WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners desires to seek grant opportunities to help defray the costs of maintaining the County road system and promote safety; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Growth Management (TGM) application process is open for 2017, for projects within the State of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, Lane County staff is preparing an application for Lane County’s first-ever Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan/Active Transportation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County ORDERS as follows:

1. That Lane County Public Works staff be authorized to submit funding applications to apply for this project, and that Lane County commits to providing staff in-kind match for the project, if funded; AND

2. That if the grant is approved the County Administrator be authorized to execute associated Intergovernmental Agreements to proceed with the project(s) and the County to be reimbursed through the grant program.

ADOPTED this 23rd day of May, 2017

Pat Farr, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners
Transportation and Growth Management Program
ODOT Mill Creek Building
555 13th Street NE, Suite 2
Salem, OR 97301

TGM Grant Committee Members:

The Lane County Board of Commissioners supports and requests your approval of this TGM application, to enable Lane County to create and adopt its first-ever Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, with a Safe Routes to Schools emphasis. These funds and this plan are urgently needed to support community efforts to expand transportation choices, which is the mission of TGM. Lane County needs this master plan to appropriately site a balanced, interconnected, and safe network of walking and biking facilities.

As you may recall, Lane County applied for TGM funds in 2015 and 2016 for the development of a Lane Community College Connectivity Plan. Those applications were not awarded; however, the process benefited the community by rallying support for improving bicycle and pedestrian access to the college. This need will be included in the countywide master plan proposed for this 2017 TGM grant.

Several initiatives are underway in Lane County in which the need for safe and connected places to walk and bike has been identified, including: an update to the Lane County Transportation System Plan; an update to the Lane County Parks Master Plan; development of a new Lane County Transportation Safety Action Plan; an update to the Community Health Improvement Plan for Lane County; and a Travel Oregon Bicycle Tourism Studio. Further, the City of Veneta was awarded STIP funding to design a multi-use path along Territorial Highway, between their city and the adjacent unincorporated community of Elmira. There are similar needs throughout Lane County, which has over 80 unincorporated communities, several of which include rural schools. Several of these efforts will be completed in time to begin this new Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan, including completion of Lane County’s Draft TSP update and its Transportation Safety Action Plan. The time is right to begin this Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan.
The Lane County Board of Commissioners supports this project and we ask the TGM Grant Committee to do the same. This request is consistent with the TGM mission and objectives, as detailed in the application. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pat Farr
Chair, Board County Commissioners