

OREGON TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting
November 10, 2009
Salem, Oregon**

On Tuesday, November 10, 2009, at 11:00 a.m., the Oregon Transportation Commission and Oregon Department of Transportation staff held the regular monthly meeting in Conference Room 122 of the Transportation Building, 355 Capitol Street NE, Salem. Commission members participated by telephone.

Notice of this meeting was made by press release of local and statewide media circulation throughout the state. Those attending part or all of the meeting included:

Chair Gail Achterman
Commissioner David Lohman (Arrived at Agenda D)
Commissioner Alan Brown
Commissioner Janice Wilson
Director Matt Garrett
Deputy Director for Highway Doug Tindall

Chief of Staff Joan Plank
Trans. Development Administrator Jerri Bohard
Deputy Director for Central Services Lorna Youngs
Public Transit Div. Administrator Michael Ward
Rail Division Administrator Kelly Taylor
Commission Assistant Amy Merckling

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Chair Achterman called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

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Deputy Director for Highways Doug Tindall gave the Director's Report.

--ODOT and the Office of Innovative Partnerships and Alternative Funding, in partnership with Portland General Electric, U.S. Bank, and ProLogis, were selected as recipient of the Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA) Award for Solar Business Achievement in the category of Partnering for Success. The award was presented to the agency on October 29, at the SEPA Annual Membership meeting. SEPA recognized ODOT for its leadership in a time when utilities are under increasing business pressures to address climate change and renewable portfolio standards, and increasing customer demand for clean and sustainable energy options.

-- Statewide deployment of the new facial recognition software to all 64 DMV field offices is under way as of October 26. The technology will be installed, and employees trained, before the end of the year. The system is used for driver license and ID card issuance, and includes photo comparison in the office, and a complete overnight check against all photos in the DMV database. This completes a legislative mandate from the 2005 Legislative Session.

-- ODOT's Communications Division is helping the Motor Carrier Division reach truck drivers with a key safety message: Prepare for Winter 2009/2010. Public Information Representative Sally Ridenour is working with Motor Carrier and Highway staff, as well as trucking industry representatives, to develop a three-minute video that will appear as a public service announcement. The video is designed to inform truck drivers about the need to carry and use chains, with an emphasis on education rather than enforcement. Shot from the perspective of a rookie truck driver, the video will feature tips on how to get through Oregon safely this winter.

--Highway reported a record month for payments to contractors for work done in July and August. The addition of September's figures brings the amount paid out to contractors, for the three-month period, to \$270 million. That is the largest amount ever spent putting Oregonians to work, and Doug Tindall acknowledged the highway staff for the tremendous job done getting the work out.



Public Comments: One group and two individuals testified during the public comment period.

--Representatives of the Coastal Parkway Committee talked about efforts to find an alternative alignment to the current options being considered in the environmental assessment for the Newberg/Dundee bypass. Phil Martinson talked about the five different options considered and the proposal to work with private investors to build the parkway. Bob Youngman said the parkway would preserve natural resources, make a green highway, and socially, would use an area that would have minimal impact on structures, homes and families. Kerry Dugan said that as this rolls forward, public comment will be invited at town hall meetings to gain input from all stakeholders and key public affected by the parkway.

--Ken Karp, a Salem business owner, asked the OTC to consider placing a traffic signal on 23rd and Mission Street. He cited concerns about traffic safety in the area, particularly children crossing Mission Street going to new fast food stores. The Commission said the Traffic Engineering Section and the area manager will look at the expressway designation and signal warrants.

--Ron Swaren proposed the Commission recommend funding for a study of an alternative, (a bridge in the Burlington Northern rail corridor), to the current alignment for the Columbia River Crossing. He also cited a 2009 Portland Tribune article's reference to a 2005 ODOT report about the costs of correcting I-5 congestion, and asked why CRC Task Force participants have not cited that report in the expenses portion of CRC discussions. Chair Achterman said the CRC Project Team will respond to his question.



Transportation Development Administrator Jerri Bohard submitted a request for approval of an amendment to Oregon Administrative Rule 731-035-0020 to 0070, relating to the

ConnectOregon Program, incorporating changes to accommodate *ConnectOregon III*, which was included as part of the Jobs and Transportation Act (HB 2001.) (*Background material in General Files, Salem*)

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve the amendment with one correction to Page 5, item #11. The item should read that the *“rule shall follow the organizational guidance determined by the Department in section 10 of this rule.* (The current wording says section 6.) The motion was approved unanimously.



