



Oregon

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Department of Transportation

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Washington County Commission Chair Andy Duyck
155 North First Avenue
Hillsboro, Or 97124

Metro President Tom Hughes
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232

Subject: Washington County Urban and Rural Reserves, Ordinance 740

The Oregon Department of Transportation has the following comments regarding the latest proposed Urban and Rural Reserves designations in Washington County. Please enter this letter into the record of your proceedings.

ODOT has an interest in the designation of additional acres of Urban Reserves north of US 26, in the vicinity of the Brookwood Parkway /Helvetia Rd interchange. The interchange is a primary entry point to regionally significant high-tech employment centers. We are currently developing a project to reduce congestion and improve safety and freight mobility, to better serve economic development opportunities inside the UGB in this area. ODOT's indented primary function of this interchange is to provide access to the regionally significant industrial area to the south of US 26, and goods movement for the industrial lands inside the UGB on both sides of US 26. If Metro and Washington County choose to designate additional acreage at this location for Urban Reserves, ODOT recommends a stipulation indicating that the capacity needed to protect that function be maintained if the land is brought into the Metro urban growth boundary.

Also, we wish to set the record straight that ODOT does **not** need an urban reserve designation in order to make currently proposed or future improvements at this interchange. The Transportation Planning Rule sections -0065 and -0070 provide for certain transportation improvements to be made on rural lands without and with exceptions to Statewide Planning Goals 3, 4, 11, and 14. In fact, an Urban Reserves designation does not affect any of the applicable requirements for interchange improvements.

ODOT thanks you for this opportunity to comment.

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