August 15, 2018 RPTAC Meeting Packet

Regional Public Transit Advisory Committee
August 15 from 1:30 – 3:30 pm at COIC offices
334 NE Hawthorne, Bend, OR
Conference line number: 1-800-392-9139
Conference ID: 489537

August 15, 2018 Meeting Agenda

1:30 Welcome and Introductions - Richard Ross, RPTAC Chair

1:40 Review and approval of May meeting minutes – Richard Ross, RPTAC Chair

1:45 Public Comment Period

1:50 Cascades East Transit staffing update – Michelle Rhoads, COIC/CET

2:00 "Transit Transformation in the Gorge" Presentation – Kathy Fitzpatrick, Mobility Manager at Mid-Columbia Economic Development District

2:30 Commute Options Friendly Driver Program + Oregon Public Transit Conference Update Kim Curley, Commute Options

2:45 Citywide Transportation Advisory Committee Update – Richard Ross, RPTAC Chair and CTAC member

3:00 CET Master Transit Plan Update – Andrea Breault, COIC/CET

3:10 COIC/CET Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Planning Update – Michelle Rhoads, COIC/CET

3:25 Discuss Fall RPTAC Meeting Schedule and Locations - All

3:30 Adjourn

August 15, 2018 RPTAC Meeting Packet

RPTAC Meeting Minutes from May 24, 2018

Meeting attendees:

Kim Curley – Commute Options
Richard Ross – RPTAC Chair
Molly Taroli – PacificSource
Tyler Deke – Bend MPO
Jordan Ohlde – Citizen Member
Casey Bergh – OSU-Cascades

COIC/CET Staff

Michelle Rhoads
Steve Jorgensen
Derek Hofbauer

A quorum was not present at this meeting

Introductions

Ms. Rhoads welcomed Steve Jorgensen, the new Senior Transit Planner for COIC/CET. Mr. Jorgensen brings a wealth of knowledge to COIC/CET regarding transit planning. Chair Ross commented that Mr. Jorgensen's arrival is timely with the new HB2017 statewide transit funding (STIF) and CET's upcoming Transit Development Plan efforts.

Review of 2/21 meeting minutes

The group reviewed the meeting minutes and had a discussion regarding Mr. Douglas's presentation at the February RPTAC meeting and his ADA requests to CET. Ms. Rhoads was asked about a follow up regarding Mr. Douglas's presentation and noted the complaint is in the hands of the Department of Justice and a resolution will be determined in the near future. Ms. Rhoads also noted CET's FTA Triennial review is scheduled for 5/30 and 5/31. A motion was made to accept the minutes. Mr. Ohlde seconded and all members approved.

CET staffing update

Ms. Rhoads indicated that Dylan Corbin is leaving CET and taking a fellowship position at Fish and Wildlife in San Diego. Andrea Breault will also be joining CET in June and comes from Tufts University where she was the Assistant Director of Transportation and Parking. CET is also close to staffing the rural supervisor position.

Public comment period:

Mr. Hofbauer read Richard Gilbert's emailed comments regarding low ridership of route 12, buses potentially going over the posted speed limit, and the loud noises generated from route 12 buses traveling through Northwest Crossing.

Bend Transportation Planning Projects Update

Mr. Deke discussed the purpose of the MPO boundary. Chair Ross mentioned the MPO can apply for special funds at the Federal level. MPOs need to develop a long term plan and make sure they are compliant with federal policies. They need to address tourism as part of their planning process. The MPO also develops a Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Deke listed the planning projects throughout the region. Below are a few that were discussed.

- US 97 Parkway Study - ODOT is looking at how to manage the parkway over the next 20 years.
- Transportation Safety Action Plan – there is a need to align these efforts with partners and stakeholders
- CET Transit Development Plan

Chair Ross indicated that the Hamby Road crossing (Hwy 20 and Hamby) was a traffic hotspot with an uptick in crashes. City staff is getting started on UGB work. NW Crossing housing and population is going to grow. The density isn't quite there yet for efficient transit.

