Cascades East Transit
Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council
334 NE Hawthorne Ave, Bend, OR 97701
cascadeseasttransit.com

Regional Public Transit Advisory Committee (RPTAC)

Wednesday, February 24 @ 1:30-3:00pm
Hawthorne Station Conference Room

Join via Zoom

Meeting Agenda

Call to order

Welcome and introductions

Public comment

- We encourage public comment to be submitted by email at rptac@cascadeseasttransit.com
- Participants joining by Zoom may use the "raise hand" feature to request to speak

Approval of minutes from meeting on October 18, 2023

Transit Services Report • Eric Lint (15 minutes)

- Bend fixed route service updates
  - Routes 1 and 3 frequency temporarily reduced due to construction projects
- Mt Bachelor winter shuttle
- Vanpool program
  - Commute with Enterprise visited Central Oregon
  - 32 vanpools now on the road!
- Upcoming Crooked River Ranch service assessment

Project Updates • Eric Lint & Derek Hofbauer (15 minutes)

- Mobility hub outreach updates:
  - Bend South
  - Troy Field (Downtown Bend)
- Security camera project update
- Hawthorne Station Safety Improvement Project outreach and communications

Opportunity Foundation Program Update – Brandon Safely (10 minutes)

- Discussion of STIF-funded program

ODOT and MPO Updates (10 minutes)

- Staff from ODOT and Bend MPO to provide project updates

Statewide Transit Legislation • Derek Hofbauer (10 minutes)

- OTA supports SB 1553 making it a misdemeanor to use illicit drugs on public transit.
    - Read TriMet's overview of the legislation here.
- Preparing for a transportation package in 2025 – state budget and new legislation.

RPTAC Member Recruitment • Derek Hofbauer (5 minutes)

- Deadline to apply extended to end of March
- Confirm scoring committee members and timeline

Member Roundtable (10 minutes)

- Report outs from RPTAC members on items of interest

Good of the order

- Upcoming events

Meeting adjourns

Next RPTAC meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2024

###

How to join the meeting remotely via Zoom

If the button at the top of this agenda does not work for you, try using this link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89144598795?pwd=UEpzYlV6SGJGSDV4andrQlJTVmRidz09

Alternatively, you may call in with this link or dial:

Phone: (669) 444-9171

Meeting ID: 891 4459 8795

Passcode: 244552

Cascades East Transit
Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council
334 NE Hawthorne Ave, Bend, OR 97701
cascadeseasttransit.com

Regional Public Transit Advisory Committee (RPTAC)

Wednesday, October 18 @ 1:30-3:00pm
Hawthorne Station Conference Room

Meeting Minutes

Call to order

Welcome and introductions

- Brian Potwin
- Casey Bergh
- Anne Marland
- Bob Bryant
- Denise La Buda
- Jovi Arellano
- Eric Lint
- Derek Hofbauer
- Indigo Larson
- Andrea Napoli
- Fatima Taha

Public comment

No public comment

Approval of minutes from meeting on August 23, 2023

Mr. Bryant motioned to approve, Mr. Berg seconded – minutes passed unanimously

Transit Services Report • Eric Lint (15 minutes)

- Route 9 launched
    - Express route on third St.
    - Driver speaks fluent Spanish
    - RT 8 in development – requires 1.5 FTE for driver to operate the route
    - Mr. Bergh asked when fares will return, to which Mr. Lint noted there is a plan to return to fares.
- Summer recreation services review
    - Ride the River – 56,968 rides, which is down 4% from 2022 and 10% up from 2021; improved branding and signage next year
    - Lava Butte – 31,069 rides – down 3% from 2022.Ticket price raised from $2 to $3
    - Transit to Trails – operated Weds-Sunday; 931 rides; renewed through 2025; planning more events next year with Discover Your Forest and other partners like Oregon Adaptive Sports; ridership is comparable to some community connectors.
- Winter services preview
    - Mt. Bachelor Shuttle is $7 one way $12 round trip

        - New transit season pass for $299
        - Real-time signage coming
        - CET operations staff working on stops during and after snow conditions
        - Ms, Labuda asked about communications around winter driving conditions to and from Mt. Bachelor. Mr. Bryant noted making sure the recreation services have good ridership is helpful since they aren't receiving STIF funding.
- Crooked River Ranch marketing + outreach effort
    - Ridership is slumping; staff are engaging the HOA to place banners and flyers.
- Sisters Dial-A-Ride and STARS program
- STARS – Ms. Marland noted that 1200 riders and they have driven 55,000 miles; they have a couple of drivers that speak Spanish. STARS is working on a sustainability effort and transition program.
- Article in the Nugget today

Project Updates • Eric Lint (15 minutes)

- Wage increases in effect for CET employees.
- New mobility hub proposed: Bend South; planned in long range documents and funding available through existing sources. Ms. La Buda asked if this is our first mobility hub, to which Mr. Lint responded we have a downtown pilot hub. Mr. Potwin asked about the timeline and next steps. Mr. Hofbauer will conduct outreach in DRW and in neighborhoods and it will likely come online in 2025, if deemed feasible. Mr. Bryant asked about access points, to which Mr. Lint noted there will be two. Mr. Bergh noted this is a good opportunity to work with ODOT and tapping into the multi-family neighborhoods. Ms. Marland noted it would be good to connect to services in La Pine and Sunriver.
- Oregon Travel Study: ten-year statistical effort – working with Bend MPO to help get response rates.
- Get There Challenge 21,000 trips; 42 teams in Central Oregon.
- Real-time signage coming to Madras and Mt Bachelor – will have rotating signs that serve two buses in Madras. They will also rotate in Spanish.
- Overview of STIF Committee meetings – good outcomes from all meetings; nearly 50% of STIF funds are going to increased costs and driver wages; safety conversations in Warm Springs

Bend MPO Updates • Andrea Napoli (10 minutes)

- Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update
- Webpage for community input; using public outreach to inform planning process
- Seven goals are listed in the plan:
    - Increase system capacity, quality and connectivity for all users
    - Ensure safety for all users
    - Facilitate housing supply, job creation, and economic development
    - Project livability and ensure equity and access
    - Steward the environment and support climate resiliency
    - Have a region outlook and future focus
    - Implement a comprehensive funding and implementation plan
- Prioritization exercise with RPTAC – taking projects that are already in approved plans (TSP, TMP) and doing transportation modeling for future growth. Ms. La Buda asked where does the future look. The group chose 1,4 6 as the top three goals.

Commute Options Vanpool Update • Indigo Larsen (10 minutes)

- 23 vans on the road; STIF funds cover the costs of vans and gas, insurance, roadside assistance, etc. Longer routes go from Prineville to Crescent. Needs to be employer based. Working on creating a joint vanpool to and from Sisters. Fastest growing vanpool program in the state. Ms. Marland asked about Black Butte Ranch – they have their own vehicle for shuttling vehicles. Last summer there was a van operating to Black Butte Ranch.

RPTAC Member Recruitment • Derek Hofbauer (5 minutes)

- Deadline to apply extended
- First round review of applications to take place in early 2024
- Subcommittee members needed to review and score applications, as well as make a recommendation to COIC Board for appointments.
- Ms. La Buda, Mr. Bryant, and Ms. Marland volunteered to be on the scoring committee.

Topics for the year ahead • Group discussion (20 minutes)

- What would you like to see at RPTAC meetings in 2024? Specific topics? Educational items about the CET system or services? Field trips?
    - Ms. Labuda – askes to frame up 2024 for big picture items – bring the committee around.

Good of the order

- Upcoming events, miscellany

Meeting adjourns

###