

**Project Eligibility Criteria and Prioritization Factors
For the 2008-2011 Development STIP and Construction STIP
Process Overview
Eligibility Criteria**

Development STIP Major projects	Construction STIP*		
	Modernization projects	Preservation projects	Bridge replacement/rehabilitation projects
<p>Development work on major projects may be eligible for funding if it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Supports the definition of “Development STIP” approved by the Oregon Transportation Commission ◆ Addresses an unmet transportation need in the applicable acknowledged transportation system plan(s) (TSP) or, in the absence of an applicable acknowledged TSP(s), the applicable acknowledged comprehensive plan and any applicable adopted TSP(s). or Addresses project need, mode, function and general location for a transportation need identified in an acknowledged TSP. or Is identified as a project of statewide significance or as a federal discretionary project. ◆ Has funding adequate to complete the identified milestone.¹ 	<p>Modernization projects may be eligible for funding if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Are consistent with the applicable acknowledged transportation system plan (TSP) or, in the absence of an applicable acknowledged TSP, the applicable acknowledged comprehensive plan and any applicable adopted TSP.⁵ ◆ Are consistent with the Oregon Highway Plan policy on Major Improvements (Policy 1G, Action 1.G.1), where applicable.⁶ 	<p>Pavement Preservation projects may be eligible for funding if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Are identified through the Pavement Management System process.¹² 	<p>Bridge replacement and rehabilitation projects may be eligible for funding if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Are identified through the Bridge Management System process.¹⁶ ◆ Are improvements or work needed to rebuild or extend the service life of existing bridges and structures (includes replacement of an existing bridge).

* To the extent that legislative action (e.g., HB 2041) applies, the criteria in the legislation will control in the event of a conflict.

Prioritization Factors
Used to Select Projects for Funding from the Pool of Eligible Projects

Development STIP Major projects	Construction STIP		
	Modernization projects	Preservation projects	Bridge replacement/rehabilitation projects
<p>Priority shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ D-STIP project suitability (an assessment of the level of work completed to achieve the planned D-STIP milestone). ◆ Projects that best support the policies of the Oregon Highway Plan.² ◆ Projects that have already completed one or more D-STIP milestones. ◆ Projects that have funding identified for development or construction³ ◆ Major Modernization Projects that leverage other funds and public benefits.⁴ 	<p>Priority shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Project readiness (an assessment of the likelihood of a project getting to construction in the timeframe contemplated).⁷ ◆ Projects that best support the policies of the Oregon Highway Plan.⁸ ◆ Projects that support freight mobility.⁹ ◆ Projects that leverage other funds and public benefits.¹⁰ ◆ Class 1 and 3 projects that have completed an environmental milestone of a Record of Decision (ROD) or Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) (see footnote for Class 2 projects).¹¹ 	<p>Priority shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Project readiness (an assessment of the likelihood of a project getting to construction in the timeframe contemplated).¹³ ◆ Projects that best support the policies of the Oregon Highway Plan.¹⁴ ◆ Projects that leverage other funds and public benefits.¹⁵ 	<p>Priority shall be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Projects that support the approved Bridge Options Report. (This prioritization factor is not intended to limit bridge projects to those identified in the Bridge Options Report, but to give priority to those identified in the report.)¹⁷ ◆ Projects that best support the policies of the Oregon Highway Plan.¹⁸ ◆ Projects that leverage other funds and public benefits.¹⁹

1 **Project Eligibility Criteria and Prioritization Factors**
2 **Process Description and Guidance**
3 **For the 2008-2011 Development STIP and Construction STIP**
4

5 **I. Introduction**
6

7 The Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) approved the Project Eligibility Criteria and
8 Prioritization Factors to assist Area Commissions on Transportation (ACTs), Metropolitan
9 Planning Organizations (MPOs), or regional or statewide advisory groups advising the OTC on
10 the selection of Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) projects. The document
11 gives basic definitions and funding information and provides guidance pertaining to roles and
12 responsibilities, project selection and documentation. More information about the ACT process,
13 advisory committees, Oregon transportation management systems, other STIP programs and
14 funding is available on the Internet (see Appendix A).
15

16 The OTC establishes program goals, funding levels and regional funding distribution at the start
17 of each two-year STIP update. These policy decisions are made separate from these eligibility
18 criteria and prioritization factors and are not part of this document. (See Appendix B for the
19 decision-making process.)
20

21 **A. Roles and Responsibilities**
22

23 The OTC will make the final selections for all projects included in the STIP. The Commission
24 will consider the advice and recommendations that it receives from ACTs, MPOs and regional or
25 statewide advisory groups. ODOT will provide tools necessary to enable an ACT to carry out its
26 responsibilities under these criteria. Geographic areas that do not have an ACT must adhere to
27 the same standards of accountability as ACTs (*Policy on Formation and Operation of the Area*
28 *Commissions on Transportation*, Section VI, Basis for Decision Making) and demonstrate to the
29 OTC that recommendations were developed in accordance with these criteria and factors. In
30 making final project selections, the OTC will ensure that ACTs, MPOs and regional or statewide
31 advisory groups have based their considerations on the criteria and will ensure projects are
32 distributed according to the funding allocations approved by the OTC for the 2008–2011 STIP.
33

34 In making decisions, the OTC applies both regional and statewide perspective, optimizes
35 system effectiveness in decisions for the state system and strives to develop and operate an
36 integrated intermodal transportation system that facilitates the safe, efficient and economic
37 movement of people and goods. (*Policy on Formation and Operation of the Area Commissions*
38 *on Transportation*, Section III. Authority)
39

40 **B. Definitions**
41

42 STIP includes both the Development and Construction sections of the Statewide Transportation
43 Improvement Program. The D-STIP houses projects that require more than 4 years to develop
44 or for which construction funding needs to be obtained. Projects that can complete the
45 development process and be ready for bid within 4 years or less may be placed directly into the
46 C-STIP.

