

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

February 11, 2005
11:00 a.m.

COOS BAY CITY HALL
Tapes 15 - 16

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Sen. Joanne Verger, Chair**
 Sen. Doug Whitsett, Vice-Chair
 Sen. Rick Metsger
 Sen. Floyd Prozanski
 Sen. Bruce Starr
 Rep. Arnie Roblan

STAFF PRESENT: **Judith Callens, Committee Administrator**
 Gary Roulier, Committee Assistant

MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:

International Port of Coos Bay – Informational Meeting
North Bend Airport – Informational Meeting
SB 101 – Public Hearing and Work Session
SB 445 – Public Hearing and Work Session
Public Comment – 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
TAPE 14, A		
004	Chair Verger	Opens the meeting at 11:11 a.m. Briefs the audience on the committee's field trip to the Port of Umqua.
025	Chair Verger	Introduces committee members to the audience.
055	Chair Verger	Continues with introductions.
075	Rep. Roblan	Commends the chair for bringing the committee meeting to Coos Bay.
094	Chair Verger	Introduces the agenda to the audience and acknowledges officials of the Port of Coos Bay.
<u>INTERNATIONAL PORT OF COOS BAY – INFORMATIONAL MEETING</u>		
113	Martin Callery	Director of Marketing and Communications, Oregon International Port of Coos Bay (port). Presents EXHIBIT A and briefs the committee on issues affecting the port.
165	Callery	Discusses the acquisition of the Coos Bay rail bridge.
194	Callery	Summarizes the rail spur project to provide access to industrial lands on Coos Bay's North Spit.
244	Callery	Outlines investments dependent on the development of the spur.
277	Callery	Talks about the increasing awareness within the legislature regarding non-highway transportation infrastructure, and notes that the port supports ConnectOregon.
321	Sen. Verger	Summarizes the provisions of SB 71 (2005) and ConnectOregon. Asks about the opportunity to shift bridge money to other projects.
363	Callery	Reviews funding sources for transportation infrastructure

381 projects.
 389 Sen. Verger Summarizes a proposed memorial dealing with dredging.
 Callery Agrees on the importance of dredging, and talks to the federal
 funds available.
 409 Sen. Whitsett Asks for an explanation on what would be required for Coos Bay
 to increase container traffic.

TAPE 16, A

003 Callery Responds with some of the developments that would be
 necessary.
 027 Sen. Verger Introduces local officials in the audience.
 039 John Watt Medford and Jackson County Chambers of Commerce.
 Comments on the economic development taking place in Coos
 Bay.
 074 Watt Reviews regional efforts to obtain funds for transportation
 infrastructure.
 081 Chair Verger Closes the informational meeting on the Port of Coos Bay and
 opens an informational meeting on the North Bend Airport
 project.

NORTH BEND AIRPORT – INFORMATIONAL MEETING

083 Sue Richardson Vice Chair, Coos County Airport District. Presents **EXHIBITS
 B, C and D** and briefs the committee on issues involving Coos
 County Airport District.
 115 Richardson Reviews a 2003 transportation report that found that improved
 commercial air travel would significantly aid Coos County.
 149 Richardson Summarizes some of the shortcomings of the North Bend
 Airport.
 184 Richardson Comments on the Bandon Dunes Golf complex, listed as one of
 the top 200 in the world.
 215 Richardson Details the federal funds available for airport improvements.
 254 Chair Verger Notes that the committee will be touring the airport facility later
 in the day. Adds that it would be helpful to know what local
 financial support has been forthcoming for improvements.
 273 Gary Letellier Coos County Airport District. States that the total project will be
 approximately \$45 million, and that Bandon Dunes has provided
 funds for the planning process.
 304 Letellier Stresses the importance of SB 152 (2005), and emphasizes that
 the airport does not want to be the “piece that holds back the
 progress” of the region.
 345 Sen. Whitsett Reviews the similarities between the airports at Klamath Falls
 and North Bend.
 368 Sen. Starr Asks about where the remainder of funds for the airport project
 might come from.
 386 Letellier Notes that the first phase will be \$19 million and they are still
 searching for funds for the following phases.
 395 Sen. Starr Talks about the additional opportunities that will come from the
 development in the area.
 404 Rep. Roblan Reviews the additional landings that are occurring at the North
 Bend Airport.
 414 Letellier Summarizes the revenue opportunities with additional traffic at
 the airport.

