

RVTD STIF Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 20, 2021 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting

Desired outcome:

- Understand STIF/STF consolidation outcomes
- Approve the 2021-2023 STIF plan
- Provide comments on the Josephine County STIF-D projects

STIFAC ATTENDANCE:

Amber Rodriguez (Chair)
George Adams (Vice Chair)
Isleen Glatt
Brad Earl
Kristin Milligan

STAFF ATTENDANCE:

Paige West
Debbie Wilbur
Mary Lou Lerma
Jennifer Boardman (ODOT RTC)
Tonia Moro (RVTD Board Chair)

Amber called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

Review and approval of the November 9th, 2020 minutes – Isleen Glatt motioned and George Adams seconded, all in favor.

Review STIF/STF consolidation / Paige

The STIF Special Transportation Improvement Fund and the STF Special Transportation Fund are very similar in acronyms but very different in the rules that were created that govern these funds but also the funding sources themselves. Unfortunately, when the STIF funds were approved in 2017 it came with it some pressure from the legislature to consolidate those funds with the existing STF that have been around since the late 90's. STF are primarily used for "elderly and disabled" transportation and fund the Valley Lift operation. There has been a deficiency in years recently because of the funding sources in cigarette taxes and lawn mower and gasoline tax at the pump and a couple other discrete sources. The Oregon legislature since 2005 has supplemented the STF budget from general funds. However, when the STIF was funded with payroll tax in 2017 legislature decided to not take money out of general fund

anymore and to consolidate with STIF funds to supplement the Special Transportation funds. The work has already begun this year.

- A Charter for an Advisory Committee has yet to be formed but people have been identified.
- Rules are very different and the funding sources are very different but at the end of this process they are supposed to provide us with a consolidated funding source that would be available with rules and procedures on how to solicit and award funds that will be available in the 2023 – 2025 biennium.
- This is more of an FYI - the current biennium 2021 – 2023 we are working with does not have this set up.
- Advisory committee can be followed on the ODOT website.

The STF cycle for this next biennium has also already been solicited. The STAC Committee has already meet and they have already made their funding recommendations for the next biennium that will be going to our Board during the March meeting. May have to carve out funds to fund the Valley Lift operation in the next STIF cycle.

Update on ODOT/RVTD joint application for rebuilding Hwy 99 / Paige and Jennifer

- Verbal update – STIF Discretionary has set aside 4% of total statewide funds for general funds and 1% of the State Transit network
 - 70 projects across the state
 - \$9.2M available
 - \$18.5M asked to fund all projects completely – some projects will get funded and other may only be funded on set amount
 - RVTD submitted application for the Alameda fire for sidewalks north of Phoenix. ODOT looking for partners for project costing \$15M – waiting on ODOT for direction – most likely we will withdraw application based on timing.

Josephine County STIF-D Projects / ODOT – Paige / Jennifer

- Josephine County Transit Hub \$455,000
 - Purchased property and now seeking to build on it
 - Ready to work on construction
- Coordination of Public Transportation Services to low-income households
 - Include portions of Jackson County – looking at transportation needs and transportation gaps between both counties
- Continue the commuter service between Jackson county and Josephine county
 - Operated by JCT (Grants Pass to Medford Front Street Station 6 times daily) serving Gold Hill and Rogue River which are in Jackson County.
 - Maintain service with a possible stop at the Valley of the Rouge State Park
- Medicaid Trips coming into Jackson county

Recommendations to prioritize or to fund one or all projects

- Comments due January 31, 2021 – RVTD providing comments to ODOT on behalf of Advisory Committee

Review Proposed 2021-2023 STIF Plan Projects / Paige / Debbie

Debbie presented the amounts available during the biennium.

- In District \$9,881,240 allocated / \$9,601,725 available.
- Carryover and Total Funds Available
 - \$3M carryover from COVID caused-service reductions, a higher amount of STIF funds being available than originally thought and the CARES Act funds being available. 5 projects from original biennium never put into service due to COVID-19 totaling \$1.6M, Receiving \$500,000 more from original estimate, due to COVID-19 service had to be cut by 30%

Paige presented the projects in the non-operating and operating categories.

- Capital Projects
 - RVTD Campus Improvements - \$1.5M to use as match for a federal grant
 - Low Income Bus Passes - \$50,000 per year, \$100,000 total
 - LCD screen for inside buses- \$150,000
- Operating Projects
 - Same list as the prior biennium with a couple changes. Two routes will be maintained at one-hour frequency the first year due to low ridership. And the Ashland service will be maintained as a demand response but we have flexibility to change to a route. Also including a contingency line item.
- Out of District \$1,273,130 allocating / \$1,239,341 available.
 - Continue Route 63 to Eagle Point
 - Contingency of \$500,000
 - One Click Study funded with STF needs a match with STIF

Motion to Recommend Approval of the 2021-2023 STIF plan to the RVTD Board of Directors as presented: Brad Earl motioned, Kristin Milligan seconded, all in favor.

Summary of next steps and action items

- STIF Application completed and reviewed – due February 1st, 2021
- Discretionary grant process for the ODOT project for Hwy 99
- June meeting

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.