Current transportation projects discussed include:

- Empire Ave. extension
- Murphy Road extension (3 phases)
- Oregon HB 2017 for work on north US 97 – new portion of highway will be adjacent to the railroad
- US 20/3rd Street: Empire to Greenwood (engineering and public process begins this summer)

Ms. Rhoads asked if there are Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) opportunities to explore prior to the construction of these facilities.

CET Service Modification Proposal

Ms. Rhoads discussed the 2015-2018 Service Expansion Pilot Project that added routes 7 and 12 and increased frequencies along other routes. There were mixed results in terms of ridership from the pilot project. Route 12 ridership never materialized as envisioned. Due to the June 30, 2018 sunset of the Service Expansion Pilot Project funding from community partners, the City of Bend, OSU-Cascades, COCC, and St. Charles, there is now a $470,000 shortfall in the CET budget. To address this shortfall, CET developed proposals to eliminate route 12, potentially eliminate route 6 and make on time performance better on route 7. Meetings with 2015-2018 Service Expansion Pilot Project partners were held on May 5 and May 23 to present ridership information and discuss potential impacts to the community. During the May 23 community partner meeting, proposals were solidified to eliminate route 12, preserve route 6 (provided City Council and COIC approve funds), and modifications to route 7 to improve on-time performance.

CET developed and initiated a robust public outreach process to solicit feedback for CET service modification proposals, which were posted at Hawthorne Station and along affected bus routes and stops. Comment cards regarding proposed route modifications were also handed out by bus drivers on routes 6, 7, and 12. Additionally, the press was present at the RPTAC meeting to record images of the presentation and talk with Mr. Rhoads about the CET service modification proposals that were placed

throughout the community. CET also hired a consultant, Jacobs Engineering/CH2M Hill, to assist with the data analysis process and facilitate meetings with 2015-2018 Service Expansion Pilot partners.

Recreational services update

2018 Ride Bend Service

- City of Bend, Visit Bend and COIC are the sponsors of the service
- Extended service from 2 - 10 pm in 2017; the 2018 service is from Noon to 10 pm)
- There were slight route modifications in Old Mill so the bus can dwell and pick up passengers on Bluff Drive, which is closer to Old Mill compared to the 2017 stop.

Ms. Rhoads noted that a lesson learned from last year was that Ride Bend was frequently used as a substitute for Ride the River. CET has evolved the service to help encourage people to use the Ride the River shuttle for actual river floating trips.

2018 Ride the River

- Park and Float (a parking lot and tube rental at Columbia and Simpson) was added to the service
- A shuttle service will provide transportation between the Park and Float and Riverbend.
- A third bus will be added starting June 30.
- A pilot project will operate June 16 –July 13 to start service at 10 am to test the demand of the earlier service. The pilot may be continued for the rest of the summer season if there is demand.

FLAP update

Mr. Hofbauer presented a one page document that highlighted COIC's FLAP application for a two-year pilot summer transit service from Hawthorne Station to Devils' Lake, with stops at Mt. Bachelor and popular trailheads. The service (if funded) will help alleviate traffic and parking congestion along Cascades Lakes Scenic Byway. Mt. Bachelor supported the application and provided the local match contribution for the application.

TriCounty Summit

Ms. Curley provided an update regarding the TriCounty Summit. Casey Kaiser (a speaker at the summit) talked about population growth in Prineville and how millennials are choosing to locate based more on preference and less on job opportunities. Ms. Curley also noted there was a discussion about the many economic and tourism benefits for transit, particularly for recreation services. Bicycle tourism was also a popular topic at the Summit and Mr. Jorgensen noted Prineville just built a bike park and pump track. Mr. Hofbauer presented CET transit initiatives and updates at the Summit. Ms. Curley also noted new employment opportunities in Prineville with the new Facebook server facility.

COIC/CET Transit Planning and Outreach Specialist Position Descriptions

CENTRAL OREGON INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL: The Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council serves the local governments of Central Oregon, providing regional collaboration, efficiencies and service delivery for a strong local economy and quality of life.