TAPE 15, B

010 Chair Verger Recesses the meeting at 12:08 p.m.
 011 Chair Verger Reconvenes the meeting at 1:05 and opens a public hearing on
 SB 101.

SB 101 – PUBLIC HEARING

013	Judith Callens	Committee Administrator. Explains the provisions of the bill.
034	Mark Kestleman	Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Testifies in support of the bill and explains the rationale behind the legislation.
051	Sen. Metsger	Asks for an example of how the process would work.
059	Kestleman	Responds that the bill would clarify the process and allow them to compensate property owners in a fair manner.
066	Sen. Metsger	Asks if there would be a net decrease in cost in those cases where the department did not have to adjudicate.
070	Kestleman	Answers that would be correct.
075	Sen. Starr	Asks if property owners would still be treated fairly and if this bill would make it easier for ODOT to take property from owners. Adds that he would like to see case examples.
102	Kestleman	Responds that he will try and provide some examples.
111	Sen. Metsger	Clarifies that this bill will allow a settlement without court proceedings but would not supersede the property owner's rights to take ODOT to court.
125	Chuck Landis	Port Orford. Testifies that his father and mother own property in Port Orford that is being taken by the state.
154	Sen. Prozanski	Notes that the witness is testifying on an issue that is outside the purview of this bill. Recommends that the witness have his parents find an attorney that is versant in land use law.
181	Sen. Metsger	Reviews the "right of necessity" for the witness.
191	Kestleman	Summarizes the process that ODOT follows in these cases.
205	Sen. Metsger	States that there are two parcels in this individual case, and wants to know what steps are taken to make sure that remaining parcel still has access.
230	Landis	Notes that ODOT did make an offer on the second parcel, but ODOT was not interested in buying, and the fact that the parcel is now "landlocked" is really the issue.
250	Sen. Metsger	Reviews the benefits of learning more about this issue.
261	Chair Verger	Closes the public hearing on SB 101 and opens a work session on SB 101.

SB 101 – WORK SESSION

264	Sen. Whitsett	MOTION: Moves SB 101 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.
		VOTE: 5-0-0
		AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye. The motion CARRIES.
		SEN. PROZANSKI will lead discussion on the floor.
289	Chair Verger	Closes the work session and opens a public hearing on SB 445.

SB 445 – PUBLIC HEARING

305	Rob Roberts	Coos County Sheriff's Office. Testifies in support of SB 445. Reviews the reasons behind the legislation, which modifies definition of Class II all-terrain vehicles.
335	Chair Verger	Informs the committee that the bill came at the request of the Coos County Sheriff's Office.
340	Sen. Whitsett	Asks for an example of a vehicle that would exceed the 8,000 pound limit.
350	Roberts	Provides some examples of large vehicles that are going into the off-road vehicle areas.
366	Chair Verger	Closes the public hearing on SB 445 and opens a work session on SB 445.

SB 445 – WORK SESSION

372 Sen. Whitsett **MOTION: Moves SB 445 to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.**
VOTE: 5-0-0
Chair Verger AYE: In a roll call vote, all members present vote Aye. The motion CARRIES.
SEN. VERGER will lead discussion on the floor.

394 Chair Verger Closes the work session and opens a public hearing to receive public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT – INFORMATIONAL MEETING

400 Bill Pearl Lakeside, Oregon. Reviews a meeting with the federal delegation on funds for roads in the region.

TAPE 16, B

004 Chair Verger Thanks the witness for a design that he provided for a proposed license plate.

017 Brett Kenney Tribal Counsel, Coquille Indian Tribe. Wants to voice the tribe’s support for the North Bend Airport project provided it protects sacred tribal lands.

039 Kenney Suggests that some native American art of historical interest be included in the terminal project.

043 Chair Verger Asks for specific examples on how the art would be included and whether it would be inside or outside the terminal.

050 Kenney Answers that both would be appropriate.

055 Sen. Metsger Asks if the airport project would be beneficial to the Mill Casino and whether there are tribal funds that could be used for the airport project.

064 Kenney Answers that the project would be beneficial to the casino and that there “may” be funds available.

072 Chair Verger Closes the public comment portion of the meeting and adjourns the meeting at 1:39 p.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A. Coos Bay, Port of, written testimony, Martin Callery, 3 pp
- B. North Bend Airport, written testimony, Sue Richardson, 5 pp
- C. North Bend Airport, Terminal Project Report, Sue Richardson, 3 pp
- D. North Bend Airport, construction plan drawings, Sue Richardson, 2 pp