

TO: Governor Gregoire

FROM: Jennifer Ziegler, Transportation Policy Advisor

SUBJECT: Distribution of Federal Transportation Funds

DATE: October 23, 2012

CC: Representative Judy Clibborn Senator Mary Margaret Haugen
Chairman Iyall, Tribes Secretary Paula Hammond, WSDOT
Sean Eagan, Ports Gary Rowe, Counties
Ashley Probart, Cities Charlie Howard, MPOs and RTPOs
Jeff Wilkens, MPOs and RTPOs Lisa Wolterink, Transit

At your direction, I convened the MAP-21 Steering Committee to review the existing distributions of federal highway formula funds to the state and local governments under the most recent federal surface transportation legislation (MAP-21).

The Committee met twice and agreed to maintain the current overall distribution split between state and local governments for the next two years, with some revisions in individual program distributions. The Committee also agreed to policy statements regarding the treatment of federal funds.

The Committee agreed to the following apportionment distributions for highway formula programs under MAP-21.

- Transportation Alternatives-MAP-21 requires 50% of this program to be sub-allocated to regional governments based on population and the remaining 50% may be distributed at the State's discretion. The Committee agreed that after funding the Recreational Trails Program, the remaining state's discretionary funding should be split between two-thirds of the 2009 level of federal funding for Safe Routes to Schools and the remainder should be sub-allocated.
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)—The Committee agreed that one-third of the 2009 level of federal funding for the Safe Routes to School program should come from HSIP. The remainder of the HSIP funding should be a data-driven distribution to the top infrastructure priorities under Target Zero.
- Congestion Mitigation Air Quality—The Committee agreed to continue to sub-allocate 100% of this program to regions in maintenance areas.
- National Highway Performance Program and Surface Transportation Program—The Committee agreed to provide \$45 million for local bridges, with \$21.9 million funded out of the Surface Transportation Program and the remainder from the National

Highway Performance Program. The Committee also agreed to continue to sub-allocate the existing level of Surface Transportation Program Funds.

The Committee also agreed to the following requests and policy statements.

- Freight investments and a focus on economic corridors should be a priority in the distribution of current federal funds, as well as a funding priority for the next multi-year federal surface transportation authorization bill.
- Decisions regarding performance measures and targets will likely last beyond the two years length of MAP-21, so the next Governor should convene a group to work on the longer-term distribution of federal funds and actively work with the United States Department of Transportation on the development of performance measures by the Federal Highway Administration.
- Tribes should continue to have access to funding through Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations.

Please let me know if you have questions or would like any additional information.