POSITION: Transit Planning Specialist

APPLICATION DEADLINE: This recruitment will remain open until the position is filled!

POSITION SUMMARY: The Transit Planning Specialist works with the transportation team under general direction of the Senior Transit Planner to provide technical assistance, program development, and outreach support for public transit planning, public engagement/outreach projects, and open house events within the Central Oregon Region. Ideal candidates possess strong written and verbal communication skills, and have a passion for growing transit service in Central Oregon. The Transit Planning Specialist will be an analytical thinker with a demonstrated ability to quickly and proficiently learn to use various software and graphic design products. Besides proficiency in Microsoft Office, the position doesn't require specific software skills; however, the Transit Planning Specialist will learn to use software tools including InDesign, Illustrator, QGIS, Google Mymaps, and Crystal Reports. Applicants should be able to work well as part of a team and should excel in a collaborative and interactive workspace.

MINIMUM EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's Degree plus one (1) year of work experience in transportation planning, outreach, marketing, or a related field or the equivalent combination of education and experience in related field may be substituted.

CENTRAL OREGON INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL: The Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council serves the local governments of Central Oregon, providing regional collaboration, efficiencies and service delivery for a strong local economy and quality of life.

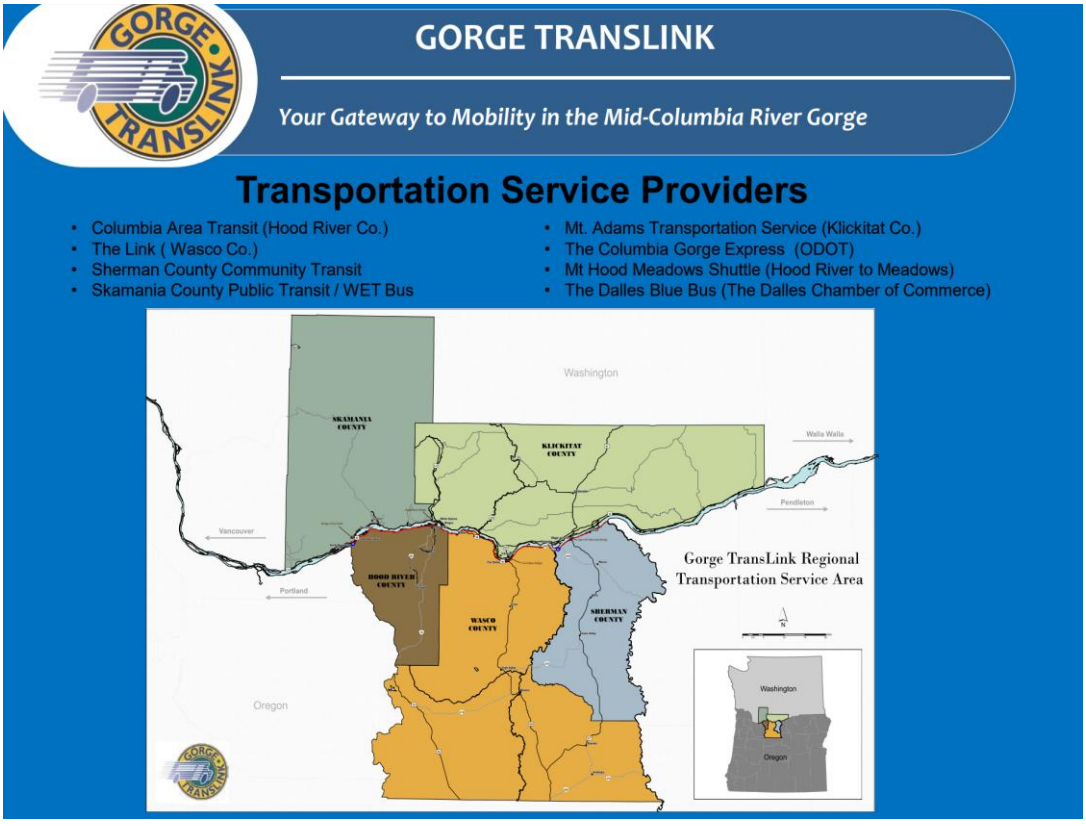
POSITION: Transit Outreach Specialist

APPLICATION DEADLINE: This recruitment will remain open until the position is filled!