1 Development STIP (D-STIP)

2
3 The Oregon Transportation Commission approved the following definition for the D-STIP:

4
5 *Projects approved and funded for development through specific milestones and within*
6 *specific timeframes, which include the following characteristics:*

- 7
8 A. *Projects approved for funding through specific milestones such as National*
9 *Environmental Policy ACT (NEPA) design-level environmental documents,*
10 *right of way acquisition, and final plans; or*
11
12 B. *Projects for which needed improvements have been identified but a final*
13 *solution either has not been determined or needs further design and analysis.*

14
15 *The types of projects that tend to have one or more of the above characteristics include*
16 *statewide significant projects, federal earmark or demonstration projects, modernization*
17 *or major bridge replacement projects, and discretionary projects (projects eligible to*
18 *receive federal discretionary funds).*

19
20 Construction STIP (C-STIP)

21
22 The C-STIP identifies project scheduling and funding for the state's transportation preservation
23 and capital improvement program for a four-year construction period. This program meets the
24 requirements of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), the federal act that
25 provides funds to states for transportation projects. For application of these criteria and
26 prioritization factors, C-STIP means Modernization, Preservation and Bridge projects.

27
28 Other STIP Programs

29
30 Other STIP programs (examples include Safety, Bicycle/Pedestrian, Transit, Congestion
31 Mitigation/Air Quality Improvement, Transportation Enhancement, and Scenic Byways) are not
32 addressed in this document. More information about programs funded in the STIP is available
33 in the *Draft 2006-2009 STIP*.

34
35 **C. Project Selection**

36
37 Eligibility Criteria and Prioritization Factors have been developed for both the Development
38 STIP (D-STIP) and the Construction STIP (C-STIP). ACTs, MPOs and others, including those
39 where an ACT does not exist, shall apply both regional and statewide perspectives in making
40 their recommendations. The Commission anticipates that most projects considered by ACTs,
41 MPOs and regional or statewide advisory groups would be the outcomes of planning and the
42 transportation management systems maintained by ODOT. ODOT Region staff shall assist the
43 ACT in developing recommendations as described in the *Policy on Formation and Operation of*
44 *the ACTS*, Section II. D, Role of ODOT Staff.

45
46 ACTs, MPOs and regional or statewide advisory groups should use this document as a guide
47 when they evaluate projects for the STIP on the state highway system and for off-system
48 projects that support implementation of the Oregon Highway Plan (OHP), in accordance with
49 Policy 2B: off-system improvements. Projects recommended for funding in the STIP should
50 have consistent application of the project eligibility criteria and prioritizing factors. ACTs, MPOs
51 and regional or statewide advisory groups may use additional criteria to select and rank projects

1 provided the criteria are consistent with the project eligibility criteria and prioritization factors
2 adopted by the OTC. If requested, ODOT staff will provide a model to assist with project
3 ranking. This process recognizes regional differences and is consistent with the *Oregon*
4 *Transportation Plan* (Policy 2G) and the *Policy on Formation and Operation of the Area*
5 *Commissions on Transportation*, Section VI, Basis for Decisionmaking.

6
7 **In MPO areas designated as Transportation Management Areas (TMA)**, all projects using
8 federal title 23 or Federal Transit Act funds, shall be prioritized for programming in the
9 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) from an approved Regional Transportation Plan by
10 the MPO in consultation with the State and transit operators. The State, MPO and transit
11 operators jointly program the prioritized projects. Should funding conflicts arise within a program
12 year, projects on the NHS and projects funded under the Bridge and Interstate Maintenance
13 programs shall be selected by the State, in cooperation with the MPO, from the approved
14 metropolitan TIP. Other projects utilizing federal funds shall be selected by the MPO in
15 cooperation with the State and transit operators.

16
17
18 **In MPO areas not designated as TMAs**, projects using federal title 23 or Federal Transit Act
19 funds, other than Federal Lands Highways program funds, shall be selected by the State and/or
20 the transit operator, in cooperation with the MPO, from the approved metropolitan Regional
21 Transportation Plan.

22
23 **Outside MPO areas**, transportation projects undertaken on the NHS and projects funded under
24 the Bridge and Interstate Maintenance programs will be selected by the State in consultation
25 with the affected local officials. Other transportation projects undertaken with funds
26 administered by FHWA, other than federal lands highway projects, shall be selected by the
27 State in cooperation with the affected local officials and projects undertaken with Federal Transit
28 Act funds shall be selected by the State in cooperation with the appropriate affected local
29 officials and transit operators

30
31 ACTs and MPOs should consult with each other during their STIP and MTIP development
32 processes to achieve a coordination of projects wherever possible. Where ACT and MPO
33 boundaries overlap, a higher level of clearly defined coordination is needed. Where this occurs,
34 the MPO and ACT should jointly agree on a process for maintaining consistency between ACT
35 recommendations and the MPO Plan and MTIP (*Policy on Formation and Operation of the Area*
36 *Commissions on Transportation*, Section VII. G, Coordination).

