

POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

JUNE 27, 2013

Source

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Recommended Action

Approve removal of a segment of Giant Springs Road from the Urban System.

Attachment:

Map

REMOVAL OF ROUTE FROM URBAN SYSTEM

Overview

The South Central Arterials project is a roadway reconstruction project that includes 13th Street South from the City limits to 27th Avenue South; 26th Street South from the City limits to 24th Avenue South; and, 24th Avenue South from 13th Street South to 26th Street South.

The above roads are both “on” and “off” the Federal-Aid Urban System, a State designated system that allows expenditure of Federal transportation dollars on the roadway. The 13th and 26th Streets South segments of the South Central Arterials Project are on the Urban System, and 24th Avenue South is off. On March 28, upon the request from PCC, the Montana Transportation Commission agreed to add 24th Avenue South to the Urban System but also required it to be balanced by the removal of a like segment from the local Urban System.

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) requires any segment identified for removal to have a logical terminus, which could be either a junction with another major roadway or an entrance to an important destination or traffic generator.

Urban System Segment Recommended for Removal

TAC and staff considered multiple options for removal, and ultimately determined that a section of Giant Springs Road would be the most logical and least impactful road segment for removal

from the Urban System. The segment is that section of road from the entrance to the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center to the current end of the Urban road segment—approximately .52 miles further at the entrance to the fish hatchery housing (see attached Map).

Reducing the length of this Urban roadway would terminate the Giant Springs Road Urban segment at an important destination, and allow for the addition of a higher-traffic roadway—24th Avenue South.

TAC recommended PCC approve this segment for removal at its May 9 meeting.

Impact

Removal of this segment would remove it from eligibility to receive Federal transportation funds for improvement projects. Such projects typically include roadway reconstruction, intersection improvements or pavement preservation projects. However, removal will allow for more flexible road standards than would have otherwise been possible.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

“I move PCC remove from the Urban System a segment of Giant Springs Road, from the entrance to the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center to the current end of the route.”