POSITION SUMMARY: The Transit Outreach Specialist works with the transportation team under general direction of the Outreach and Engagement Administrator to provide technical assistance, program development, and outreach support for transit-related outreach projects, events, and meetings within the Central Oregon Region. Ideal candidates are organized and creative, and possess strong written and verbal communication skills. Candidates should also be proficient conducting tabling outreach, planning events, posting social media and website content, and designing outreach materials. Candidates should have a passion for growing transit service in Central Oregon and communicating the benefits of transit to partners and community members. The Transit Outreach Specialist will be an analytical thinker with a demonstrated ability to quickly and proficiently learn to use various software and graphic design products. Besides proficiency in Microsoft Office, the position doesn't require specific software skills; however, the Transit Outreach Specialist will learn to use software tools including InDesign, Illustrator, and Excel. Applicants should be able to work well as part of a team and should excel in a collaborative and interactive workspace

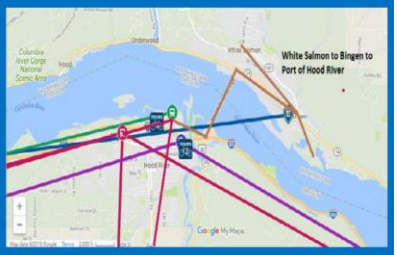
MINIMUM EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's Degree plus one (1) year of work experience in transportation planning, outreach, marketing, or a related field or the equivalent combination of education and experience in related field may be substituted.

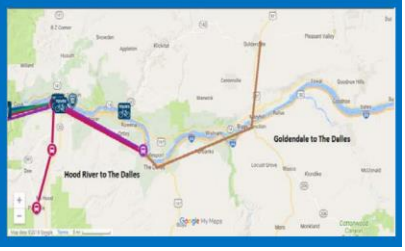
"Transit Transformation in the Gorge" overview slides from a guest presentation by Kathy Fitzpatrick



New Fixed Route Transit Services in the Columbia Gorge

Transportation Provider	Key Destinations	Service Days	Approx.Daily Round Trips
Mt Adams Transportation Service (Klickitat County-MATS)	White Salmon--Bingen--Port of Hood River	M-F	11
Mt Adams Transportation Service (MATS)	Goldendale--The Dalles (including city loop)	M-F	5
Skamania County West End Transit (WET Bus)	Carson—Vancouver Stops at popular trailheads	M-F Sat/Sun (July-Sept)	2 2
Skamania County Dog Mountain Shuttle System	Stevenson--Dog Mountain Trailhead	F, Sat, Sun (March-July)	13
Columbia Area Transit (Hood River County Transp. District)	Hood River City Route	M-F	12
CAT	HR City to Upper Valley	M-F	9
CAT	The Dalles	M-F	8
CAT	Hood River to Cascade Locks	M-F	7
CAT	Portland	T, Wed, Thurs,	2
CAT Transit Pink Trolley	Port of Hood River through Downtown to the Heights	Sat and Sun	Continuous
Columbia Gorge Express (ODOT)	Portland to Port of Hood River	Mon-Sunday	4-5
Mt Hood Meadows Shuttle (Mt. Hood Meadows)	Port of Hood River to Mt. Hood Meadows	Fri-Sun-Sat & Holidays (winter)	9
Commuter Bus	Portland-Hood River	M-F (coming soon)	2
The Link (Wasco County)	Shopping Bus, Farmers Market	Fixed route coming April 2019	





Kathy Fitzpatrick, Mobility Manager
Mid-Columbia Economic Development District
kathy@mcedd.org

GORGE TRANSLINK

COMMUTE OPTIONS

Mid-Columbia MCEDD
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Commute Options Friendly Driver Program Information

ABOUT ▾ OPTIONS ▾ I AM A... ▾ VOLUNTEER WITH US NEWS RESOURCES

OREGON FRIENDLY DRIVER PROGRAM: SIGN UP TODAY!

