





## Questionnaire for the Rogue Valley Metropolitan Area Regional ITS Operations & Implementation Plan

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Background:** The development of a *Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Operations & Implementation Plan* for the Rogue Valley metropolitan area is underway. The intent of the plan is to identify a set of advanced technology tools and management techniques that could be used to improve the efficiency and safety of the transportation system in the Rogue Valley. The purpose of this project is to get the most out of existing roadway facilities by preserving transportation system capacity, and enhancing regional transportation mobility, efficiency and safety for all modes (without adding travel lanes). Examples of transportation management devices that could be considered for the Rogue Valley metropolitan area include:

*Traffic Monitoring*

- Closed Circuit Television Cameras (CCTV)
- Real-time speed and volumes

*Traveler Information*

- Variable Message Signs
- Highway Advisory Radio
- Traveler Information Web Page
- Road Weather Information Systems

*Traffic Control*

- Advanced Traffic Signal Systems
- Bus Priority
- Emergency Vehicle Preemption
- Incident Management

*Planning*

- GIS Applications

*Communications*

- A network to support regional information sharing and remote monitoring of field devices.

*Maintenance*

- Electronic inventory management
- Real-time road condition information

As part of the Intelligent Transportation System Plan we need your input. Please take a few moments to read and respond to the following questions. Your input will help to guide the deployment of transportation management devices to meet the needs of the Rogue Valley metropolitan transportation system.

### **Transportation System**

- What do you see as the biggest problem affecting the efficiency and safety of the Rogue Valley transportation system (i.e. congestion, incident delays, connectivity, signal progression along arterials, construction delays, public transportation performance, etc...)? Where would you say are the biggest transportation problem areas within your community?

How do you think we can address these problems and/or problem areas?

- Can you think of other issues that affect efficient and safe travel in the Rogue Valley metropolitan area?
- What parts of the existing transportation are you aware of that are improving efficiency or safety? What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths?
- What components of the existing transportation system (ie. traveler information, incident response) are useful and are improving efficiency or safety? What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths?

### **Needs**

- What information would help you do your daily activities more effectively (i.e. road conditions, construction information, real-time video, etc...)?
- Any final ideas or thoughts about how technology or information based transportation systems could be used to enhance the safety and efficiency of the transportation system in the Rogue Valley?

### **Regional Interaction**

- In what ways do you or your organization interact with transportation and/or emergency response agencies in the region? In what ways could this interaction be improved?

### **Other**

- Are there other people you think it would be helpful for us to interview or add to our mailing list?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone/Fax \_\_\_\_\_

## Questionnaire for the Rogue Valley Metropolitan Area Regional ITS Operations & Implementation Plan

Name Keith E. Woodley

Title Fire Chief

Organization Ashland Fire & Rescue

Address 455 Siskiyou Blvd.  
Ashland, OR 97520

Phone (541) 482-2770 Fax (541) 488-5318

Date 6 February 2004

### Transportation System

- What do you see as the biggest problem affecting the efficiency and safety of the Rogue Valley transportation system (i.e. congestion, incident delays, connectivity, signal progression along arterials, construction delays, public transportation performance, etc...)? ***Within the City of Ashland, congestion is becoming a concern for the effective movement of emergency vehicles. Older traffic signals within the city that are timer-based are also inefficient. Absence of protected pedestrian crossings in areas of the main traffic corridor where older street designs exist.*** Where would you say are the biggest transportation problem areas within your community? ***Within the City of Ashland, Siskiyou Blvd., East Main Street and North Main Street. The I-5 overpass at Ashland Street in Ashland is extremely hazardous to pedestrian and bicycle modes of transportation.***

How do you think we can address these problems and/or problem areas? ***Traffic signal & pedestrian crossing design improvements.***

