

March 6, 2019

Clackamas County Board of Commissioners Policy Position Support for Sunset Highway Corridor Study

The Board of County Commissioners supports the Governor's recommended budget request of \$1 million to support the Sunset Highway Corridor Study (SHCS), which will study potential multimodal solutions to improve mobility for the corridor.

The Portland metropolitan region's transportation system is critical to the economic vitality of Oregon. However, congestion plagues our roadways and has become an issue of statewide concern. More than 119,000 Clackamas County residents work outside of the county and depend on a well-functioning network of roadways and transit for their wellbeing.

The Sunset Highway (US 26) is an important inter-regional connection for businesses and residents that contributes significantly to the movement of goods and services. In recent years, it has become unreliable with congestion present for 13.5 hours per weekday and multiple hours on weekends despite being served by multiple light rail routes. This has resulted in thousands of commuters and freight taking substandard routes. Efforts must be taken to address these mobility challenges on the corridor.

Clackamas County supports the SHCS and urges the Legislature to appropriate \$1 million to help address this issue of regional and statewide concern.

Please contact Chris Lyons at <u>clyons@clackamas.us</u> for more information.