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

Regional Public Transit Advisory Committee (RPTAC)

Wednesday, August 21 @ 1:30-3:00pm
Hawthorne Station Conference Room

Join via Zoom

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 June 12, 2024

Transit Services Report • Eric Lint (10 minutes)

- Ridership statistics
- Service changes
- Recent outreach events

Upcoming Projects • Eric Lint (10 minutes)

- Travel training coming soon!
- Pilot shuttle service to Virginia Meissner Sno Park
    - **RPTAC vote requested to support this pilot project.**

Upcoming Meetings • Derek Hofbauer (5 minutes)

- September 12: Oregon State Legislature's Joint Committee on Transportation statewide tour visits Bend. A public hearing is being held at OSU-Cascades.
    - Written comment accepted at: JCT.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov
- September/October STIF Advisory Committee meetings and STIF Plan approval

Partner Updates • (10 minutes)

- Informational report outs from local governments and transportation providers.

CET Major Projects • Gary Farnsworth (15 minutes)

- Hawthorne Station Safety Improvement Project
- Mobility Hubs

RPTAC Member Reports • RPTAC discussion (15 minutes)

- Committee members' experiences using transit
- Community engagement opportunities

RPTAC Next Meeting • RPTAC discussion (5 minutes)

- Next meeting is Wednesday, October 16 from 1:30-3:00pm at Hawthorne Station
- Request for agenda topics and guest speakers

Good of the order

Meeting adjourns

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Zoom meeting details

Download and import an iCalendar (.ics) file here.

Join by phone at: (253) 215-8782

Meeting ID: 891 4459 8795

Passcode: 9anWxB

Upcoming events

August 27	CET presentation to City of Bend Transportation Bond Oversight Committee (TBOC)
September 2	Last day of recreational route service (Transit to Trails, Ride the River, Lava Butte)
Sep 5	COIC Board meeting in Redmond (and via Zoom)
Sep 12	**Joint Transportation Committee Tour in Bend**
Sep 12-14	Latinos In Transit Leadership Summit in Portland
Sep 14	Latino Fest in Madras
Sep 20	Transportation Options Group of Oregon (TOGO) Statewide Transportation Options meeting in Eugene
Sep 24	Warm Springs STIF Advisory Committee Meeting
October 9	Deschutes County STIF Advisory Committee Meeting
Oct 14	Jefferson County STIF Advisory Committee Meeting
Oct 16	**Next RPTAC meeting**
Oct 23	Crook County STIF Advisory Committee Meeting
Oct 28-30	Oregon Transportation Association (OTA) Annual Conference in Seaside

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Regional Public Transit Advisory Committee (RPTAC)
June 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Committee members present:

Bob Bryant
John Livingston
Trevor Johnson
Freddy Jordan
Eileen Kiely
Andrea Napoli
Jordan Ohlde
Janet Gonzales
Denise LaBuda
Greg Bryant
Jessica Rich
Bryan Potwin
Casey Bergh
Tasha Bracken

CET staff present:
Eric Lint
Derek Hofbauer

Guests present:
Andrea Napoli

Public comment :

- No public comment

Approval of minutes from meeting on April 17, 2024

Meeting minutes were unanimously approved

New member welcome + meeting format • Eric Lint

- Mr. Lint described the general structure of RPTAC meetings, which includes highlights and updates across CET's services and input from committee members to identify service gaps, new audiences, and engagement opportunities with their constituents.

Transit Services Report • Eric Lint

- Ridership statistics are based on focused trips using aggregate numbers
    - Mr. Greg Bryant asked when CET went fare free, and if there are plans to return to fares, to which Mr. Lint responded potentially in the future when Bend fixed routes are restored to pre-covid frequencies.
    - Mr. Johnson asked about promotions within Redmond at the airport and events and inquired about a marketing plan for this summer, noting popular Fairgrounds events. Mr. Lint mentioned the campaign consists of in-person outreach and radio and social media ads.
    - Mr. Jordett asked about extending route times in Bend, to which Mr. Lint noted possibly this fall or winter when enough drivers are hired.
- Project updates
    - Hawthorne Station improvements will result in better signage and ADA access
    - Security cameras on all buses are being installed to help protect drivers, passengers and people on the road
    - Bus stop improvement projects – the goal is to get this project off the ground this fall; new benches and shelters ordered; CET will initiate a community process to collect feedback on stop amenities
    - Ms. Keily asked if cities/counties are contributing to funding for this effort, to which Mr. Lint noted there is a legislative initiative to increase Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds
- Look ahead: Level of service discussions
    - CET is seeking input from community members via these public meetings, as well as emails and phone calls

