

W. 15.a.

AGENDA COVER MEMO

DATE: January 14, 2004
TO: Lane County Board of Commissioners
DEPT: Public Works
PRESENTED BY: Bill Morgan, Senior Engineering Associate

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: PUBLIC HEARING AND ORDER/ In the Matter of Approving a Letter to the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Providing Support for Local Bridge Repair and Replacement Projects Eligible for 2003 Oregon Transportation Investment Act (III) Funding, otherwise known as OTIA III.

I. MOTION

Move approval of the Order.

II. ISSUE

ODOT has requested comments by Area Commissions on Transportation (ACTs) and Regional Advisory Groups on local bridge projects submitted for repair or replacement under the OTIA III program. Local groups are requested to provide comments on the proposed projects and identify oversights and omissions (if any) in local bridge project applications by January 15, 2004. As necessary, staff from AOC, LOC, ODOT and the Freight Advisory Committee will then update the preliminary list of OTIA III bridge projects using the comments received.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Background

HB 2041, the 2003 Oregon Transportation Investment Act (OTIA III), authorizes state-issued bonds with net proceeds of \$300 million for the replacement or repair of county and city bridges. The bill's intent is to stimulate the Oregon economy and facilitate efficient movement of freight truck traffic throughout the state. The Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) is given the responsibility to choose local bridge repair and replacement projects in consultation with local governments.

The Board passed Order# 03-9-24-2 on September 24, 2003 authorizing submission of County bridge applications for OTIA III funding. It also authorized the County Administrator to execute agreements awarding the grants for bridge projects.

The review process began with the submission of application materials from local agencies in mid-October 2003. Review of the applications involved screening by the Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program (HBRR) Selection Committee, review by the Freight Advisory Committee and an outside consultant, and review by ACTs. The OTC is scheduled to approve local bridge projects for

funding in February 2004. ODOT, the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC), and the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) facilitate the review process.

B. Analysis

The selection guidelines separate bridges less than 30,000 square feet ("small bridges") from those over 30,000 square feet ("large bridges"). About 77 percent of the \$300 million made available by OTIA III will be targeted to small bridges. There are 8 bridge project submittals in Lane County: one "small" bridge submitted by the City of Springfield, six "small" bridges submitted by the County, and one "large" bridge submitted by the City of Eugene. The bridges are shown in the following table, including the preliminary Technical Ranking Score (TRS) calculated after initial review by the HBRR Committee (maximum 100 points).

Bridge	Bridge No.	Jurisdiction	TRS	Solution	Est. Cost
N. 8 th Street	00003	Springfield	0	Replace	\$501,000
Ferry Street	06648	Eugene	NA	Repair	\$795,000
Row River Rd. MP 16.64	39C224	Lane County	72.4	Replace	\$993,000
Sharps Creek Rd. MP 6.48	39C235	Lane County	49.3	Replace	\$753,000
London Rd. MP 8.73	14868A	Lane County	34.8	Replace	\$1,113,000
London Rd. MP 11.25	039C24	Lane County	52.2	Replace	\$972,000
London Rd. MP 13.01	14875A	Lane County	48.9	Replace	\$973,000
Fir Butte Rd. MP 0.68	39C431	Lane County	21.3	Replace	\$688,000
Total:					\$6,788,000

The City of Springfield bridge on N. 8th Street ranks low in the point rating system due to the lack of freight traffic and incomplete data in the application. The bridge primarily serves access to a multi-family housing site, which does not meet the intent of the OTIA III program. In effect, this bridge does not meet the criteria for funding.

The HBRR Committee does a separate ranking for the "large" bridges. The initial committee work recommends the Ferry Street Bridge project for funding. All of the other large bridge projects are in the Portland area. The Ferry Street Bridge approach spans have shear cracking in the concrete girders. The proposed solution is to strengthen shear capacity by repairing the cracks and adding external reinforcing. This work would be independent of recent operational improvements made to the bridge.

The County-maintained bridges, with the exception of Fir Butte Bridge #39C431, also suffer from deficient girder shear capacity due to cracks in the concrete. The Fir

Butte Bridge has section loss from corrosion of the steel piling supporting the concrete deck. Consequently, all the County bridges have recommended reductions in load bearing capacity. The County believes the most economical long-term solution is to replace these structures.

