



JOHN A. KITZHABER, MD
Governor

April 4, 2013

The Honorable Lewis Key
City of Milton-Freewater
P.O. Box 6
Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

Dear Mayor Key:

Federal regulations require that a metropolitan planning organization (MPO) be designated for every urbanized area with a population over 50,000. The 2010 U.S. Census has identified the greater Walla Walla Valley area as an urbanized area, including the City of Milton-Freewater and a portion of Umatilla County in Oregon.

In response to your request, I am designating the Walla Walla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization as the metropolitan planning agency responsible for carrying out the provision of Federal regulations (29CFR part 450) for the urbanized area. The regulations require metropolitan planning organizations to conduct a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process.

I want to thank you and the Interim Lead Agency and Policy Board Members for all your hard work including working with key transportation entities and stakeholders in setting up your new, bi-state MPO. Your work is highly valued given that this new bi-state MPO will become the forum for making cooperative transportation decisions for your metropolitan planning area. I am also requesting that the Oregon Department of Transportation inform the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Transit Administration of the designation.

Sincerely,

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
Governor

JAK:gw/lh

Mayor Key
April 4, 2013
Page 2

Copies (w/attachments) to:

Lynn Peterson, Secretary, Washington State Department of Transportation
Don Whitehouse, Regional Administrator, Washington State Department of Transportation, South
Central Region
Larry Givens, Commissioner, Umatilla County, Oregon
Jim Barrow, Mayor, City of Walla Walla, Washington
Rick Newby, Mayor, City of College Place, Washington
Greg Tomkins, Commissioner, Walla Walla County, Washington
Richard Crochalis, Federal Transit Authority
Phil Ditzler, Oregon Division Administrator, FHWA
Jerri Bohard, TDD Administrator, ODOT
Hal Gard, Public Transit and Rail Administrator, ODOT
Teresa Penninger, Region 5 Planning Manager, ODOT
Monty Grove, Region 5 Manager, ODOT