37 38 Project Eligibility Criteria

39
40 ACTs, MPOs, or regional or statewide advisory groups advising the OTC on the selection of
41 STIP projects for funding on the state highway system or for off-system projects that support
42 implementation of the OHP shall apply the project eligibility criteria. The project eligibility criteria
43 are a first screen so that additional efforts can be focused to determine which projects they will
44 evaluate further for funding. The eligibility criteria are not listed in any particular order. Projects
45 must satisfy these criteria, at a minimum, before they are given further consideration.

46 47 Prioritization Factors

48
49 The prioritization factors are to be used to ensure consistent consideration of the relative merits
50 of projects by ACTs, MPOs and regional or statewide advisory groups. With the exception of
51 project readiness which shall have greater weight, the prioritization factors are not listed in any

1 particular order and do not have any implied weight. To provide for regional differences, ACTs,
2 MPOs and regional or statewide advisory groups may use additional factors to rank projects
3 provided the factors are consistent with the factors adopted by the OTC. If an ACT, MPO or
4 regional or statewide advisory group chooses to use additional prioritization factors, they must
5 inform those developing project proposals about the factors prior to the beginning of the project
6 submittal period. When developing a tool to evaluate OHP policies, OHP Appendix A2 provides
7 definitional information to facilitate shared understanding of the goals, policies and actions of the
8 OHP policy element.
9

10 **D. Project Documentation**

11 ACTs, MPOs and regional or statewide advisory groups making recommendations to the OTC
12 shall document the analysis used to develop recommendations. The supporting information
13 should include the following:
14

- 15 1. Project description
- 16 2. Project justification
 - 17 ♦ Identify the planning history
 - 18 ♦ As applicable, describe information provided from the pavements or bridge
 - 19 management system. If the recommendation varies from the prioritization
 - 20 identified by the management system, describe the process used to reach that
 - 21 recommendation.
 - 22 ♦ Describe how this project supports OHP policies (Table 1).
 - 23 ♦ Provide an assessment of the likelihood of the project getting to construction in
 - 24 the timeframe contemplated
 - 25 ♦ Provide supplementary project information if the project leverages additional
 - 26 funding or community benefit
- 27 3. Applicable additional information

28 **E. Funding**

29 As required by federal regulations (23 CFR Part 450) the C-STIP is financially constrained by
30 year. The Eligibility Criteria and Prioritization Factors defined in this document apply to projects
31 that implement current revenue sources. If more funding becomes available, it will be allocated
32 in adherence to any additional funding or selection criteria attached to those new funds.
33
34
35

36 The STIP represents multiple funding categories and each category has limits as to how the
37 funding can be obligated. STIP projects must meet the funding source limitations established
38 by state or federal regulations and cannot be selected without looking at those limitations. The
39 D-STIP will be funded with the same funding sources as the C-STIP and the total funds
40 committed to the D-STIP may vary. Funding of the D-STIP can be impacted by several factors,
41 including the following: OTC selection of projects of statewide importance, federal earmarks
42 and discretionary projects, federal and state restrictions on the use of available funds, and the
43 Regional equity distribution of Modernization funds (ORS 366.507).
44

45 Federal discretionary projects

46 Federal discretionary projects are a part of federal appropriations or transportation funding
47 legislation. The Oregon Department of Transportation, with direction from the Oregon
48 Transportation Commission, developed guidelines to use in deciding which projects should be
49 submitted as earmark proposals in federal legislation for the reauthorization of transportation
50 funding. The projects are categorized as low or medium risk and can be completed over the life
51

1 of the federal transportation funding bill. ODOT follows these guidelines for earmark projects
2 and submits them to the Oregon Congressional Delegation for consideration during the federal
3 budget process. Local jurisdictions and proponents that pursue earmark funding for projects not
4 submitted by ODOT or supported by the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) are solely
5 responsible for the required matching funds or any shortfalls.

6
7 The OTC recognizes that there may be unique circumstances in which proponents have been
8 successful in obtaining federal discretionary projects that need to be placed in the STIP. These
9 can be brought to the OTC as possible amendments to the STIP provided they meet the
10 eligibility criteria and the match requirements as noted above.

11 12 **II. Development STIP (D-STIP)**

13 14 **A. Introduction to the D-STIP**

15
16 The Oregon Transportation Commission will make the final selections for all D-STIP projects
17 and will apply a statewide perspective to the proposed list of projects, giving highest priority to
18 OTC approved federal discretionary projects that have funding secured through federal
19 legislation.

20
21 It will be important to clearly articulate the rationale and need of a D-STIP project in order to
22 help manage expectations and potential next steps. D-STIP projects will be consistent with
23 statewide policies and may be identified in one or more planning documents, such as
24 transportation system plans, regional transportation plans, corridor plans, comprehensive plans,
25 refinement plans or state management systems. Additionally, the OTC may select large
26 projects of statewide significance for inclusion in the D-STIP. The D-STIP includes projects
27 approved and funded for development through specific milestones for planning, environmental
28 or project development activities and within specific timeframes.

29
30 The following should be considered when applying the Eligibility Criteria and Prioritization
31 Factors:

- 32
33 ♦ A new alignment will be selected for one or several features in the refinement plan.
34 Project specific refinement plans may be funded in the D-STIP as needed to resolve
35 need, function, mode and general location decisions that could not be made during
36 system plan or corridor plan development. In circumstances where these decisions
37 have already been made, the goal of refinement planning will be to develop a
38 specific solution or a range of solutions to the problems(s) that support the next
39 appropriate project development step.
- 40 ♦ Rapid development is occurring in the area, making corridor preservation critical.
- 41 ♦ Issues needing resolution have a high priority and solutions are likely to be funded in
42 the near future.
- 43 ♦ The highway segment is very sensitive environmentally, and a strategy for the whole
44 segment needs to be approved before work on individual elements can commence.
45 For example, addressing land use to help resolve inconsistencies with planned
46 transportation facilities; planning for compatible land uses along state highways.
- 47 ♦ Public pressure for a sustainable decision is high.

