metro will do this work in close coordination with ODOT and alignment with the statewide Sustainable Transportation Strategy (STS). Metro facilitated a regional process in the Spring of 2023 with the intent of programming the funds at the end of 2023.

Key FY 22-23 deliverables and milestones included:

- Provided technical and policy support for implementation and monitoring at the regional and state level, including coordinating the implementation of Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities rulemaking by the Land Conservation and Development Commission.
- Updated the Climate Smart Strategy as part of the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan update;
- Planning work and coordination with Metro's modeling team and state agencies to advance the region's climate modeling and analysis tools for the 2023 RTP.
- Allocate Metro's share of the federal Climate Reduction Program (CRP) funding, using Climate Smart Strategy as a policy framework
- Provided communications and legislative support to the Metro Council and agency leadership on issues specific to climate change.

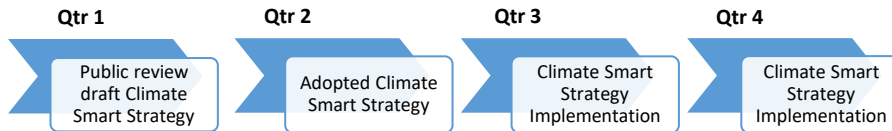
Consultant services will support climate communications and completing an update to the Climate Smart Strategy. Other UPWP projects that will inform updating and implementation of the Climate Smart Strategy include: Regional Transportation Plan Update (2023), Regional Transit Program and

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High Capacity Transit Strategy update, Complete Streets Program, Regional Travel Options and Safe Routes to School Program, Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) Program, Better Bus Program, Regional Emergency Transportation Routes, TriMet Comprehensive Fleet and Service Planning, local and regional TOD and Station Area Planning, ODOT Region 1 Active Transportation Strategy, and the ODOT Region 1 Urban Arterials Assessment Strategy.

More information can be found at oregonmetro.gov/climatesmart and the Regional Transportation Plan at oregonmetro.gov/rtp.

Key Project Deliverables / Milestones



FY 2023-24 Cost and Funding Sources

Requirements:		Resources:	
Personnel Services	\$ <u>101,717</u>	STBG	\$ 45,942
Materials & Services ¹	\$ 313,000	STBG Match (Metro)	\$ 5,258
Indirect Costs	\$ <u>41,602</u>	CRP	\$ <u>82,658</u>
		CRP Match (Metro)	\$ <u>9,461</u>
		Metro Direct	\$ 313,000
		Contribution	
TOTAL	\$ <u>456,319</u>	TOTAL	\$ <u>456,319</u>

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¹ The budgeted amount for Materials & Services includes potential costs for consultant activities.