MEMORANDUM

TO: Thurston Regional Planning Council
FROM: Holly Gilbert, Senior Planner
DATE: January 27, 2017
SUBJECT: RTIP Amendment 17-03

PURPOSE

Discuss a proposed amendment to the 2017-2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP).

Summary:

- An amendment has been requested by the City of Tumwater to the 2017-2020 RTIP. The amendment is for the Deschutes Valley Trail project and reflects that there is an updated project cost. The increase is at a level that triggers a formal amendment.
- The project amendment is consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan.

REQUESTED ACTION

Discuss the proposed amendments in preparation for action in March.
BACKGROUND

About the RTIP and STIP
The RTIP is a four-year programming document derived from the comprehensive six-year Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) that each local agency develops and adopts annually. In turn, the RTIP is used by the state to prepare the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

The RTIP serves these main purposes:
1) It identifies a list of transportation projects that will be forwarded to the state for inclusion in the STIP. For federally funded projects, even if project funding has been awarded, it is not available to jurisdictions and agencies until the project is included in the STIP. To be included in the STIP, projects must be programmed for funding (funding-secured) in local Transportation Improvement Plans (TIPs) in the four-year period for both urban and rural areas and meet one or more of the following criteria:
   a. Have federal funding
   b. Are WSDOT projects
   c. Are regionally significant, regardless of funding source.
2) It demonstrates financial constraint for the projects referenced above.
3) It demonstrates consistency with RCW 36.70A, Section 70 of the Washington State Growth Management Act requiring transportation planning to be coordinated and consistent with local comprehensive plans.
4) It demonstrates that regionally significant projects programmed for funding during the time period will not cause or contribute to any new violation of the federal air quality standards for particulate matter of 10 microns or less (PM_{10}), will not increase the frequency or severity of any existing violation of the standards, nor delay timely attainment of the standards.
5) It identifies other programmed and planned transportation projects adopted in local six-year Transportation Improvement Programs.

RTIP and STIP Amendments
Federal requirements stipulate that changes to the RTIP require an amendment to the original document, which then triggers an amendment to the STIP. This is important because a jurisdiction cannot proceed with a project for which it has been awarded federal money until the STIP is formally amended and approved by the federal agencies.

Depending upon the kind of change required of the RTIP, this amendment may be a "formal amendment" process or a streamlined “administrative modification.” TRPC’s amendment and modifying processes for the RTIP incorporates guidance provided by WSDOT on amending and modifying the STIP.

The project under consideration today requires an amendment to the RTIP, which in turn will trigger amendment to the STIP.

Amendment Request
The City of Tumwater requests an amendment to the 2017-2020 RTIP, requiring TRPC action. At your February meeting, the Council will discuss the amendment in preparation for action in March.

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<th>Amendment requested by the City of Tumwater</th>
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<tr>
<td>Project Title</td>
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The Transportation Policy Board (TPB) will consider the amendment request at their February meeting and forward a recommendation to TRPC to be included in your March staff report.

Public comment will be solicited and any received will also be included in your March staff report.