



Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736



June 18, 2019

Mayor Russ Axelrod
City of West Linn
22500 Salamo Road
West Linn, OR 97068

Mayor Kent Studebaker
City of Lake Oswego
P.O. Box 369, 380 A Avenue
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Mayor Frank Bubenik
City of Tualatin
18880 SW Martinazzi Ave.
Tualatin, OR 97062

Re: Metro planning grant funding for Stafford

Dear Mayors Axelrod, Studebaker and Bubenik:

As you know, in 2015 the Metro Council approved a planning and development grant to Clackamas County in the amount of \$170,000 to fund an assessment of the demands future urban development in Stafford will have on the infrastructure in that area. One expressly stated purpose of the grant was to "inform subsequent concept planning" for the Stafford urban reserves.

Due to ongoing legal challenges and lack of acknowledgement of the urban reserve designations by Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) until 2018, Metro has provided four extensions of the deadline for entering into an intergovernmental agreement describing how those funds would be spent. Under the latest extension in 2018, the grant funding will expire on June 30, 2019 unless there is a signed intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between Metro and the County by that date.

Since the last extension, your cities entered into a three-party agreement in January 2019 stating that no concept planning for the Stafford area will occur for the next ten years. That agreement calls into question the continued relevance of the 2015 grant award, which was specifically intended to assess the demands that urban growth in Stafford would place on currently existing infrastructure in order to inform concept planning.

Under these circumstances, Metro has made the difficult decision to allow the current grant extension period to expire at the end of this month. Rather than spending public funds on a study that is likely to no longer be relevant if and when concept planning for Stafford does occur, Metro and Clackamas County encourage the cities to pursue a new 2040 Planning and Development Grant joint application in the future, perhaps with a broader scope that more accurately reflects the current agreement regarding how and when planning for Stafford will proceed.

Sincerely,

Lynn Peterson
Metro Council President

Jim Bernard
Chair, Clackamas County Board of Commissioners