The Commission received a briefing on the Oregon Streetcar Sufficiency Report from Public Transit Administrator Michael Ward. (*Background material in General Files, Salem*)

Chair Achterman stressed the need to be clear that the three potential funding sources identified for additional funding will be competitively selected. Also, no criteria has been set for the \$24 million in flex funds, so, depending on what the criteria ultimately turn out to be, the funds may, or may not, be available for this project.



The Commission considered approval of a request submitted by Region 2 Manager Jane Lee for the Deputy Director for Highways to sign a Cooperative Improvement Agreement between the Oregon Department of Transportation and Newport Village, LLC, for highway improvements associated with the Blue Water Ridge Subdivision. (*Background material in General Files, Salem*)

Commissioner Lohman moved to approve the request to sign the Cooperation Improvement Agreement. The motion was approved unanimously.



The Commission considered approval of the Consent Calendar.

1. Approve the minutes of the October 20-21, 2009, annual workshop and meeting in Gleneden Beach.
2. Confirm the next commission meeting date.
 - Wednesday, December 16, 2009, in Portland
3. Adopt a resolution for authority to acquire real property by purchase, condemnation, agreement or donation.
4. Approve the following Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) action:
 - a. Amendment of 734-065-0005 to 0050 relating to advertising signs on transit shelters.
5. Approve an increase in project authorization in the amount of \$2,465,105 on the Interstate 5: Camas Swale – Saginaw Road in Lane County. This will change the construction authorization from \$11,619,402 to \$14,084,507.

6. Approve a request to amend the 2008-2011 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program to add the Interstate 84: Rooster Rock Park Connection Vertical Clearance project in Multnomah County. The preliminary engineering phase of this project will be funded by the State Bridge Program. Total estimated project cost is \$300,000.
7. Approve a request to amend the 2008-2011 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program to add a construction phase to the Interstate 5: Halsey – Lane County line project in Region 2. Total estimated project cost is \$10,000,000.
8. Approve a request to amend the 2008-2011 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program to add a construction phase to the Interstate 84 Rufus – Swanson Canyon project in Gilliam County. Total estimated project cost is \$10,000,000.
9. Approve a request to amend the 2008-2011 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program to add two projects from House Bill 2001, Jobs and Transportation Act in Region 1.
10. Approve a request to submit the proposed proclamation to Governor Kulongoski for his signature designating December as “Drinking and Drugged Driving Awareness Month” in Oregon.
11. Approve a request to submit an application to the Federal Highway Administration’s Value Pricing Pilot Program for a \$2.5 million grant. This grant will be used to undertake a series of pre-implementation studies to assess the appropriateness, public acceptance and required action and components of a systematic application of congestion pricing.
12. Approve a request to appoint Mr. Chris Kastner to the Winter Recreation Advisory Committee. Mr. Kastner will fill the vacant Pacific NW Ski Association representative position on the committee. The term runs through June 2013.
13. Item moved to Agenda as Item E.
14. Approve a request to appear before the January 2010 Legislative Ways and Means Committee to request four limitation changes in the Oregon Department of Transportation’s 2009-2011 Legislatively Approved Budget.
15. Approve a request for the Transportation Safety Division to appear before the January 2010 Legislative Ways and Means Committee.
16. Approve a request to appear before the January 2010 Legislative Ways and Means Committee to request an increase in expenditure limitation for \$64,733,792 for the Transportation Headquarters Building renovation project.

Commissioner Lohman moved to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

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Public comments continued. None.

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Chair Achterman adjourned the meeting at 11:40 AM.

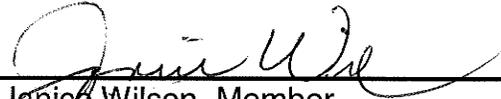
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Gail Achterman, Chair

Not present

Michael Nelson, Vice Chair



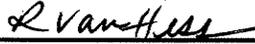
Janice Wilson, Member



Alan Brown, Member



David Lohman, Member



Roxanne Van Hess, Commission Support