48
49 Selection of D-STIP projects requires application of the D-STIP definition approved by the OTC.
50 D-STIP projects generally fall into the following three categories: federal discretionary projects

1 (earmarks), statewide significant projects, and modernization or major bridge replacement
2 projects.
3
4

5 Statewide significant projects 6

7 Statewide significant projects are projects that require funding that cannot be achieved within
8 standard STIP allocations but are viewed by the OTC as projects of statewide significance and
9 can be selected by the OTC independent of the ACT process. Identified funds would be used to
10 either keep existing work on very large projects current, or to support development of very large
11 projects (for example, funding a new Environmental Impact Statement or updating an existing
12 EIS).
13

14 Modernization or major bridge replacement projects 15

16 Modernization or major bridge replacement projects are projects that have been approved and
17 funded for development through specific milestones but that cannot be constructed within the
18 four-year timeframe of the STIP and/or within the normal Region STIP allocations. These may
19 include shelf projects, which are high priority projects developed in anticipation of funding but
20 that have no funding identified for construction in the current STIP. Milestones include planning,
21 environmental and project development.
22

23 D-STIP Project Completion 24

25 ODOT and the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) shall work with
26 affected cities and counties to obtain land use approvals needed to select a specific alignment.
27 The level of land use consistency required will depend on the environmental milestone being
28 completed.
29

30 Projects remain in the D-STIP until work required to meet the National Environmental Policy Act
31 (NEPA) is completed. NEPA classifications:

- 32 ♦ Class 1: Requires draft and final environmental impact statement (EIS). An EIS is
33 required for actions that significantly affect the environment.
- 34 ♦ Class 2: Categorical exclusion (neither an environmental assessment nor an
35 environmental impact statement is required). These actions do not individually or
36 cumulative have a significant environmental effect and are excluded from the
37 requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact
38 statement.
- 39 ♦ Class 3: Requires environmental assessment (EA) or revised environmental
40 assessment. The environmental impact is not clearly established. All actions that
41 are not Class 1 or 2 fall into this classification. These actions require preparation of
42 an EA to determine the appropriate environmental document. If it is determined that
43 the action is likely to have a significant impact on the environment, the preparation of
44 an EIS will be required.
45

46 All Class 1 and 3 projects should be in the D-STIP until a final Record of Decision (ROD) or
47 Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been completed. By programming completion of
48 D-STIP milestones that follow a ROD or FONSI, the project delivery activity can continue
49 through right of way acquisition, advance plans, and/or plans specifications and estimates
50 (PS&E). The project could then be ready for inclusion in the C-STIP at the regular 2-year

1 update. Work on right of way, advance plans or PS&E may be conducted in either the D-STIP
2 or the C-STIP.

3
4 Although the primary purpose of the D-STIP is to develop projects for the C-STIP, inclusion in
5 the D-STIP does not guarantee funding for future D-STIP milestones or that a project will
6 automatically move into the C-STIP. Funding may not be available to construct the final solution
7 or the environmental document may identify the solution as a “No Build”.

8 9 **B. Development STIP**

10 11 **B. 1. Development STIP Eligibility Criteria Footnotes**

12 13 **¹D-STIP milestones**

14 D-STIP projects must have funding to complete the identified milestone; partial milestones or
15 those with no funding will not be programmed. D-STIP milestones, while not necessarily
16 sequential, include those listed below. Not all projects are required to complete all the
17 milestones.

- 18 ♦ Project specific refinement plan completion
- 19 ♦ Project specific refinement plan adoption
- 20 ♦ Land use consistency/Statewide Goal Compliance. (Project is included in the
21 acknowledged comprehensive plan or transportation system plan as a planned
22 facility, which is a facility allowed by the plan and that is expected to be
23 constructed within the next 20 years with available financial resources. This may
24 include land use decisions that establish need, mode, function and general
25 location.)
- 26 ♦ Interchange Area Management Plan or Access Management Plan
- 27 ♦ Location Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Record of Decision (ROD)
- 28 ♦ Design EIS ROD
- 29 ♦ Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)
- 30 ♦ Right of way acquisition
- 31 ♦ Advance plans (or any other applicable project development design milestone)
- 32 ♦ Plans, specifications and estimates (PS&E)

33 34 **B.2. Development STIP Prioritization Factors Footnotes**

35 36 **²D-STIP Projects that Best Support the Oregon Highway Plan Policies**

37 Oregon Highway Plan policies that are applicable to D-STIP projects may include but are not
38 necessarily limited to the following (Table 1):

- 39
40 ♦ 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1F, 1G, 1H, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E,
41 and 5A

42 43 **³Funding for D-STIP Projects**

44 A funding scenario should be identified through construction, though not necessarily
45 guaranteed. Congressional high priority projects would fall into this category.