- Can you think of other issues that affect efficient and safe travel in the Rogue Valley metropolitan area? ***Need for improved coordination of pedestrian and bicycle traffic on busy streets.***
- What parts of the existing transportation are you aware of that are improving efficiency or safety? ***Where transportation corridor improvements have been completed that include protected pedestrian crossings, bicycle lanes and modernized traffic signals.*** What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths? ***Funding for safety improvements on state highways and other primary arterials that pass through Ashland.***
- What components of the existing transportation system (ie. traveler information, incident response) are useful and are improving efficiency or safety? ***The traveler information system has been very useful to emergency services in the Ashland area. Coordination with ODOT has continued to improve our ability to respond effectively to transportation accidents.*** What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths? ***Continued cooperation and***

*annual coordination meetings that “flag” planned major construction projects and winter operations.*

**Needs**

- What information would help you do your daily activities more effectively (i.e. road conditions, construction information, real-time video, etc...)? *Winter driving condition updates for the Siskiyou Mtn. Pass, freeway & state highway construction projects that include road / lane closures. Future traffic signals that are planned within our ambulance service area (most importantly outside the City of Ashland as we tend not to hear about these in time to request pre-emption to be included in the contract for work)*
- Any final ideas or thoughts about how technology or information based transportation systems could be used to enhance the safety and efficiency of the transportation system in the Rogue Valley? *We appreciate the support that ODOT personnel have provided to emergency services in the Ashland area. The area needs additional funding for improvements.*

**Regional Interaction**

- In what ways do you or your organization interact with transportation and/or emergency response agencies in the region? In what ways could this interaction be improved? *Ashland Fire & Rescue coordinates on a monthly basis with all other fire / medical emergency response agencies in Jackson County. We have signed mutual aid agreements with them and conduct regular joint training exercises. We meet with ODOT annually, and as needed if a problem arises between our agencies. I believe that ODOT is striving to continue to improve communication with local emergency response agencies.*

**Other**

- Are there other people you think it would be helpful for us to interview or add to our mailing list?

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone/Fax \_\_\_\_\_

## Questionnaire for the Rogue Valley Metropolitan Area Regional ITS Operations & Implementation Plan

Name Steve Roesler

Title Director Of Materials

Organization Bear Creek Corporation

Address 2518 S. Pacific Hwy

Phone 541-864-2965 Fax 541-864-2801

Date February 17, 2004

### **Transportation System**

- What do you see as the biggest problem affecting the efficiency and safety of the Rogue Valley transportation system (i.e. congestion, incident delays, connectivity, signal progression along arterials, construction delays, public transportation performance, etc...)? Where would you say are the biggest transportation problem areas within your community?
  - A real lack of expressways that support travel from one end of town to the other, east to west, or north to south. Right now there is only I-5, which generally slows each day with morning and evening cross-town traffic.
  - Many of our two way / two lane travel paths do not have any turn only lanes for traffic to accumulate in as they wait for a break in the on-coming traffic. As a result, traffic interruptions occur that create artificial waves and surges in vehicle travel.

How do you think we can address these problems and/or problem areas?

- Review current and proposed growth areas and identify connectivity solutions that will lessen the current process of directing them onto already congested travel paths.
- Increased turn only lanes in routes selected and prioritized by need.
- Can you think of other issues that affect efficient and safe travel in the Rogue Valley metropolitan area?
  - A lack of downtown parking space to support growth and renewal initiatives. As a result, there are multiple issues at work:
    - Traffic multiplies as it drives around looking for space to park.
    - Increased traffic contributes to slower travel times and increased utilization of residential streets not designed as bypasses, in an attempt to avoid it.
- What parts of the existing transportation are you aware of that are improving efficiency or safety? What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths?
  - No comment at this time.
- What components of the existing transportation system (ie. traveler information, incident response) are useful and are improving efficiency or safety? What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths?

**Needs**

- What information would help you do your daily activities more effectively (i.e. road conditions, construction information, real-time video, etc...)?
  - Most of the above noted would be of assistance, but limited in their effectiveness by the true lack of alternate routes and methods.
  