Each "small" bridge application is given a Technical Ranking Score to help select the top candidates for funding. The small bridge TRS is derived from a formula that factors sufficiency rating, load deficiency, cost, ADT, detour length, truck traffic, and functional class into the calculation. Out of the 209 small bridges given a preliminary TRS rank, Row River is 6th, London Road MP 11.25 is 26th, Sharps Creek is 34th, London Road MP 13.01 is 37th, London Road MP 8.73 is 77th, and Fir Butte is 151st. North 8th in Springfield falls out of the TRS rankings due to incomplete data in its application.

It appears that five of the six County bridges are strong candidates for funding, with Fir Butte likely to be dropped out of the funding pool. The Ferry Street Bridge, the only "large" bridge, also appears to be a strong candidate for funding as it is used by the majority of freight trucks destined for Eugene's Central Business District. Freight truck usage on the County-maintained bridges typically consists of timber and agricultural product movement to and from forest and farm lands. Attachment 1 is a locator map for the Lane County, Eugene, and Springfield project submittals.

Exhibit A to the Order is a letter giving support to the completed project applications from Lane County and the City of Eugene. Local groups are also charged with identifying any oversights or omissions in the local application materials. There are no known omissions in the Lane County or Eugene materials.

C. Alternatives / Options

1. Adopt the Order approving the letter as drafted.
2. Adopt the Order with a modified letter, as directed by the Board.
3. Decline to comment.

D. Recommendation

Option 1

E. Timing

The letter is due to ODOT on January 15, 2004.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION / FOLLOW-UP

Final funding decisions are expected to be made by OTC in February.

V. ATTACHMENTS

Board Order with Exhibit A, Letter Supporting Bridge Candidates
Attachment 1: Map

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY
STATE OF OREGON

ORDER NO.) IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING A LETTER
) TO THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF
) TRANSPORTATION (ODOT)
) PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR LOCAL BRIDGE
) REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT PROJECTS
) ELIGIBLE FOR 2003 OREGON
) TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT ACT (III)
) FUNDING, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS OTIA III.

WHEREAS, Input has been requested from Area Commissions on Transportation and Regional Advisory Groups regarding local bridge applications; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has the responsibility of reviewing bridge projects submitted from all local agencies in Lane County; and

WHEREAS, there are seven complete bridge applications in Lane County submitted for funding that meet the intent of OTIA III to stimulate the Oregon economy through investment in bridge infrastructure for efficient freight movement and the development of a safe and modern bridge network; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners held a public hearing on these bridge applications on January 14, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to approve a letter in support of providing funding for the seven bridge project candidates; now, therefore, it is hereby

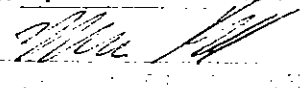
ORDERED that a letter of comment substantially as set forth in attached Exhibit A be signed by the Chair of the Board of Commissioners and sent to ODOT for review.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2004.

Chair, Lane County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Date 1-5-04 Lane County



County Clerk

EXHIBIT A

January 14, 2004

Bob Thompson
ODOT Bridge Section
355 Capitol Street, NE, Room 301
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Lane County comment on local bridge applications for OTIA III

Dear Mr. Thompson,

The Lane County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on January 14, 2004 to accept public comment on local bridge applications in Lane County. This letter is submitted in support of the following seven local bridge applications in Lane County:

- Ferry Street Bridge #06648 (City of Eugene)
- Row River Rd. MP 16.64 Bridge# 39C224 (Lane County)
- Sharps Creek Rd. MP 6.48 Bridge# 39C235 (Lane County)
- London Rd. MP 8.73 Bridge# 14868A (Lane County)
- London Rd. MP 11.25 Bridge# 039C24 (Lane County)
- London Rd. MP 13.01 Bridge# 14875A (Lane County)
- Fir Butte Rd. MP 0.68 Bridge# 39C431 (Lane County)