46 47 **⁴Leverage and Public Benefit for D-STIP Projects**

48 ACTs, MPOs and regional or statewide advisory groups should evaluate how proposed projects
49 leverage additional funding or collateral community benefits and make wise and efficient use of
50 infrastructure and natural resources. Those making project recommendations should pursue an

1 agenda to accomplish leverage or community benefits although specific benefits might not
2 always be known at the D-STIP stage. Examples of leverage and public benefits for D-STIP
3 modernization projects could include where applicable, but are not limited to the following:
4

- 5 ♦ Other funding contributions, such as additional federal funds, local matching funds or
6 provision of project right of way, private funding.
- 7 ♦ Bundling with other infrastructure projects (provided there is no adverse affect on
8 project readiness).
- 9 ♦ Environmental enhancement, such as culvert replacement and improved drainage.
- 10 ♦ Transfer of jurisdiction from state to local control.
- 11 ♦ Leveraging additional funds that contribute to transportation system effectiveness,
12 revitalization of the downtown or mainstreet, etc.
- 13 ♦ Direct benefits to multiple modes of travel. This would include local efforts to
14 accommodate non-auto modal opportunities.
- 15 ♦ Local circulation improvements that support and complement the state highway
16 project.
- 17 ♦ Improvements in Oregon's economy by addressing transportation challenges.
- 18 ♦ Potential for collecting toll revenues.
- 19 ♦ Projects that implement other innovative finance techniques.
- 20 ♦ Would facilitate public and private investment that creates or sustains jobs.

21
22 This determination must be considered within the capacity of the community on a case by case
23 basis.

1 **III. Construction STIP (C-STIP)**

2
3 **A. Introduction to the C-STIP**

4 The C-STIP contains projects scheduled for construction and is financially constrained by year.
5 Application of the C-STIP Eligibility Criteria and Prioritization Factors includes Modernization,
6 Preservation and Bridge projects. Information about other programs in the STIP may be found in
7 the *Draft 2006-2009 STIP*.
8

9 **B. Modernization**

10
11 As stated in the *Oregon Highway Plan*, “The primary goal of modernization projects is to add
12 capacity to the highway system in order to facilitate existing traffic and/or accommodate
13 projected traffic growth. Modernization means capacity-adding projects including HOV lanes
14 and off-system improvements. Projects in this category include major widening of lanes or
15 bridges, and the addition of lanes, rest areas or entire facilities.” Where a culvert is replaced
16 with a bridge due to environmental analysis concluding that this is necessary, the project is not
17 considered modernization.
18

19 **B.1. Construction STIP Eligibility Criteria for Modernization Footnotes**

20
21 ⁵**Consistency with Comprehensive Plans and Transportation System Plans (TSP)**

22 The proposal must show that the project is consistent with the applicable adopted
23 comprehensive plan or transportation system plan as a planned facility, including land use
24 decisions that establish need, mode, function and general location, including goal exceptions,
25 where required. If consistency cannot be demonstrated the project submission will describe
26 how the inconsistency will be addressed, including changes to the project, TSP and/or
27 comprehensive plan and when they need to be completed. In such cases, the ACT or regional
28 or statewide advisory group may recommend that the project be included in the D-STIP, and
29 request that Transportation Planning Rule issues be addressed.
30

31 Proposed projects from within MPOs shall be identified in fiscally constrained Regional
32 Transportation Plans and shall meet air quality conformity requirements.
33

34 ⁶**Consistency with Oregon Highway Plan (OHP) Policy 1G, Action 1G.1, on Major
35 Improvements**

36 In order to demonstrate that a project is consistent with OHP Policy 1G, Action 1G.1, the
37 proposal must show that the project and/or the TSP clearly addressed the prioritization criteria
38 found in Action 1G.1 of the OHP.
39

40 Where needed to achieve consistency with the above-noted Oregon Highway Plan policy, the
41 ACTs, MPOs, or regional or statewide advisory groups, with ODOT assistance, shall negotiate
42 conditions for project approval with an applicant. These conditions, if not addressed as the
43 project proceeded through the D-STIP if applicable, shall be attached to the application
44 approved by the ACT, MPO or regional or statewide advisory group, shall be as specific as
45 possible given the stage of development of the project, and may include the following:
46

- 47 ♦ Interchange Area Management Plan or Access Management Plan,
- 48 ♦ Highway segment designations,
- 49 ♦ Needed local street improvements,
- 50 ♦ Traffic management plans,

- ◆ Land use plan designations,
- ◆ Other similar conditions.

B.2. Construction STIP Prioritization Factors for Modernization Footnotes

⁷Project Readiness for C-STIP Modernization Projects

Projects that can begin construction within the timeframe of the STIP and within the timeframe expected are considered to be more ready than those that have many or complicated remaining steps. The overall judgement of a project's readiness is dependent on timeliness of construction expectations not on the number of steps to be completed.

Where applicable, the hurdles to accomplish each of the following steps must be assessed for major modernization projects that have come through the D-STIP and for which a final Record of Decision (ROD) for a design level environmental impact statement or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been made:

- ◆ Public involvement
- ◆ Right of way purchased
- ◆ Final construction and traffic flow management plans developed
- ◆ Additional land use requirements such as completing plans for access management, supporting local transportation system improvements and land use measures to protect the function and operation of the project.

Projects that have not gone through the D-STIP or have not completed a FONSI or ROD must also assess the following:

- ◆ Environmental requirements
- ◆ Land use requirements
- ◆ Applicability of minor improvements and alternative mode solutions

For all projects, if those aspects are not completed at the time of the assessment of project readiness, a plan to complete them must be described to assist in judging the likelihood that all of those aspects can be addressed, and construction begun within the timeframe projected. The project budget and time line must include execution of the plan.

