



**Meeting Date:** March 20, 2017

**Report No.** CC-17-38

**Agenda Item No.** 8c

**Status:** General Orders

**Purpose:** Request City Council support for an update to the Stillwater Transportation Enhancement Plan and request approval of expenditures for transportation plan modeling services.

**Summary:** The 2007 Stillwater Transportation Enhancement Plan (STEP) is 10-years old. Municipalities that have 50,000 citizens or more are required to update their transportation plan every 5 years. There are many reasons to update the STEP now, including:

- **New growth areas:** The population growth, as stated in the Stillwater Community Housing and Affordability Study for the period from 2000 to 2010, showed a 15% increase in the northeast portion of the city and a 33% increase in the southwest portion while the rest of the city showed minimal or negative growth. These two areas continue to grow due to the development of the Canyons, Lightbearer's and Aspen Heights in the northeast and Tradan Heights, Tradan Heights Estates and 51 at Tradan Heights in the southwest. With the addition of Progress Apartments and the redevelopment of properties in the Corridor Redevelopment area, the center of the city is also experiencing a change in population;
- **Increased transit usage:** Transit usage has increased from an average of 500,000 prior to the 2007 STEP to an average of 700,000;
- **Increased city area:** The City has had ten annexations since the 2007 STEP was adopted. The annexations added 606 acres to the City;
- **Increased city population:** The 2007 STEP used 2005 data for the base year. The population was estimated using the 2000 census as the starting point. The estimated population for 2005 was 45,800. In the 2010 decennial census, the population was 45,700 and the 2015 American Community Survey estimates the City's population at 47,500. It is believed that the official census undercounts the actual population because the Census Bureau performs their random verification during the second week in May, which is traditionally a time in Stillwater when many residents are out-of-town;
- **Increased school enrollment:** Increase in school enrollment for Stillwater Public Schools from 5300 in 2005 to 6200 in 2015; and an increase in OSU enrollment from 20,000 in 2005 to 23,200 in 2015;
- **Changes in employment locations:** Commercial growth has occurred in the same areas as the population growth, in the northeast and southwest. The north Perkins Road corridor has had significant growth with Lakeview Pointe, restaurants and other retail stores. The southwest is slower in commercial growth than the northeast but has grown to include Walmart, Sonic,

hotels, a car dealership and small retail stores. Although the downtown area has not grown in size, the BID has created a popular multi-use downtown area with restaurants, bars, and retail stores;

- **New road classification:** Council approved changes in the functional classification of City roads on Dec. 17, 2012;
- **Multi-modal projects:** The transportation plan should incorporate the 2009 master plan for bicycle and pedestrian transportation “Stillwater Multi-Use Trail and On-Street Bicycle Master Plan”;
- **Increased state and federal funding opportunities:** Projects that are specifically listed in updated transportation plans are looked upon more favorably when being considered for state and federal funding.

Many of the projects in the 2007 STEP have been completed or are under design. The majority of the remaining projects listed for completion between 2010 and 2030 are either not needed, according to current growth patterns or usage, or determined to be not worthwhile after cost/benefit analysis.

With new modeling and incorporation of newer policies including the Multi-Modal Transportation Policy, different projects will emerge as priorities for the City. The new priorities and projects will be identified through a joint effort between multiple city departments and the Master Plan Committee. The Master Plan Committee was formed in 2010 to assist with the update of the Comprehensive Plan. The committee has assisted the City with the 2030 Comprehensive Plan, the Corridor Redevelopment Plan, the Form Based Code, the Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update and Flood Risk Information and Communications Plan. The committee currently consists of the following members:

- Kent Bradley
- Tricia Carpenter
- Tom Duncan
- Tim McCue
- Karen Melcher
- Jack Moore
- Kevin Mussett
- Arial Ross
- Craig Spencer
- Doug Swanson
- David Thomas
- Daniel Thrasher
- Tom Williams

A new proposed 20+ year transportation plan will be available for City Council review in the early part of the 2018 calendar year.

**Budget Impact:** The majority of the work will be completed by City staff to minimize the overall cost. Transportation modeling services will be required to complete the update. The cost to perform the modeling services is approximately \$113,000. Funding for the modeling services is available in the Transportation Improvement Fund (215), which has a current fund balance of \$225,129. The modeling services (Task Order No. 28) are proposed to be provided by Olsson Associates as part of the master

service agreement for on-call engineering services approved by Council on 7/18/16. No other anticipated direct expenses are associated with this planning effort.

**Prior Council Action or Part of an Approved Project:** No

**Related Items:** [CC-16-92 MSA Olsson](#); CC-12-122 Functional Classification of Roads (Attached)

**Alternatives:** The Council may choose to proceed with an update to the transportation plan or to continue to utilize the 2007 STEP as the City's official transportation plan.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Council direct staff to proceed with an update to the Stillwater Transportation Enhancement Plan and authorize expenditures up to \$124,000 (includes a 10% contingency) from the Transportation Improvement Fund for transportation modeling services.

**Prepared by:** Sharla B. Lovern, Interim Director of Transportation

**Reviewed by:** Paula Dennison, DS Director      **Reviewed by:** Dan Blankenship, Deputy City Manager

**Submitted by:** Norman McNickle, City Manager