- Any final ideas or thoughts about how technology or information based transportation systems could be used to enhance the safety and efficiency of the transportation system in the Rogue Valley?
  - Real-time and volume based traffic control devices, with multiple configurations to maximize vehicle movement volumes.

**Regional Interaction**

- In what ways do you or your organization interact with transportation and/or emergency response agencies in the region? In what ways could this interaction be improved?
  - o N/A

**Other**

- Are there other people you think it would be helpful for us to interview or add to our mailing list?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone/Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**Questionnaire for the Rogue Valley Metropolitan Area  
Regional ITS Operations & Implementation Plan**

Name            James Wear

Title            Public Works Director

Organization   City of Phoenix Public Works

Address        510 W 1<sup>st</sup> St, Phoenix, OR 97535

Phone          (541) 535-2226                      Fax      (541) 535-9594

Date            02/06/04

**TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM:**

1.      What do you see as the biggest problem affecting the efficiency and safety of the Rogue Valley transportation system? Where would you say are the biggest transportation problem areas within your community? How do you think we can address these problems and/or problem areas?

Response: The obvious problem is that the current transportation system that has been established in the valley was never designed to handle the extent of growth and the accompanying traffic loads that we are now experiencing. The valley also almost entirely dependent on the automobile for access to goods and services. Residential development has continued to move towards the periphery of the older urban centers. Citizens are forced to drive into the urban centers to access needed services.

The major transportation problems for the City of Phoenix include the following:

- a.      Traffic congestion at the intersection of Fern Valley Road and Highway 99. This also includes the safety issue at Cheryl Lane and Highway 99.
- b.      ODOT's Phase I signalization improvements of Fern Valley Road at the interchange solved a significant safety problem of traffic backing onto the freeway at the off-ramps. However, the project has also had the unfortunate negative affect of increasing traffic congestion along Fern Valley Road. For example, the new traffic signals have significantly added to the time it takes to travel along this roadway. This congestion will only increase as vacant commercial land in the area is developed. We realize that the recent improvements made by ODOT are the first phase of a multi-year plan to replace the interchange and to widen Fern Valley Road. The challenge that we have before us is to coordinate the planned infrastructure improvements with the new development that is anticipated in this area.
- c.      The City of Phoenix is bisected by I-5. The only way to get from the west to east is to use Fern Valley Road. The City's Comprehensive Plan identified a possible future connection of Oak Street on the west-side to Pear Tree Lane or South Phoenix Road on the east-side. This overcrossing of I-5 could be for pedestrians and bicyclists

only. This facility would help to take some of the transportation load from the Fern Valley Road overpass. Also, separating pedestrian and bicycle traffic from vehicle traffic would reduce safety conflicts. Implementing this alternative would reduce the needed capacity of the interchange structure.

2. Can you think of other issues that affect efficient and safe travel in the Rogue Valley metropolitan area?

Response: None identified.

3. What parts of the existing transportation (system) are you aware of that are improving efficiency or safety? What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths?

Response: I think the continued efforts of RVTD to expand bus service through out the valley are good for the valley. They need to increase their route frequency in order to make the service more attractive to riders. ITS applications that improve the efficiency of transit service would assist in making this a viable transportation alternative.

#### NEEDS:

1. What information would help you do your daily activities more effectively?

Response: Everything listed in “Project Background” in the questionnaire.

2. Any final ideas or thoughts about how technology or information based transportation systems could be used to enhance the safety and efficiency or the transportation system in the Rogue Valley?

Response: I would suggest there be a radio station that would be dedicated to broadcasting road and weather conditions during winter months. I know there is something like this, but I understand the service is limited and most people do not know about it. Also, it should have the most current information. Weather and road conditions can change within a very short period of time. Other types of advanced warning systems that would improve safety should also be considered.

#### REGIONAL INTERACTION:

1. In what ways do you or your organization interact with transportation and/or emergency response agencies in the region? In what ways could this interaction be improved?