⁸Modernization Projects that Best Support the Oregon Highway Plan Policies

OHP policies that are applicable to modernization projects may include but are not necessarily limited to the following (Table 1):

- ◆ 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1F, 1G, 1H, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, and 5A

⁹Projects that support freight mobility

Projects that support freight mobility are modernization projects on freight routes of statewide or regional significance, including:

- ◆ Highways on the State Highway Freight System as designated in the *Oregon Highway Plan*;
- ◆ Highways or local roads designated as National Highway System intermodal connectors;
- ◆ Other highways with a high volume or percentage of trucks or which are important for regional or interstate freight movement
- ◆ Local freight routes designated in a regional or local transportation plan.

1
2 These projects would remove identified barriers to the safe, reliable, and efficient movement of
3 goods and/or would support multimodal freight transportation movements.
4

5 ¹⁰**Leverage and Public Benefit for C-STIP Modernization Projects**

6 ACTs, MPOs and regional or statewide advisory groups should evaluate how proposed projects
7 leverage additional funding or collateral community benefits and make wise and efficient use of
8 infrastructure and natural resources. Examples of leverage and public benefits for C-STIP
9 modernization projects include:
10

- 11 • Other funding contributions, such as additional federal funds, local matching funds or
12 provision of project right-of-way, private funding.
- 13 ♦ Bundling with other infrastructure projects (provided there is no adverse affect on
14 project readiness).
- 15 ♦ Environmental enhancement, such as culvert replacement and improved drainage.
- 16 ♦ Transfer of jurisdiction from state to local control.
- 17 ♦ Leveraging of additional funds that contribute to transportation system effectiveness,
18 revitalization of the downtown or mainstreet, etc.
- 19 ♦ Direct benefits to multiple modes of travel. This would include local efforts to
20 accommodate non-auto modal opportunities.
- 21 ♦ Local circulation improvements that support and complement the state highway
22 project.
- 23 ♦ Improvements in Oregon's economy by addressing transportation challenges.
- 24 ♦ Potential for collecting toll revenues.
- 25 ♦ Projects that implement other innovative finance techniques.
- 26 ♦ Would facilitate public and private investment that creates or sustains jobs
27

28 This determination must be considered within the capacity of the community on a case by case
29 basis.
30

31 ¹¹**Environmental Classification**

- 32 ♦ Class 1: Requires draft and final environmental impact statement (EIS)
- 33 ♦ Class 2: Categorical exclusion (neither an environmental assessment nor an
34 environmental impact statement is required)
- 35 ♦ Class 3: Requires environmental assessment (EA) or revised environmental
36 assessment
37

38 This prioritization factor is not intended to give Class 1 and 3 projects priority over or to exclude
39 Class 2 projects, but to give Class 1 and 3 projects with a completed ROD or FONSI priority
40 over Class 1 and 3 projects that require additional environmental documentation.
41

42 **C. Preservation**

43
44 The pavement preservation projects list is developed by ODOT's Pavement Management
45 System (PMS) and applied by the pavement management selection committees. The PMS is an
46 electronic data management tool used by the department to identify, prioritize and develop
47 needed pavement preservation projects. The role of ACTs, MPOs and regional or statewide
48 advisory groups is to review the timing of the pavement preservation projects as they relate to
49 other local projects or issues; their comments will be considered as part of the process. It is
50 anticipated that these groups will primarily enhance selected projects by leveraging additional

1 funding or collateral community benefit. The interstate preservation projects are selected based
2 on the PMS and a statewide strategy and are therefore not a part of these criteria.

4 **C.1. Construction STIP Eligibility Criteria for Pavement Preservation Footnotes**

6 ¹²**Pavement Strategy**

7 The department has adopted a pavement preservation program designed to keep highways in
8 the best condition at the lowest lifecycle cost, taking into account available funding. ODOT
9 established a Pavement Strategy Committee in 1999 to address pavement preservation issues,
10 including the development of a statewide pavement strategy for all state highways. The
11 pavement strategy was developed using the department's Pavement Management System.
12 The strategy assumes maintenance of existing traffic capacity; it does not provide for capacity
13 improvements.

14
15 Using the list generated by the Pavement Management System (PMS), each Region is
16 responsible for recommending preservation projects for inclusion in the STIP.

18 **C.2. Construction STIP Prioritization Factors for Pavement Preservation Footnotes**

21 ¹³**Project Readiness for C-STIP Preservation Projects**

22 Projects that can begin construction within the timeframe of the STIP and within the timeframe
23 expected are considered to be more ready than those that have many or complicated remaining
24 steps. The overall judgement of a project's readiness is dependent on timeliness of
25 construction expectations not on the number of steps to be completed.

27 ¹⁴**Preservation Projects that Best Support the Oregon Highway Plan Policies**

28 Oregon Highway Plan policies that are applicable to preservation projects may include but are
29 not necessarily limited to the following (Table 1):

- 31 ♦ 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 3A, 4A, 4B, and 5A

33 ¹⁵**Leverage and Public Benefit for C-STIP Preservation Projects**

34 ACTs, MPOs and regional or statewide advisory groups should evaluate how proposed projects
35 leverage additional funding or collateral community benefits and make wise and efficient use of
36 infrastructure and natural resources. Examples of leverage and public benefits for C-STIP
37 pavement preservation projects include:

- 39 ♦ Other funding contributions, such as additional federal funds, local matching funds or
40 provision of project right-of-way, private funding.
- 41 ♦ Bundling with other infrastructure projects (provided there is no adverse affect on
42 project readiness).
- 43 ♦ Environmental enhancement, such as culvert replacement and improved drainage.
- 44 ♦ Transfer of jurisdiction from state to local control.
- 45 ♦ Leveraging of additional funds that contribute to transportation system effectiveness,
46 revitalization of the downtown or mainstreet, etc.
- 47 ♦ Direct benefits to multiple modes of travel. This would include local efforts to
48 accommodate non-auto modal opportunities.
- 49 ♦ Local circulation improvements that support and complement the state highway
50 project.
- 51 ♦ Improvements in Oregon's economy by addressing transportation challenges.

