

## IV. Public Involvement

The residents of the Corvallis area and its public officials highly value citizen participation in public decision-making processes. As such, among the earliest tasks completed by the newly formed organization was development and adoption of a *Public Involvement Framework* (Appendix B). In compliance with federal requirements, the *Public Involvement Framework* document was duly advertised and released for public review and comment. Following a 45-day comment period, the Policy Board adopted the framework. The document outlines the public outreach efforts required for the organization's transportation planning and programming activities.

The *Framework* calls for development of a specially tailored public involvement plan for each of CAMPO's major planning activities. In compliance with this directive, a special *Public Involvement Plan* was adopted by the Policy Board for the development of the *Corvallis Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan* (Appendix C). Figure IV-1 shows the public involvement process used in the development of the Transportation Plan.

Implementation of the *Public Involvement Plan* involved two types of outreach activities: Continuous and Episodic.

### A. Continuous Outreach

Throughout the development of the Plan, commenting opportunities were provided to the public at all meetings of the Policy Board. Dates, time and location of the meetings were announced in the newspaper. All material (agendas, minutes of the meetings, draft documents, etc.) were available on the CAMPO website.

### B. Episodic Outreach

In addition to the continuous outreach effort, special outreach and public involvement opportunities were structured into the process. These included initial, midcourse and final public meetings.

#### 1. Initial Public Meetings

The initial public meeting was held to discuss the purpose, scope, process and schedule for development of the Transportation Plan. Notices of the meeting were posted on the MPO website and were published twice in the *Corvallis Gazette-Times*. A direct mail notification was sent to interested citizens and members of the transportation related committees in the Urbanized Area.

Public input from this first meeting contributed to the drafting of the Plan's Vision and Goals and the identification of transportation issues to be addressed by the Plan. Subsequent to the public meeting, the Ad hoc Committee, comprised of the chairs of various city and county transportation committees, reviewed the input gathered from the public and provided comment on the draft vision and goals.

## **2. Midcourse Public Meetings**

Two Public Open House Meetings were held at midcourse decision-making points.

The focus of the first meeting was the review of Transportation System Alternatives and the impacts of each Alternative as analyzed by the Corvallis Travel Demand Model. The public was asked to provide input into the formation of a Preferred System Alternative based on their review of the described impacts. The Ad Hoc Committee also provided input into the formation of the Preferred System Alternative.

The second open house focused on review of and comment on the modeling results for the Preferred Alternative. The announcement of, invitation to and materials related to these open houses were published and distributed in the same manner as for the initial public meetings.

## **3. Final Public Meeting**

A public meeting was held on September 14, 2006 to seek public comments on the draft of the Transportation Plan. This meeting was advertised in the media and copies of the draft Transportation Plan were made available to the public. Staff provided an overview of the entire document and its development process. Members of the public asked questions about the role of the Travel Forecasting Model, the Financial Plan and the sources of revenue for the recommended projects. An issue discussed was the need for a more effective public transportation between Philomath and Albany through Corvallis. The public was informed of the adoption schedule and additional opportunities for providing comments.

## **4. Public Hearing**

A voluntary Public Hearing was held on September 21, 2006 to receive public testimonies on the adoption of the Transportation Plan. The CAMPO's Policy Board received testimonies. Additional public testimonies on the adoption of the Plan were received through September 25, 2006. A summary of written comments was provided to the Policy board. The public was also informed about the adoption schedule of the Transportation Plan.

**Figure IV-1**

# Public Involvement Process

for the development of the

*Corvallis Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan: Destination 2030*





