

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

January 31, 2005 Hearing Room C

1:00 P.M. Tapes 8 - 9

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Rep. George Gilman, Chair**

Rep. Terry Beyer, Vice-Chair

Rep. Chuck Burley, Vice-Chair

Rep. Deborah Boone

Rep. Scott Bruun

Rep. Dave Hunt

Rep. Kim Thatcher

STAFF PRESENT: **John Houser, Committee Administrator**

Mike Reiley, Committee Assistant

MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:

Transportation Issues Overview – Informational Meeting

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
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TAPE 8, A

002	Chair Gilman	
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Calls the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. Opens an informational meeting on an overview of transportation issues.

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES OVERVIEW – INFORMATIONAL MEETING

008	Larry Campbell	AAA of Oregon/Idaho. Gives the history of AAA. Introduces John Porter.
018	John Porter	President/CEO, AAA of Oregon/Idaho. Submits and summarizes prepared “Critical Issues Briefing” overview of AAA (EXHIBIT A, Page 2).
050	Porter	Explains Public Affairs Priorities (EXHIBIT A, Pages 2 & 3) and Current Issues in Transportation (EXHIBIT A, Page 4).
077	Porter	Discusses Transportation Finance Policy (EXHIBIT A, Page 5) and Cost Responsibility Study (EXHIBIT A, Pages 6 & 7).
125	Porter	Discusses Funding Oregon’s Highways (EXHIBIT A, Page 8) and Incremental Gasoline Taxes (EXHIBIT A, Page 9)
170	Porter	Discusses Weight Mile Tax System (EXHIBIT A, Page 10)
188	Porter	Discusses Bridge Deterioration (EXHIBIT A, Page 11).
215	Porter	Addresses the American Trucking Association vs. State of Oregon lawsuit (EXHIBIT A, Page 12).
245	Porter	Explains the Summary (EXHIBIT A, Page 13).
243	Rep. Beyer	Asks if the cost-allocation study refers to what has been spent or spending that is anticipated in the next biennium.
250	Campbell	Answers that the study has always been prospective.
270	Jacqueline Zimmer	Director, Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disability. Submits prepared testimony regarding transportation and elderly and disabled in Oregon communities (EXHIBIT B).
284	Olivia Clark	

Government Affairs Director, TriMet. Submits the prepared information, “Contributing to Independent & Productive Lives of Seniors & People with Disabilities” (**EXHIBIT C**). Displays a video for the committee showing transportation services for the elderly and disabled in Halfway and Baker City.

TAPE 9, A

- 033 Zimmer Elaborates on the video and summarizes prepared information (**EXHIBIT B**).
- 108 Carol Bro Director, Central Oregon Council on Aging, Deschutes County. Explains the importance of transportation in the lives of the elderly and disabled.
- 140 Rep. Hunt Asks about the actual and projected need for transportation services in Oregon and the gap in those services.
- 149 Zimmer States that she can get the information for the committee.
- 152 Clark Notes that the number of elderly and disabled will increase in the future and explains the efforts to extend the current services and meet the demand. Further summarizes prepared information (**EXHIBIT C**).
- 200 Rex Burkholder Metro Councilor, District 5; Chair, Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT). Submits and summarizes prepared information (**EXHIBIT D**) including Metro Resolution No. 04-3498A addressing regional priorities for a state transportation funding package, Metro Council Legislative Priorities 2005 and begins PowerPoint presentation.
- 364 Rep. Hunt Asks if Metro’s priority list of expenditures includes only handling and increasing transportation capacity.
- 368 Burkholder Answers that most of the money is used for modernization and improvements to increase capacity. Continues the PowerPoint presentation.

TAPE 8, B

- 026 Rep. Boone

Asks for a clarification of Mr. Burkholder's reference to women entering the workforce.

- 033 Burkholder Explains the changing demographics and the number of vehicles on roadways. Concludes the presentation discussing funding and budgets.
- 085 Rep. Thatcher Asks how road congestion is measured at different times of day.
- 090 Burkholder Explains how congestion is measured and notes that the problems are largely during peak hours.
- 103 Rep. Hunt Asks if Metro or JPACT has addressed Oregon Transportation Commission statewide significance projects.
- 115 Burkholder Answers that they have addressed the projects in the Portland Metro area and addresses the related funding issues.
- 134 Chair Gilman Asks about the commission's approval of partnerships and tolls.
- 137 Burkholder Explains the congestion relief study that was commissioned under a federal pilot program examining tolls. Notes that tolls are examined in all new road construction projects.
- 180 Scott Bricker Director of Policy and Education, Bicycle Transportation Alliance; Willamette Pedestrian Coalition. Submits and summarizes prepared information, "The Role of Bicycling and Walking in Transportation." **(EXHIBIT E)**.
- 395 Ken Armstrong Oregon Shortline Railroad Association. Introduces Larry Phipps and Dan Lovelady.
- 415 Larry Phipps Portland and Western Railroad. Submits and begins summarizing prepared information on Oregon Short Line Railroads **(EXHIBIT F)**.

TAPE 9, B

- 025 Dan Lovelady General Manager, Central Oregon & Pacific Railroad. Submits prepared overview on the Central Oregon & Pacific Railroad **(EXHIBIT G)**.

120	Phipps	Continues summarizing prepared information on Oregon Short Line Railroads (EXHIBIT F).
197	Rep. Burley	Explains the importance of railroads in central Oregon. Expresses interest in the use of 286 rail cars.
206	Phipps	Answers that they have been used since the mid-1990s on track that can accommodate them.
214	Rep. Burley	Asks if reloads are necessary when the track cannot accommodate the 286s.
216	Phipps	Answers that shippers selling lumber on a 70-ton car can be competing with shippers that sell lumber on 286 cars, putting them at a disadvantage.
220	Rep. Burley	Asks how much it would cost to improve shortline railroads.
225	Phipps	Answers that Portland and Western Railroad spends about \$4 million per year to maintain their railroads. Estimates that replacing lighter rail with heavier rail would cost approximately \$200,000 per mile.
248	Armstrong	Notes that he can work with ODOT Rail Division to get more precise figures.
255	Rep. Thatcher	Asks if shortlines are privately-owned and if they are competing with truck haulers.
266	Phipps	Explains that Lake County and Wallowa Union are public railroads, but most are privately-owned railroads and explains that most freight rail contracts charge customers by the carload.
282	Rep. Hunt	Asks for a comparison of Oregon's investment in shortline railroads with other states.
289	Phipps	Estimates that it is an "order of magnitude 10-fold" with Washington state.
300	Rep. Thatcher	Clarifies that shortline customers are businesses.

Notes that committee will be meeting jointly with the Senate Committee on Transportation on freight rail transportation later today. Adjourns the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A. **Transportation Issues Overview, AAA of Oregon/Idaho overview, John Porter, 14 pp**
- B. **Transportation Issues Overview, Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disability testimony, Jacqueline Zimmer, 3 pp**
- C. **Transportation Issues Overview, TriMet testimony, Olivia Clark, 2 pp**
- D. **Transportation Issues Overview, Metro presentation, Rex Burkholder, 31 pp**
- E. **Transportation Issues Overview, Bicycle Transportation Alliance information, Scott Bricker, 9 pp**
- F. **Transportation Issues Overview, Oregon Shortline Railroads, Larry Phipps, 9 pp**
- G. **Transportation Issues Overview, Central Oregon & Pacific Railroad, Dan Lovelady, 15 pp**