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D. Bridge

The process of identifying bridge projects for the STIP is two-fold in nature: (1) bridges are inspected at least every two years in order that the most current inspection information is used to develop a list of bridges; and (2) the use of a Bridge Management System (BMS). The State has implemented the use of bridge management system software condition evaluation criteria for bridge inspection. Upon full implementation of all the BMS software modules, the BMS will evaluate the existing condition of bridges, predict the rate of deterioration and suggest repairs and rehabilitation option. For development of the 08-11 STIP, the Bridge Program will continue to use other technical databases to identify bridges that meet twelve separate deficiency parameters. Applying this information, after technical review and coordination with the Regions and the State Bridge Leadership Team, the State Bridge Program Manager recommends a prioritized list of projects for inclusion in the STIP. The role of ACTs, MPOs and regional or statewide advisory groups is to review the timing of the bridge replacement/rehabilitation projects as they relate to other local projects or issues; their comments will be considered as part of the process. It is anticipated that these groups will primarily enhance selected projects by leveraging additional funding or collateral community benefit.

1 **D.1. Construction STIP Eligibility Criteria for Bridge Footnotes**

2
3 ¹⁶**Bridge Management System**

4
5 State Bridge Project Selection

6
7 This criterion applies to bridges on the State highway system only. Through an agreement
8 between the State and the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) and the League of Oregon
9 Cities (LOC), the federal Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Project funds are
10 divided between the State and local agencies based on the percentages of deficient bridges.
11 Local bridge projects are covered through a separate selection process.

12
13 State bridge projects proposed for funding will be selected based on the desire to maintain and
14 improve transportation's role in Oregon's economy. Traditionally, modernization funding will pay
15 for major improvements to the transportation system including the bridge work. The State
16 Bridge Program will support OTIA, freight mobility, life safety and protection of the transportation
17 infrastructure investment.

18
19 Focusing on the Interstate Highway and Oregon Highway Plan Freight Routes, consider bridges
20 as candidates based on the following:

- 21
22 ♦ Bridges that are presently load restricted or could become restricted in the near
23 future.
24 ♦ Bridges that preserve freight corridors, detour and other lifeline routes.
25 ♦ Other structural, safety and functional considerations.

26
27
28 **D.2. Construction STIP Prioritization Factors for Bridge Footnotes**

29
30 ¹⁷**Bridge Options Report**

31 Priority will be given to projects that support the Updated Bridge Options Report adopted by the
32 Oregon Transportation Commission.

33
34 ¹⁸**Bridge Projects that Best Support the Oregon Highway Plan Policies**

35 Oregon Highway Plan policies that are applicable to bridge projects may include but are not
36 necessarily limited to the following (Table 1):

- 37
38 ♦ 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1F, 1G, 1H, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2F, 2G, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C, and
39 5A

40
41 ¹⁹**Leverage and Public Benefit for C-STIP Bridge Projects**

42
43 ACTs, MPOs and regional or statewide advisory groups should evaluate how proposed projects
44 leverage additional funding or collateral community benefits and make wise and efficient use of
45 infrastructure and natural resources. Examples of leverage and public benefits for C-STIP
46 bridge replacement/rehabilitation projects include:

- 47
48 ♦ Other funding contributions, such as additional federal funds, local matching funds or
49 provision of project right-of-way, private funding.

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- ◆ Bundling with other infrastructure projects (provided there is no adverse affect on project readiness).
- ◆ Environmental enhancement, such as culvert replacement and improved drainage.
- ◆ Direct benefits to multiple modes of travel. This would include local efforts to accommodate non-auto modal opportunities.
- ◆ Improvements in Oregon’s economy by addressing transportation challenges.

Oregon Highway Plan Policies Applicable to Prioritizing Projects Statewide Transportation Improvement Program

Table 1

POLICY	D-STIP Mod.	C-STIP Mod.	C-STIP PRES.	C-STIP Bridge
GOAL 1: SYSTEM DEFINITION				
POLICY 1A: STATE HIGHWAY CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM	X	X	X	X
POLICY 1B: LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION	X	X	X	X
POLICY 1C: STATE HIGHWAY FREIGHT SYSTEM	X	X	X	X
POLICY 1D: SCENIC BYWAYS	X	X	X	X
POLICY 1E: LIFELINE ROUTES			X	X
POLICY 1F: HIGHWAY MOBILITY STANDARDS	X	X		X
POLICY 1G: MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS	X	X		X
POLICY 1H: BYPASSES	X	X		X
GOAL 2: SYSTEM MANAGEMENT				
POLICY 2A: PARTNERSHIPS	X	X	X	X
POLICY 2B: OFF-SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS	X	X		X
POLICY 2C: INTERJURISDICTIONAL TRANSFERS	X	X	X	X
POLICY 2E: INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS	X	X	X	
POLICY 2F: TRAFFIC SAFETY	X	X	X	X
POLICY 2G: RAIL AND HIGHWAY COMPATIBILITY	X	X		X
GOAL 3: ACCESS MANAGEMENT				
POLICY 3A: CLASSIFICATION AND SPACING STANDARDS	X	X	X	
POLICY 3B: MEDIANS	X	X		X
POLICY 3C: INTERCHANGE ACCESS MANAGEMENT AREAS	X	X		X
GOAL 4: TRAVEL ALTERNATIVES				
POLICY 4A: EFFICIENCY OF FREIGHT MOVEMENT	X	X	X	X
POLICY 4B: ALTERNATIVE PASSENGER MODES	X	X	X	X
POLICY 4C: HIGH-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE (HOV) FACILITIES	X	X		X
POLICY 4D: TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT	X	X		
POLICY 4E: PARK-AND-RIDE FACILITIES	X	X		
GOAL 5: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCENIC RESOURCES				
POLICY 5A: ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES	X	X	X	X

