



STAFF REPORT/RESOLUTION

TO: Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors

FROM: Matt Ransom, Executive Director 

DATE: October 25, 2016

SUBJECT: **Skamania County Regional Transportation Plan Amendment,
Resolution 11-16-27**

AT A GLANCE - ACTION

RTC Board action is to amend the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for Skamania County. The Skamania County Regional Transportation Plan will be amended to better reflect the significance of the Bridge of the Gods to the Skamania County region.

INTRODUCTION

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for Skamania County is the long-range, regional transportation plan for Skamania County. State law requires the development of Regional Transportation Plans by Regional Transportation Planning Organizations. State law also requires that these Regional Transportation Plans undergo review every two years. The RTP is the result of a collaborative and coordinated process between partner agencies and RTC to ensure consistency between plans.

The Skamania County Regional Transportation Plan was last updated in May 2014. In April 2016, the Skamania County Transportation Policy Committee reviewed the 2014 Skamania County Regional Transportation Plan. The committee's review found that the Plan overall reflected the transportation needs of the Skamania County region. However, the committee recommended that the Plan be amended to better reflect the significance of the Bridge of the Gods to the Skamania County region.

At the Committee's August 3, 2016 meeting, the amended Skamania County Regional Transportation Plan was recommended for adoption by the RTC Board of Directors. The adoption of this resolution will amend the Skamania County Regional Transportation Plan and complete the two-year review.

RTP AMENDMENT

The Skamania County Transportation Policy Committee recommended that the following paragraph be added under the Economic Development Needs in Chapter 3 on page 35:

The RTP supports the implementation of the 10-Year Plan for the Bridge of the Gods, which identifies vital improvements and maintenance projects. The Bridge of the Gods is a critical access point for people and goods in the most populated portion of Skamania County. The economic well-being of the region is dependent on the Bridge of the Gods, which provides essential access to employment, services, and goods. The facility is aging

and it is essential that existing toll revenue be dedicated towards funding the 10-Year Plan, to guarantee the Bridge’s continual operation for many more years.

POLICY IMPLICATION

The Regional Transportation Plan for Skamania County represents the 20-year plan for development of the regional transportation system. Adoption of this RTP amendment completes the Regional Transportation Planning Organization requirement to review the RTP every two years.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

There is no impact to the RTC Budget. Funding for individual projects will be the responsibility of the lead project agency and will be advanced on an individual project basis. Funding to complete the RTP update and facilitation of the Skamania County Transportation Policy Committee is provided for in the RTC work program and annual budget. The primary sources of funding to complete this work are from the state RTPO planning funding and Member agency annual dues.

ACTION REQUESTED

Adoption of Resolution 11-16-27 “Skamania County Regional Transportation Plan Amendment.”

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2016,
by the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council.

SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

ATTEST:

Jack Burkman
Chair of the Board

Matt Ransom
Executive Director