Response: The City is a part of the MPO and as such is represented on the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee and the Policy Committee. We are also involved with the JJTC and RFACT.

## Questionnaire for the Rogue Valley Metropolitan Area Regional ITS Operations & Implementation Plan

Name Betty Wheeler

Title City Manager

Organization City of Talent

Address P.O. Box 445, 204 E. Main St.  
Talent , Oregon 97540

Phone 541-535-1566 Fax 541-535-7423

Date January 23, 2004

### **Transportation System**

- What do you see as the biggest problem affecting the efficiency and safety of the Rogue Valley transportation system (i.e. congestion, incident delays, connectivity, signal progression along arterials, construction delays, public transportation performance, etc...)? Where would you say are the biggest transportation problem areas within your community?

How do you think we can address these problems and/or problem areas?

The City of Talent does not experience delays of any significance in the City except on occasion when construction may be taking place on one of the City streets. The biggest problems are on Highway 99 and more specifically at Colver Road and 99, Rapp and 99, and Creel and 99.

- Can you think of other issues that affect efficient and safe travel in the Rogue Valley metropolitan area?

There are definitely problems on Highway 62 in Medford and sometimes at Barnett and Riverside Drive in Medford. Ashland has periods of congestion but those are at certain times during the day.

- What parts of the existing transportation are you aware of that are improving efficiency or safety? What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths?

The improvements on Fern Valley have helped considerably. I believe there is some discussion of re-opening the road to the Iron Skillet again. I do not think that would be a good idea since it is too close to the off ramp.

- What components of the existing transportation system (ie. traveler information, incident response) are useful and are improving efficiency or safety? What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths?

When there were icy conditions on Siskiyou Pass there was a tremendous amount of backlog of trucks all along I-5 from Medford out. Getting the trucks advanced warning and having alternatives to parking along the interstate would seem to make sense.

**Needs**

- What information would help you do your daily activities more effectively (i.e. road conditions, construction information, real-time video, etc...)?
- Any final ideas or thoughts about how technology or information based transportation systems could be used to enhance the safety and efficiency of the transportation system in the Rogue Valley?

**Regional Interaction**

- In what ways do you or your organization interact with transportation and/or emergency response agencies in the region? In what ways could this interaction be improved?

There appears to be good communication between the Cities and the various police departments.

**Other**

- Are there other people you think it would be helpful for us to interview or add to our mailing list?

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone/Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**Questionnaire for the Rogue Valley Metropolitan Area  
Regional ITS Operations & Implementation Plan**

Name JOHN C. MEEKER  
Title CORPORAL  
Organization EAGLE POINT POLICE DEPT.  
Address P.O. BOX 979  
EAGLE POINT OR 97524  
Phone 541-826-9171 Fax 541-830-0254  
Date 02-12-04

**Project Background:** The development of a *Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Operations & Implementation Plan* for the Rogue Valley metropolitan area is underway. The intent of the plan is to identify a set of advanced technology tools and management techniques that could be used to improve the efficiency and safety of the transportation system in the Rogue Valley. The purpose of this project is to get the most out of existing roadway facilities by preserving transportation system capacity, and enhancing regional transportation mobility, efficiency and safety for all modes (without adding travel lanes). Examples of transportation management devices that could be considered for the Rogue Valley metropolitan area include:

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Closed Circuit Television Cameras (CCTV)  
Real-time speed and volumes

*Traveler Information*

Variable Message Signs  
Highway Advisory Radio  
Traveler Information Web Page  
Road Weather Information Systems

*Traffic Control*

Advanced Traffic Signal Systems  
Bus Priority  
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Incident Management

*Planning*

GIS Applications

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A network to support regional information sharing and remote monitoring of field devices.

*Maintenance*

Electronic inventory management  
Real-time road condition information

As part of the Intelligent Transportation System Plan we need your input. Please take a few moments to read and respond to the following questions. Your input will help to guide the deployment of transportation management devices to meet the needs of the Rogue Valley metropolitan transportation system.

