



WORK SESSION | ROUNDTABLE

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Session Date: March 9, 2021 **Length of Time Requested:** 45 min
Title of Topic: LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION FINANCIAL UPDATE
Department: Land Use & Transportation
Presented by: Stephen Roberts, Director;
Name(s) & Title(s): Sheila Giambrone, Senior Administrative Manager;
Andy Back, Planning and Development Services Manager

LIST OF ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS OR PRESENTATIONS:

- A PowerPoint presentation will be provided at the Work Session
 - Current Planning and Building Services memorandum
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PURPOSE & DESIRED OUTCOME:

- Update the Board on the financial status of key programs and funds in the Department of Land Use & Transportation, with an emphasis on the Current Planning and Building Services programs
 - Solicit Board input on measures to help close anticipated Fiscal Year 2021-22 gaps between revenues and expenditures in the Current Planning and Building Services programs
 - Solicit Board input on the outline of a proposed study of services provided in the Current Planning and Building Services programs and potential strategies to fund those services in subsequent budget years
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POLICY QUESTIONS FOR THE BOARD TO CONSIDER:

- Does the Board support the approach outlined to address anticipated gaps between revenues and expenditures in Current Planning and Building Services?
 - Does the Board have any questions or concerns for staff to keep in mind moving forward?
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SUMMARY OF TOPIC:

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected funds and programs across the County and within the Department of Land Use & Transportation (LUT). Sharp declines in development activity and driving following the Governor's March 2020 *Stay Home; Save Lives* order have eased somewhat over the past year. As a result, revenues have stabilized in several programs as we have settled into a "new normal."

LUT staff will provide an update on various LUT programs, describe financial impacts to date, actions taken in response to current financial impacts and potential future actions.

Current Planning and Building Services: Please refer to the attached memo for additional information regarding these two programs.

(continued)

Community Planning: Community Planning maintains the County's Comprehensive Plan documents, including the Community Development Code, Community Plans for urban unincorporated areas, and the Rural/Natural Resource Plan for areas outside the urban growth boundary. A portion of this program's budget relies on General Fund and Video Lottery funds. Video Lottery revenues were down significantly following the *Stay Home; Save Lives* order; however, revenues have since returned to pre-COVID levels. Even with a slight decline in anticipated General Fund revenues, no significant impacts are anticipated in this program for FY 2021-22.

Road Fund: This fund receives revenues from state gas taxes, vehicle registration fees and weight-mile taxes on large trucks, as well as the county's gas tax and vehicle registration fee. It is used primarily for road maintenance and some minor road improvements. The pandemic resulted in shutdowns of the Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicle Services offices and Department of Environmental Quality emissions testing centers, which delayed vehicle registrations for several months. In addition, the *Stay Home; Save Lives* order resulted in less driving overall and lower gas tax revenues. However, revenues for this fund have also stabilized. We are projecting the state highway revenues apportionment for FY 2021-22 at about six percent below pre-COVID levels. This reflects a two-cent per gallon state gas tax increase due to take effect on Jan. 1, 2022 as well as some anticipated revenue growth from additional fuel sales as more schools and businesses reopen. We will manage this anticipated revenue reduction through vacancy management and some delays in road maintenance and improvement activities.

Major Streets Transportation Improvement Program (MSTIP) and Urban Road Maintenance District (URMD): Both MSTIP and URMD are property tax based. There were no significant revenue impacts in FY 2020-21, and no revenue impacts are anticipated in these funds in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2021-22.