Appendix A

Key Website Addresses

Draft and Final STIP, Project Selection Reports: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/STIP/>

STIP Users' Guide discussing STIP development rules, programs, timelines, and more will be available on ODOT's STIP website in late 2005.

Management Systems: <http://intranet.odot.state.or.us/otms/>

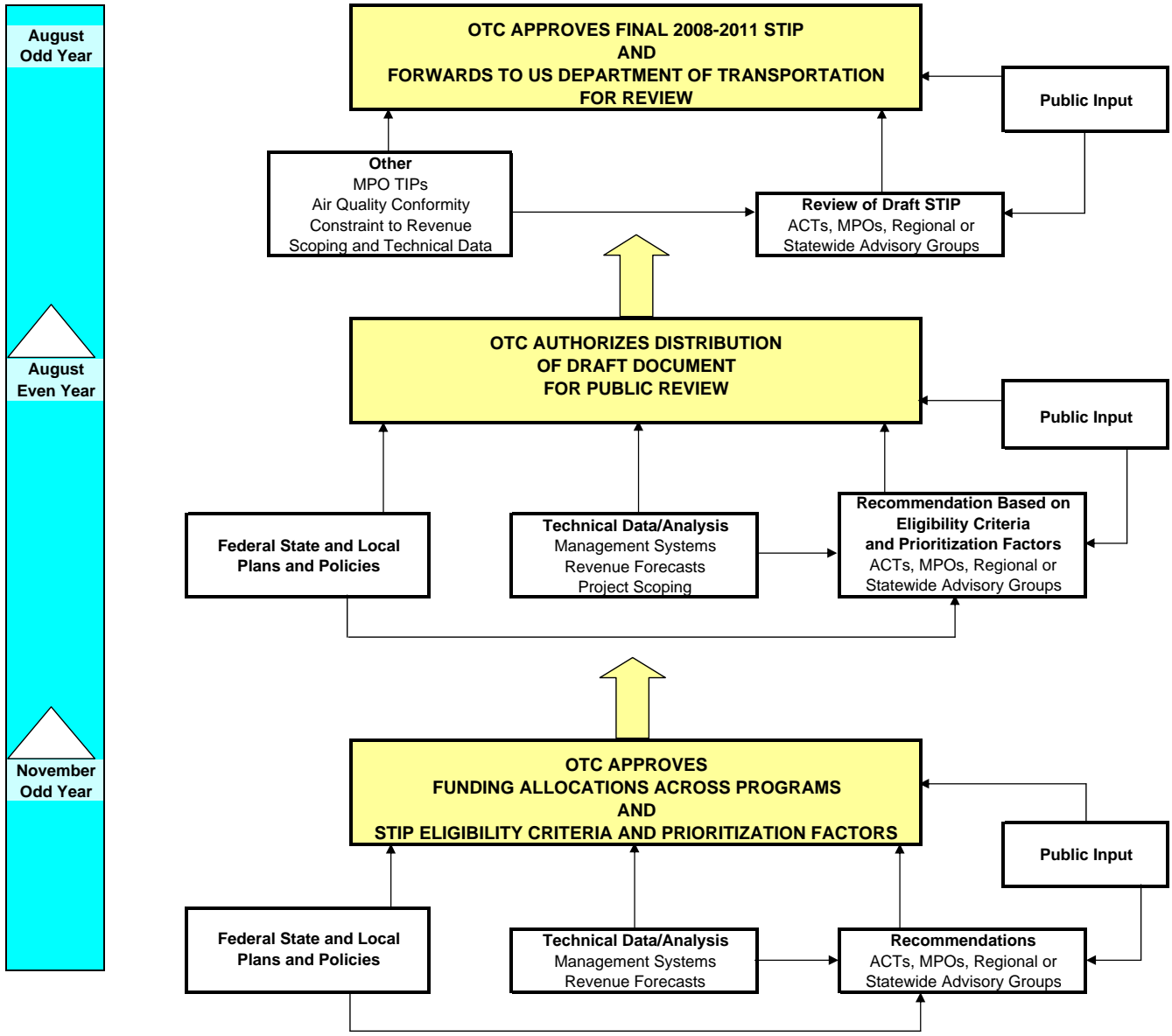
Bridge Options Report: http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/COMM/bridge_options.shtml

Policy on Formation and Operation of the ACTs:
http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/COMM/act_main.shtml

Program Advisory Committees, Community Involvement: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/>

Appendix B

STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM DECISION PROCESS



KEY
 ACT: Area Commission on Transportation
 MPO: Metropolitan Planning Organization
 TIP: Transportation Improvement Program