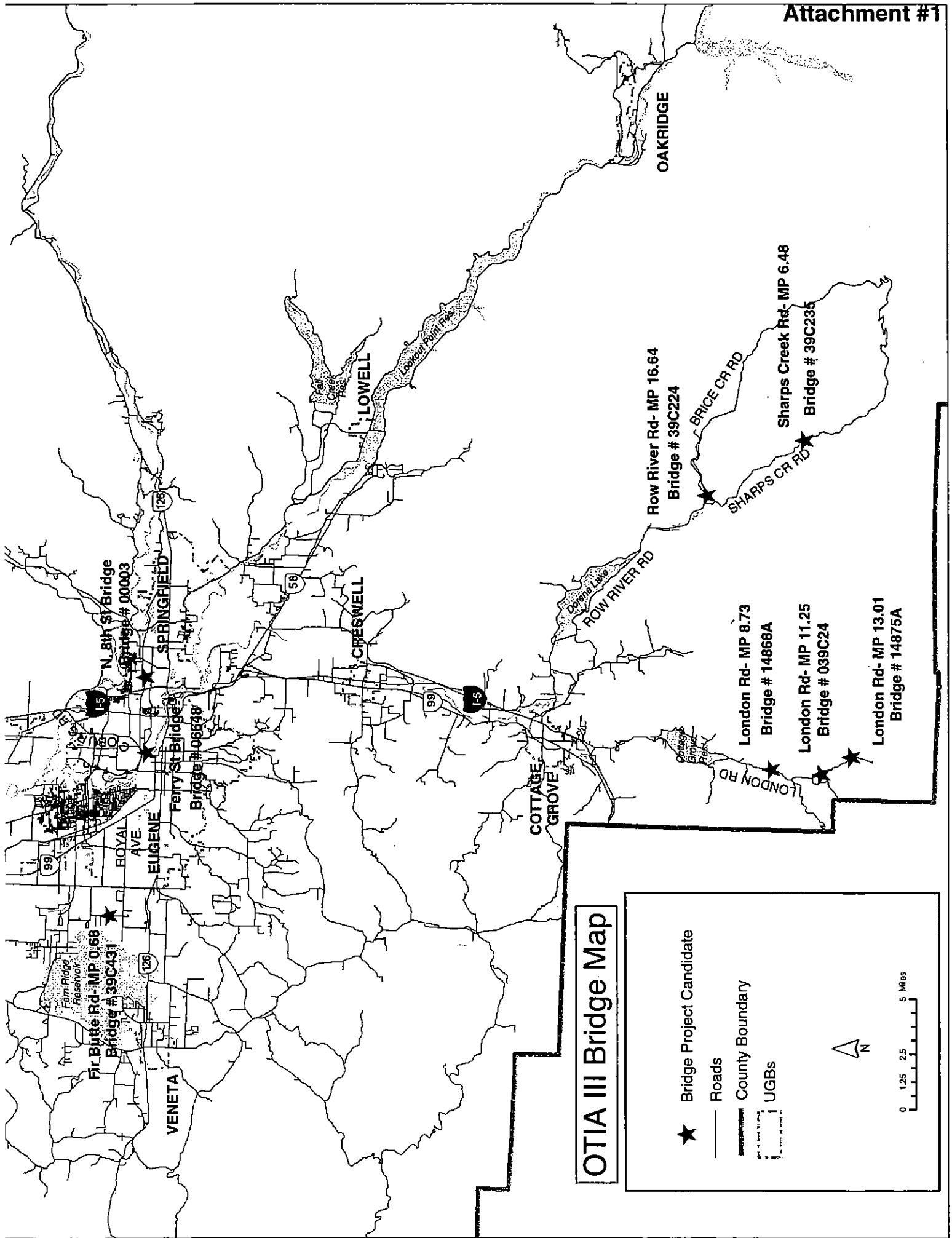
The application materials for these projects are complete and no omissions are evident. In addition, the bridges serve the intent of HB 2041 of stimulating the Oregon economy through investment in bridge infrastructure to ensure efficient freight movement throughout the region. Replacement and repair actions on these bridges are necessary to facilitate timely freight movement and avoid costly delays from detours and limitations on truck passage. As such, the Board of County Commissioners recommends that these project candidates be considered for funding and proceed in the OTIA III review process.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please contact Bill Morgan, Senior Engineering Associate at Lane County Public Works, Transportation Planning Section, at 541-682-6932 if you have any questions concerning these comments.

Sincerely,

LANE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

, Chair



OTIA III Bridge Map

★ Bridge Project Candidate

— Roads

— County Boundary

▭ UGBs

0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

N