

**SULTAN CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

ITEM NO: A-1

DATE: July 12, 2007

SUBJECT: Set a Public Hearing date for the
2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Plan

CONTACT PERSON: Deborah Knight, City Administrator

ISSUE:

The issue before the City Council is to set a public hearing for the Council meeting on July 26, 2007 to take public comment on the 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

City staff recommend the City Council set a public hearing for the Council meeting on July 26, 2007 to take public comment on the 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Plan (Attachment A) as required by RCW 35.77.010.

SUMMARY:

State law (RCW 35.77.010) mandates that all local jurisdictions annually adopt and submit to the state a six-year program of transportation improvements known as the Local TIP.

The City is currently updating the Capital Facilities Element and Transportation Element of its 2004 Comprehensive Plan. Transportation capital projects are a subset of the Capital Facilities Element. Transportation capital projects are generated out of the 20-year list of projects included in the revised Transportation Element under discussion by the Planning Board and City Council. The funded projects included in the six-year TIP will be included in the six-year Capital Improvement Plan adopted by the City Council later this year.

The importance of the Sultan TIP is that, in most cases, projects must be included on the Local TIP to be eligible for state and federal grant programs. The proposed Local TIP includes several projects that would compete well against state and federal grant program criteria.

Sultan Six-Year TIP

The proposed City of Sultan 2008-2013 Local TIP includes projects from the 20-year list of transportation projects prepared for the Transportation Element update. The projects were prioritized using the evaluation criteria (Attachment B) approved by the City Council in April 2007.

Many of the projects approved by the City for the 2006 six-year TIP are included in the 2007 TIP. These include:

- (T-45) Alder Street Improvements
- (T-44) Pine Street Extension
- (T-43) Walbrun Road Re-routing
- (T-26) North Industrial Park Collector street
- (NM-5) US 2 Multi-purpose trail

Three projects – Date Avenue, Sultan Basin Road Overlay and Widening and 2nd Street Construction are uncompleted projects included in the City's adopted 2007 Capital Budget that are fully funded and considered "under construction".

The list includes projects in which the City could be a partner, but not necessarily the lead agency such as (T-34) US2/Downtown Limited Access and (NM-5) US 2 Multi-purpose Trail.

Project costs were reviewed and updated to reflect current market conditions for construction materials.

The project costs listed in the "totals" column of the attachment represent the revised cost estimates prepared by Perteet Engineering or the City Engineer, Jon Stack. Because the Local TIP is not revenue constrained, project costs are given one of two designations:

1. Secured Funding – Projects with secured funding have local or other sources of funding dedicated to support full or partial project implementation.
2. Unsecured Funding – This designation reflects the portion of the project costs that have no dedicated source of funding at this time. Projects outside the six year time frame (2014-2025) are included on the list for planning purposes should funding become available within the six-year time frame.

BACKGROUND:

The City Council and Planning Board have reviewed the Capital Improvement Plan and the subset list of transportation projects (TIP) at a number of meetings:

- February 2007 – City Council directs staff to begin the annual Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) adoption process. The subset of transportation projects in the CIP become the six-year TIP.
- March 2007 – Planning Board discusses the evaluation criteria used to prioritize capital projects and makes a recommendation to the City Council.
- The CIP was included in the Open House on March 13, 2007. Unfortunately there were no comments from the public on the Capital Improvement Plan.
- April 2007 – City Council approves the evaluation criteria.
- A second open house was held on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 to take public comment on the proposed CIP and six-year TIP.
- A press release asking for public input on proposed projects was sent to local newspapers, posted on the City's website, and Channel 21 (Attachment C).
- April 2007 – Council subcommittee reviewed the 20-year list of proposed projects and suggested adding three projects – 1) extending 124th Avenue from the Water Treatment Plant to Trout Farm Road; 2) Extending Trout Farm Road north toward the Sultan River crossing; 3) An extension of the Industrial Park Connector road to the Sultan Basin Road.
- May 2007 - Planning Board reviews the 20-year list of transportation projects at its May 1 and May 15 meetings. City Council reviews the 20-year list of transportation projects at its May 10 and May 24 meetings.
- June 2007 – Planning Board reviews the Transportation Element and associated Transportation Improvement Plan. City Council reviews Capital Improvement Plan financial analysis.

Next Steps – Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on the six-year TIP at its July 19, 2007 meeting and make a recommendation to the City Council. The City Council will hold a public hearing at its July 26, 2007 meeting and adopt the six-year TIP by resolution.

DISCUSSION:

Local TIP

The six-year local TIP serves as a rough work plan for the development of local transportation systems and, as such, represents an important planning component under the State's Growth Management Act. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) use Local TIPs as a tool for coordinating the transportation programs of local jurisdictions with

those of regional agencies. PSRC also monitors Local TIPs for projects of regional significance (to be modeled for Air Quality conformity) and projects supported by federal funds. These projects are incorporated into the Regional TIP, which is then forwarded for inclusion in the State TIP.

Because Local TIPs are not revenue constrained, jurisdictions can include projects they would choose to implement within the six-year timeframe, if funding were available. Local TIPs then, by definition, represent a more comprehensive listing of projects deemed necessary to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the City's transportation system.

Public Comment

Public comment on the TIP has been limited to (T-28) Dyer/Skywall Extension, (T-44) Pine Rd Extension and (T-35) Cascade View Drive Realignment. Residents have also commented on extending 124th Avenue to Trout Farm Road which is not a part of the proposed six-year TIP. The Dyer/Skywall Extension is also not a part of the proposed six-year TIP.

A resident on Walbrun Rd expressed concern regarding the (T-44) Pine Rd Extension which would provide an emergency evacuation route from downtown to Sultan Basin. However, if the road were constructed, Perteet engineering estimates the road would have approximately 1000 trips per day. The resident stated homeowners on Walbrun would not support connecting Pine Rd to Walbrun. The City Council may want to consider limited access to emergency vehicles and evacuation only during adoption of the CIP.

The Fire District is not supportive of connecting 330th to Cascade View Drive through the recently purchased Fire District Property. Although, the Fire Board recognized the need for a roadway connection between US 2 and Cascade View Dr. City staff recommend leaving the project in place but removing the reference in the project to the alignment at 330th.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no specific fiscal impact with adopting the 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Plan because Local TIPs are not revenue constrained. The TIP includes projects the City would choose to implement within the timeframe if funding were available.

The fiscal impact comes from including the TIP in the six-year Capital Improvement Plan. The six-year CIP is the list of facilities (including transportation projects) the City intends to build over the next six-years to meet concurrency with a financing plan to pay for the projects. The six-year TIP shows funding sources for projects between 2008 and 2013.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Set a public hearing for the Council meeting on July 26, 2007 to take public comment on the 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Plan (Attachment A) as required by RCW 35.77.010.

Due to its value in planning and its potential use in securing external funding, City staff recommend setting the public hearing for the City of Sultan 2008-2013 TIP.

2. Do not set the public hearing for the Council meeting on July 26, 2007 and direct staff to areas of concern.

This alternative would delay adopting the 2008-2013 TIP. The City would miss the August 1, 2007 deadline for submitting the TIP to the Washington State Department of Transportation.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

I MOVE THE CITY COUNCIL SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING ON JULY 26, 2007 TO TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE 2008-2013 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN (TIP).

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – 2008-2013 Transportation Improvement Plan
Attachment B – Evaluation Criteria
Attachment C – Prioritized list of projects
Attachment D – WSDOT Highways and Local Programs

COUNCIL ACTION:

DATE: