



City of Prineville

387 NE THIRD STREET • PRINEVILLE, OREGON 97754

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Staff Report

Crook County Letter of Support:

Crook County approached the City requesting support of a \$1.1 million Project to be funded through SB994. These monies are being appropriated by the Governor to the Counties through ODOT in lieu of federal Timber dollars. The County must have a letter of support from the City for the use of these funds. Staff met with the Crook County Road Master to discuss the use of these funds (improvement of the intersection of Powell Butte Highway and Highway 126). City staff expressed concern that the Council might find it difficult to support the project as a benefit to the citizens of the City. However, in return for support of the Project there is an opportunity for a commitment between the County and the City to cooperatively update a joint County/City TSP.

City staff suggested drafting an agreement with the County for the County's substantial financial contribution to this effort, as well as working with ODOT (also contributing financially) to reach a better and mutual solution for a region wide transportation plan. Therefore, the support letter includes this provision as a part of our support for the proposed County roads project.

The monies that are transferred from the County to the City annually are not Timber dollars, but are 10% of the County's gas tax revenues and vehicle registration revenues.

It is staff recommendation that the Council write a letter of support for the County project.



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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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April 8, 2008

Honorable Judge Cooper
Crook County Court
Crook County Courthouse
Prineville, Oregon 97754

The City of Prineville wishes to express its support of the County Roads Project to be funded through SB994 dollars of approximately \$1.1million. These funds are being distributed by the Governor in lieu of the federal Timber dollars and are being funneled through ODOT to the counties rather than being distributed from the federal government to the Counties.

The City understands, through communication with staff from the County, that these funds are intended to improve the intersection of Highway 126 and the Powell Butte Highway. The proposed Project will include acquiring additional Right of Way, relocation of the historic Post Office, as well as design and construction costs. It is our understanding that the County will need to subsidize at least a portion of this project.

Although the City does not see this Project as a direct benefit to the City, the City views this as a step in our mutual interests and would expect a commitment from Crook County to make a substantial contribution to the development of a City/County Transportation Systems Plan. Discussions have been initiated with ODOT for a commitment to a TSP Update as well. The City believes that a cooperative approach to a new TSP that affects all of us, will give us a respected voice in future discussions with the State and other agencies.

Thank you for your support of our common goals for the Region.

Sincerely,

Mike Wendel, Mayor
City of Prineville