

**PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MEETING NOTES
SEPTEMBER 15, 2004**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Lowry; Gary Boley; Dennis Dick; Ernie Palmer; Claire Potter; Dolores Raymond; John Wenholz; Debbie Wert.

STAFF PRESENT: Martin W. Loring, Administrator, Public Transit; Dinah Van Der Hyde, Operations Manager, Public Transit; Jean Palmateer, STF Program Manager; Public Transit; Sherrin Coleman, Planning Program Manager, Public Transit; Sharon Peerenboom, Rural Program Manager; Joni Bramlett, Capital Program Manager; Diana Huitt; Program Technician; PJ Pippin, Executive Support.

Visitors Present: Gail Curtis and Carolyn Gassaway, ODOT Statewide Planning.

INTERESTED PARTIES: Ed Bergeron, TAGO; Frank Synoground, Statewide Independant Living Council (SILC) and TriMet Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT).

1:00 p.m. Bob Lowry called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Introductions were made.

The committee viewed the video "A Matter of Independence", produced by John Russell. Copies are available, at no charge, in both VCR and DVD format.

1:15 p.m. Oregon Transportation Policy Update

Gail Curtis and Carolyn Gassaway with ODOT Statewide Planning gave an Oregon Transportation Plan update. The OTP is a multimodal transportation policy adopted in 1982 and is now in the process of being updated. The Oregon Transportation Commission review and approval process begins next spring; public review will proceed in the summer. The update should be completed in 2006. The PTAC will receive copies of the draft recommendations and are requested to review and comment by October 24. Sherrin Coleman, PTD Planner, will coordinate the comments from the PTAC members.

1:30 p.m. Intercity and Charter Bus Update

The intercity and charter bus update was led by Martin Loring, Administrator for the Public Transit Division. Martin provided an overview of the various issues related to intercity bus: charter bus complaints; regulatory authority, and cessation of Greyhound service in 36 Oregon communities.

Dennis Dick, PTAC member, explained several aspects of service delivery and regulatory issues from the perspective of the industry. He also briefly discussed the PTAC intercity subcommittee meeting held August 26, 2004.

The PTAC discussed in brief the State's potential role in intercity passenger service. It was noted that ODOT needs to review and update the current intercity bus program policy. ODOT (PTD and Motor Carrier) are moving forward with regulatory recommendations to the current Motor Carrier laws. Such proposals will be carried by Rep Joan Dukes with ODOT technical support.

1:45 p.m. 2004 PTAC highlights were reviewed.

STF RULE REVISION – ODOT is in process to finalize the STF administrative rules. There will be six public hearings; five hearings in each region and a final hearing at the November 8 PTAC meeting. Jean Palmateer, Public Transit staff, will be hearings officer. The final draft will be submitted to OTC in December for approval, to be effective January 1, 2005.

STATE INVESTMENT IN TRANSIT - Martin Loring reported that the governor has announced that ODOT will have a multi-modal transportation package. A \$300 million package is being structured to be financed with bonds. Bond proceeds will be used for capital and fixed assets. It will include a 10 year bond maturity and will incorporate forecasts for facilities needs over the next 6-10 years. Funds will also be used for updating and expanding ITS applications. PTD will identify public transit needs for the transit portion of the package.

2:00 p.m. Discussion PTAC Work in 2005

In 2005, focus will be on discretionary grant and preventative maintenance policies. These policies will be critical to the success of our investment and performance goals; and contribute to fleet preservation. Discussions will begin in the November Meeting.

2:20 p.m. Roundtable discussion/Next Meetings

PTD new employee: Intercity Program Manager Robin Rolls, who comes from the Stanford University TDM Program. She will begin her duties on October 1.

Due to the recent OTA conference, roundtable discussion was postponed until the next meeting. The next Public Transportation Advisory Committee meeting will be held on November 8, 2004 from 1:00 – 4:00 at the ODOT Human Resource Training Center located at 2775 19th St SE, Salem.

2:30 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.