By Katy Bryce, for Commute Options

All too often we hear about serious crashes between people driving and people riding bikes or walking. In fact, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has identified Deschutes County as having a relatively high rate of crashes involving drivers and people riding bikes or walkers that often result in injuries or fatalities. However, most of these tragic crashes are preventable. Research shows that behavior and personal choices influence crash occurrence and severity just as much as roadway design.

Commute Options has launched the Oregon Friendly Driver Program, where drivers learn skills that keep all road users safe. When we all understand the same rules of the road, we can reduce crashes and conflicts and have a better experience while getting where we need to be.

The Oregon Friendly Driver Program is a free 1-hour class aimed at educating drivers on the best and safest way to use our streets with people on bicycles and people walking. The class, sponsored by ODOT, is geared towards people who drive for work, such as truck drivers, delivery drivers, bus drivers, contractors, and other employees that spend a lot of time on the roads. Unlike a bicycle safety or pedestrian safety class, this class is designed specifically for drivers to learn how to be a friendly driver.

To be an Oregon Friendly Driver you will learn about:

- The rights and responsibilities of all road users.
- How to avoid common crashes that could involve people bicycling or walking.
- How to drive correctly through bicycling and walking specific road features such as sharrows, bike boxes, green lanes and crosswalks.

Upon successful completion of the class, participants will receive an Oregon Friendly Driver certificate and sticker, which can be displayed on their vehicle.

The City of Fort Collins, Colorado launched a similar friendly driver program in December 2015 and has seen a surge in interest in the classes. Over the last two years, the class has been taught to all city bus operators, over 800 high school students, and several private companies that want to educate their employees about how to be safe on the roads.

Lane County and Portland Metro also have similar statistics for crashes. Commute Options Education Coordinator Kate Armstrong is teaching the classes and helping to develop curriculum for the whole state. “Commute Options is collaborating with organizations in Eugene and Portland to develop a state wide curriculum that can be adapted to each specific region,” Armstrong said.

This program is open now! If you are interested in scheduling a class for your business and employees, contact Kim Curley at Commute Options: Kim Curley or 541-408-6111.

Commute Options promotes choices that reduce the impacts of driving alone. For more information, contact Executive Director, Jeff Monson at 541-330-2647 or visit www.commuteoptions.org

Citywide Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Overview

Citywide Transportation Advisory Committee

Like 6 Font Size: Share & Bookmark Feedback Print

The Citywide Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) provides recommendations related to the updates of the Transportation System Plan (TSP) and Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

The CTAC is also responsible for providing policy recommendations to City Council on a variety of transportation-related policies and funding strategies to support Council Goal 2: Transportation "Move people and products around Bend efficiently, safely and reliably."

The CTAC is comprised of 25 members, with one alternate. The first meeting of the CTAC was February 28, 2018.

CTAC MEMBERS

- Katy Brooks
- Louis Capozzi
- Garrett Chrostek
- Casey Davis
- Karna Gustafson
- Hardy Hanson
- Steve Hultberg
- Sally Jacobson
- Suzanne Johannsen
- Gavin Leslie
- Nicole Mardell
- Katie McClure
- Ariel Mendez
- Mike Riley
- Richard Ross
- Mel Siegel
- Iman Simmons
- Sid Snyder
- Glenn Van Cise
- Dale Van Valkenburg
- Peter Werner
- Ruth Williamson
- Sharlene Wills
- Dean Wise
- Keith Wooden
- Travis Davis- Alternate 1

ODOT STIF Funding Overview and Timeline

July 1, 2018

Oregon Department of Transportation

Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund

Overview of Approved Oregon Administrative Rules

Improving public transportation for Oregonians

With the passage of House Bill 2017, Keep Oregon Moving, the Oregon Legislature made a significant investment in transportation to help advance the things that Oregonians value—a vibrant economy with good jobs, strong communities with high quality of life, a clean environment, and safe, healthy people. A centerpiece of Keep Oregon Moving is the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF). This fund provides a new dedicated source of funding to expand public transportation service in Oregon communities.