Redmond Flex Routes • Eric Lint (10 minutes)

- Overview of the new service
    - Two new flex routes (A and B) are now operational in Redmond
    - Relied on Dial-A-Ride trip data and findings from the fixed-route feasibility study that called for five routes in future years
    - Working with Parks District to create a new route in a few years
    - Mr. Johnson noted he rode the Redmond flex route today and identified needed improvements with respect to signage at the hub and on buses. Mr. Lint responded smart signs will be installed in the future.
    - Ms. Gonzales asked how community members can provide meaningful input. Mr. Lint suggested agenda building to create flexibility.
    - Mr. Hofbauer noted we can extend the meeting time to two hours if that benefits meaningful discussion.

Recreation Services • Eric Lint

- Roundup of services returning this month
- Fare policy overview for recreation services
- Ms. Keiley noted Mt. Bachelor employees ride free and asked if we are getting sufficient support from Mt. Bachelor, to which Mr. Lint responded they do contribute funds and noted the summer service is very efficient.
- CET cooperation with public and private partners
    - Revenue sharing agreement with Forest Service partnerships continues to be a successful model
- Events with Discover Your Forest are in development

STIF Meetings Recap • Derek Hofbauer

- Brief overview of STIF program, CET's funding structure
- Positive discussions regarding potential QE structure changes
    - Counties (QEs) are interested in shifting the model to allow CET to directly administer the program to reduce administrative burden.
    - CET is the largest transit agency in the state that is not a transit district; could be defined as a qualified transit provider
- Next STIF meetings to occur in September and October 2024 to prioritize projects for funding

ODOT Updates • Jovi Arellano

- Stories from people using transit are important to share successes and challenges
- Solicitation cycles – plan updates, compliance reviews, and even and odd year funding cycles
- Call out for participation for the Sept. 12 Joint Commission on Transportation Roadshow in Bend at OSU-Cascades

Bend MPO Updates • Andrea Napoli

- Explanation of Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Status of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan update
- Bend Park and Recreation District Community Celebrations event July 26
- Safety planning and messaging in progress
- MPO boundary is from Tumalo to Deschutes River Woods from North to South; East to West is the UGB
- MPO created a grant program for partner agencies

RPTAC New Member Orientation • Member discussion

- New member introductions
- Overview of member roles and responsibilities

- Member input for future RPTAC agenda and discussion topics
    - Mr. Johnson noted he is thankful for being a part of this committee and would like to participate in future events. He noted the possibility of Saturday service on community connectors. He enjoys the climate aspect of public transportation. Redmond has a new tourism and lodging group.
    - Ms. Keily noted she is here to help take cars off the road. She noted she is thankful for the Mt. Bachelor winter buses. It is challenging to provide transit in a community is growing so rapidly.

RPTAC Next Meeting • Member discussion

- Next meeting is Wednesday, August 24 from 1:30-3 pm at Hawthorne Station
- Request for agenda topics and presentations

Good of the order

Meeting adjourns

###

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Upcoming events

June	Outreach events all month for the new Redmond Flex Routes and recreation services
June 15	Launch of Lava Butte shuttle
June 19	Launch of Transit to Trails summer Mt. Bachelor service
June 22	Launch of Ride the River shuttle
July 29	Brunch and Bikes event with Bend Bikes and partners
Aug 21	RPTAC meeting
Sep 12	**Joint Transportation Committee Tour in Bend**
Sep 12-14	Latinos In Transit Leadership Summit in Portland
Sep 13	TOGO (Transportation Options Group of Oregon) statewide meeting in Eugene
Oct	Second round of STIF meetings + project solicitations
Oct 10	Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) meeting in Bend
Oct 16	RPTAC meeting
Oct 27-30	Oregon Public Transit Conference in Seaside
Dec 18	RPTAC meeting