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How do you think we can address these problems and/or problem areas? Somehow the south county bound traffic and the traffic bound from south county to north county needs to be routed around Medford and take some of the pressure off of Highway 62 from Antelope Road to the south. Also Highway 140 could be finished to the freeway.

- Can you think of other issues that affect efficient and safe travel in the Rogue Valley metropolitan area? Public transportation would never be profitable but would take some of the traffic from the roadways. Highway 62 could be made into 4 lanes to Butte Falls Highway.
- What parts of the existing transportation are you aware of that are improving efficiency or safety? What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths? Nothing has been done within the Eagle Point area that really has improved safety.
- What components of the existing transportation system (ie. traveler information, incident response) are useful and are improving efficiency or safety? What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths? I can think of no strengths in this area.

### **Needs**

- What information would help you do your daily activities more effectively (i.e. road conditions, construction information, real-time video, etc...)? Real time video is not an option at this point. I think local road and weather conditions rather than just major Highways and the freeway would help.

- Any final ideas or thoughts about how technology or information based transportation systems could be used to enhance the safety and efficiency of the transportation system in the Rogue Valley? Many major cities have created ways that through traffic can be routed around the city. I think that this should be accomplished for the Medford metropolitan area. This whole area from Ashland to Eagle Point to Grants Pass is growing. The present system is not designed to handle the growth.

**Regional Interaction**

- In what ways do you or your organization interact with transportation and/or emergency response agencies in the region? In what ways could this interaction be improved?  
 ODOT meets with the City Officials when there is a project that directly affects the residents of the City. Department head meetings are also held within the emergency management community (ie; Police, Fire and EMS).

**Other**

- Are there other people you think it would be helpful for us to interview or add to our mailing list?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Fax \_\_\_\_\_

## Questionnaire for the Rogue Valley Metropolitan Area Regional ITS Operations & Implementation Plan

Name Ken Parsons

Title General Manager

Organization Mercy Flights, Inc

Address 3650 Biddle Road #14  
Medford, OR 97501

Phone 541-858-2600 Fax 541-779-0259

Date Feb 11, 2004

### **Transportation System**

- What do you see as the biggest problem affecting the efficiency and safety of the Rogue Valley transportation system (i.e. congestion, incident delays, connectivity, signal progression along arterials, construction delays, public transportation performance, etc...)? Where would you say are the biggest transportation problem areas within your community?

#### **Congestion on surface streets and the dependence on 2 freeway access points for the Medford area.**

How do you think we can address these problems and/or problem areas?

#### **Development of alternative arterials with better flow that extend through the urban area but do not use the same points with freeway interchanges.**

- Can you think of other issues that affect efficient and safe travel in the Rogue Valley metropolitan area?

#### **Increased use of motorized skateboards and the like in the streets in residential areas create a hazard. Also the narrow streets in residential areas create access difficulties.**

- What parts of the existing transportation are you aware of that are improving efficiency or safety? What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths?
- What components of the existing transportation system (ie. traveler information, incident response) are useful and are improving efficiency or safety? What suggestions do you have for capitalizing on these strengths?

#### **The traveler information is good but a higher accuracy and more real time information needs to be made available to emergency responders. Alternative routes need to be suggested for emergency responders**

**Needs**

- What information would help you do your daily activities more effectively (i.e. road conditions, construction information, real-time video, etc...)?

**More real time information needs to be made available to emergency responders. Alternative routes need to be suggested for emergency responders.**

- Any final ideas or thoughts about how technology or information based transportation systems could be used to enhance the safety and efficiency of the transportation system in the Rogue Valley?

**Regional Interaction**

- In what ways do you or your organization interact with transportation and/or emergency response agencies in the region? In what ways could this interaction be improved?

**We are the regional ambulance service and would like more interaction with ODOT and OSP through regular meeting like the Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs.**

**Other**

- Are there other people you think it would be helpful for us to interview or add to our mailing list?

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone/Fax \_\_\_\_\_