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) worked with a Rules Advisory Committee and accepted public input to develop rules to guide the use and implementation of STIF program areas. The Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) approved the rules, which became effective July 1, 2018.

Key elements of STIF general rules

These rules (Chapter 732, Division 40) establish the procedures and requirements for the administration of the STIF Formula, Discretionary and Intercommunity Discretionary fund rules to improve public transportation service in Oregon. The content of Division 40 pertains to all three funds.

STIF program areas in rulemaking:

Formula Fund
Ninety percent (90%) of the STIF will be distributed to Qualified Entities based on taxes paid within their geographic area, with a minimum amount of $100,000 per year to each Qualified Entity.

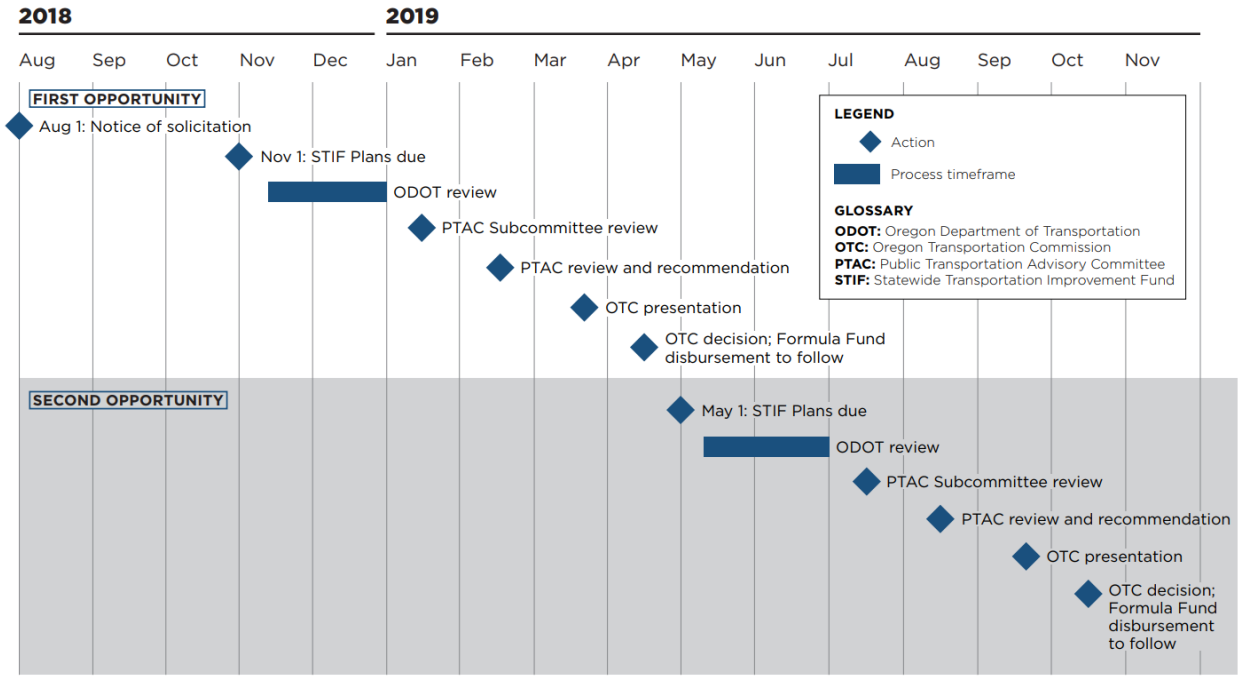
Discretionary Fund
Five percent (5%) of the STIF will be awarded to eligible public transportation service providers based on a competitive grant process.

Intercommunity Discretionary Fund
Four percent (4%) of the STIF will be used to improve public transportation between two or more communities based on a competitive grant process.

www.oregon.gov/ODOT/RPTD/Pages/STIF.aspx

FORMULA FUND SCHEDULE

June 2018



More information about STIF can be found on ODOT's website.