

# Clackamas County HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee Meeting

6 – 8 p.m., July 10, 2018

Room 115 (Auditorium), Development Services Building,  
150 Beaver Creek Road, Oregon City

## MINUTES

### ATTENDANCE

<b>Committee Members* (*attended meeting)</b>	<b>Organization/Representation</b>	<b>Staff Support</b>
*Julie Wehling	Canby/Canby Area Transit	Karen Buehrig, Transportation Planning Manager, Clackamas County
*Teresa Christopherson	Clackamas County/Mt. Hood Express	
*Andi Howell	Sandy/Sandy Area Metro	Ellen Rogalin, Community Relations Specialist, Clackamas County
*Julie Stephens	South Clackamas Transportation District	
*Dwight Brashear	Wilsonville/South Metro Area Regional Transit	
*Kathy Robinson	Seniors	<b>Visitors</b> Glenn Koehrsen Nicole Hendrix Laurie Freeman-Swanson
*Joseph Lowe	Persons with disabilities	
*Christina Reynaga	Low-income residents	
*Ray Atkinson	Educational institutions	
*Patricia Fink	Public transit outside Clackamas County	

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Karen Buehrig welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Clackamas County HB2017 Transit Advisory Committee, and invited people to introduce themselves and comment on their involvement with the HB2017 transit initiative.

### OVERVIEW OF HB2017 STIF FUNDING

Theresa Christopherson reviewed the key components of the funding program.

- The funds are coming from a state-wide payroll tax, that went into effect on July 1
- 90% of the revenue is to be returned to be used for transit improvements in the area (county) in which it was generated
- Projects considered for funding must be approved through a local planning process
- The funds won't begin to be distributed until early 2019
- Transit providers in Clackamas County are sub-recipients – we submit our plans to TriMet (which has been designated as the “qualified entity” and TriMet submits the plans to the state).

Dwight noted that, since SMART operates in both Clackamas and Washington counties, it is also receiving some funds through Washington County. He is on the TriMet advisory committee, which meets monthly and is coordinating the funds regionally. Proposals are coming from

three committees – TriMet, Clackamas County and Washington County. Whatever is approved by our committee will go to the TriMet committee, which is expected to rubber stamp the local recommendations with the assumption that they have been vetted at the local level. Since Clackamas County has several transit districts, we could become the model for the state.

Karen clarified that these are not competitive funds. There are some competitive funds for transit on the statewide level, but that is not our focus at this point.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT (IGA) AND BYLAWS**

Karen reviewed the IGA that established this committee in June. It is signed by Clackamas County, the cities of Canby, Sandy and Wilsonville, and the South Clackamas Transit District.

Karen reviewed the bylaws, which details how the committee will operate. Our operations are designed to mirror the state’s requirements of how TriMet operates in this process to ensure that everything works together smoothly.

**APPROVAL OF NEW MEMBERS; ELECTION OF CHAIR**

The transit representatives unanimously approved the membership of the following people:

- Kathy Robinson, representing seniors
- Joseph Lowe, representing people with disabilities
- Christina Reynaga, representing low-income residents
- Ray Atkinson, representing educational institutions
- Patricia Fink, representing a public transit provider outside Clackamas County

After nomination, motion and second, the group unanimously elected Dwight Brashear as chair.

**TRANSIT PROVIDER PLANS**

Each transit provider representative provided an overview of their transit system and upcoming plans and projects. General information is provided in the attached PowerPoint. The following additional information was provided at the meeting.

**South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART), Wilsonville -- Nicole Hendrix**

- Funded through employee payroll tax
- Have had a two-year public comment period to develop service changes and programs enhancement strategy
- Has a large list of priority projects that is being presented to the City Council on July 16.
- They will be looking at a tie-in with Metro’s Southwest Corridor Project, but that’s a number of years away.

**South Clackamas Transportation District (SCTD) -- Julie Stephens**

- Not operated by the city
- Has service both inside and outside of Molalla
- Currently working on a new transit plan, but have projects in other, already-approved plans that should qualify for the STIF funds;

- The Molalla TSP update is scheduled to go to the Planning Commission in September and to the City Council in October
- The district will be working through a new transit plan in 2019.

Christina mentioned that the bus helps keep students safe, especially while there's construction on the highways. There is also a need for direct service between Molalla and Woodburn for education, shopping and jobs. Currently Molalla bus riders get to Woodburn through Canby.

Canby and Molalla transit agencies will work together on bus timing so people can be sure to get to work on time in Woodburn.

**Sandy Area Metro (SAM)** -- Andi Howell

- Service is free in town
- There has been public outreach on the project list, and discussions with the transit board and the city council.
- The projects list is scheduled to be prioritized at the July 11 transit board meeting.

**Canby Area Transit (CAT)** – Julie Wehling

- A five-year plan was approved in December 2017.
- A public survey is available online through July 20.

**Mt. Hood Express** – Theresa Christopherson

- All service is seven days a week
- 40% of people use the service to commute to work, shopping, medical appointments, etc.
- A couple of transit planning projects are in the works
  - Transit Around Mt. Hood, with Hood River County
  - TGM grant for a transit development plan for rural areas in Clackamas County, to improve connections between communities. There are large areas of the county with no transit service at all.

**Clackamas Community College** – Ray Atkinson

- The college provides service between the Oregon City and Harmony campuses
- The college has a free shuttle service to the Oregon City and Harmony campuses from the Clackamas Town Center MAX station

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Glenn Koehrsen

- I worry that state Special Transportation Fund monies won't grow because of this new STIF funding.
- I encourage Kathy to push strongly for more service for seniors – the population as a whole is getting older and some of those people can't get to fixed routes.
- People are encouraged to comment on Metro's 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), which includes a section on transit. Comments must be in by August 13.

**NEXT STEPS**

The next meeting of this committee is set for 6-8 p.m., Monday, July 24, in this same room, Development Services Building Auditorium, 150 Beaver Creek Road, Oregon City. The plan is for all transit providers to have a draft or final project priorities list, and the group will ask

questions and vet the projects. Dwight noted we've been asked to project 115% of the money available in case there are more funds than estimated. He also suggested that everyone read the ODOT handout about the STIF program.

Karen noted that background information for the meeting will be sent out in advance and the materials will also be provided at the meeting.