



## Letter of Intent

DATE: May 6, 2020

TO: Sarah Medary, City Manager Pro Tem, City of Eugene, Oregon

Via e-mail to: SMedary@eugene-or.gov

FROM: Aurora Jackson, General Manager, Lane Transit District

RE: Franklin Boulevard Opportunity Zone Corridor Project and BUILD Grant Application

The *Franklin Boulevard Opportunity Zone Corridor* project (project) is a partnership between the cities of Eugene, Springfield, and Lane Transit District (LTD). The purpose of this multi-modal project is to: improve safety for all users of Franklin Boulevard; catalyze investment and growth in the Opportunity Zones of both cities; add capacity for vehicular modes, including transit; and create access to active transportation modes connecting all surrounding communities to the regional center for jobs, education, and social services.

The project includes construction of roundabouts at intersections with fatal crash histories, safe crossings for people walking and biking, protected bikeways, wide sidewalks, stormwater facilities, and transit elements to support LTD's EmX bus rapid transit service, such as double-tracking on the dedicated guideway in Eugene, and relocation of stations. The full project area begins at McVay Highway in Springfield and ends in Alder Street in Eugene. Eugene and Springfield are jointly submitting a BUILD grant application for Phase 2 of this project. Phase 2 extends from Mississippi Avenue to Henderson Avenue in Springfield and continues west of I-5 from Walnut Street to Alder Street in Eugene.

The Franklin EmX segment has become the spine of LTD's entire transit network; it serves the greatest number of riders in the LTD system and provides a major transportation link within the metro area. Today, the EmX service along the Franklin Blvd. corridor experiences overcrowding and travel times are impacted by congestion during peak periods due to the currently constrained bi-directional dedicated guideway segments that limit the practical operational frequency of EmX service to 10 minutes.

The project advances LTD's ability to provide the transit level of service that is needed to support the corridor development anticipated by the University of Oregon, and the cities of Eugene and Springfield. The addition of a new dedicated guideway in Eugene would allow LTD to decrease its existing headway from 10 minutes to 7.5 minutes through this segment. In addition, the goals of the project are consistent with LTD's mission statement and the goals and objectives specified in our *Long-Range Transit Plan*.

LTD staff has been actively involved with both communities in this project as a technical advisor and funding partner from its inception. LTD leadership has also been actively involved, alongside Eugene and Springfield staff, in advocating for the project and discussing project readiness with state and federal legislators and transportation agencies. In January 2020, this multi-agency team traveled to Washington, D.C. to discuss the project with the Federal Transit Administration.

During its 2017 regular session, the 79<sup>th</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly adopted House Bill 5006. Section 84 of the bill awards \$5,119,541 to LTD, which is currently being held by the state as Oregon's Lottery Bond resources. Since the award, LTD has been planning to use this resource as a local match for the transit elements of the project in Eugene.

Eugene and Springfield are jointly submitting a federal BUILD grant application for Phase 2 of this project. Eugene will be the primary applicant, Springfield will be the co-applicant, and LTD will support this application as a contributing partner agency.

A project update was presented to LTD's Board of Directors on Wednesday, April 29, 2020. After hearing the presentation, the Board approved and resolved to:

- Support the *Franklin Boulevard Opportunity Zone Corridor* project.
- Participate in the BUILD grant application as a contributing partner agency.
- Commit to provide its \$5M Lottery Bond resources as local match for the transit elements of the project in Eugene.
- If the grant is awarded to the project, formalize this partnership in a memorandum of agreement.

Jennifer Zankowski, Senior Development Planner, is LTD's Project Manager for this project and your primary contact. Jennifer may be reached by phone at 541-682-6135 or via e-mail at [jennifer.zankowski@ltd.org](mailto:jennifer.zankowski@ltd.org).

Regards,



Aurora Jackson  
General Manager

Enclosure: 2020-04-29-023 LTD Board Resolution

Cc: Jennifer Zankowski, Project Manager, LTD



**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-04-29-023**

**LTD SUPPORT OF FRANKLIN BOULEVARD OPPORTUNITY ZONE CORRIDOR PROJECT AND BUILD GRANT APPLICATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Franklin segment of LTD's EmX system is the critical spine of LTD's overall metropolitan transit network, providing a critical regional transportation link;

**WHEREAS**, the capacity of the Franklin segment of LTD's EmX system is constrained by one-way segments and currently experiences passenger overloading and travel time impacts associated with congestion and improvements are needed to maintain safety and a sustainable level of service;

**WHEREAS**, the cities of Eugene and Springfield and LTD have been partnering on two multi-modal projects (collectively *Franklin Boulevard Opportunity Zone Corridor* project [project]) to improve safety, catalyze investment, add transit capacity, and create access to active transportation modes along Franklin Boulevard;

**WHEREAS**, LTD was awarded \$5,119,541 via House Bill 5006, adopted during the 2017 regular session of the 79th Oregon Legislative Assembly, currently held by the state of Oregon as Lottery Bond resources;

**WHEREAS**, the cities of Eugene and Springfield are jointly applying for a federal BUILD grant to advance Phase 2 of the *Franklin Boulevard Opportunity Zone Corridor* project and have requested that LTD participate as a contributing agency;

**WHEREAS**, the goals of the *Franklin Boulevard Opportunity Zone Corridor* project are consistent with LTD's mission statement and the goals and objectives specified in LTD's *Long-Range Transit Plan*; and

**WHEREAS**, the project advances LTD's ability to enhance the transit level of service along the most traveled spine of the EmX system.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the LTD Board of Directors, adopts a resolution establishing the following:

- LTD supports the *Franklin Boulevard Opportunity Zone Corridor* project;
- LTD will participate in the BUILD grant application as a contributing agency;
- LTD commits, in principal, to provide its \$5M Lottery Bond resources as local match for the grant application; and,
- If the grant is awarded to the project, LTD will formalize this partnership in a memorandum of agreement.

ADOPTED BY THE LANE TRANSIT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON THIS 29<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2020.

  
Carl Yeh (Apr 30, 2020)

---

Board President, Carl Yeh






# Letter of Intent - Franklin Blvd Opportunity Zone Corridor Project and BUILD

Final Audit Report

2020-05-12

Created:	2020-05-12
By:	Kristin Kokkeler (kristin.kokkeler@ltd.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAACHuTGAW7yxQE1B3HXCT6fNUu4K9K7nko

## "Letter of Intent - Franklin Blvd Opportunity Zone Corridor Project and BUILD" History

-  Document created by Kristin Kokkeler (kristin.kokkeler@ltd.org)  
2020-05-12 - 10:27:19 PM GMT- IP address: 140.211.84.124
-  Document emailed to Aurora Jackson (aurora.jackson@ltd.org) for signature  
2020-05-12 - 10:28:02 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Aurora Jackson (aurora.jackson@ltd.org)  
2020-05-12 - 10:50:55 PM GMT- IP address: 104.47.49.254
-  Document e-signed by Aurora Jackson (aurora.jackson@ltd.org)  
Signature Date: 2020-05-12 - 10:51:20 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 63.155.73.82
-  Signed document emailed to Sarah Medary (smedary@eugene-or.gov), Kristin Kokkeler (kristin.kokkeler@ltd.org), jennifer.zankowski@ltd.org, and Aurora Jackson (aurora.jackson@ltd.org)  
2020-05-12 - 10:51:20 PM GMT



POWERED BY  
Adobe Sign