

## House Committee on Transportation

January 20, 2003 Hearing Room 357  
8:30 am Tapes 5 - 6

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**       Rep. Brown, Chair  
                                  Rep. Mabrey, Vice Chair  
                                  Rep. Beyer, Vice Chair  
                                  Rep. Gilman  
                                  Rep. Greenlick  
                                  Rep. Zauner

**MEMBER EXCUSED:**       Rep. Dingfelder

**STAFF PRESENT:**         Janet Adkins, Administrator  
                                  Ryan Sherlock, Committee Assistant

**MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:**       **INFORMATIONAL: ODOT Rail Division Overview, DMV Overview**  
                                  **PUBLIC HEARING: HB 2035**  
                                  **WORK SESSION: HB 2035**

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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.

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<b>TAPE/#</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Tape 5, A</b>		
003	Chair Alan Brown	Brings meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. opening the informational meeting.
<b><u>INFORMATIONAL MEETING</u></b>		
005	Claudia Howells	Oregon Department of Transportation, Rail Division Manager, offers written testimony ( <b>EXHIBIT A</b> ) with an overview of ODOT rail division referencing ( <b>EXHIBIT B</b> ). Explains the primary commodities moved by rail in Oregon, outlines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Rail Division<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Rail Safety Section</li><li>○ Rail Crossing Safety Section</li><li>○ Passenger Rail Programs</li></ul></li></ul>
110	Chair Brown	Asks where passenger rail funding comes from.
115	Howells	Responds that passenger rail funds come from the general fund because ODOT is unable to use any fuel tax to fund the rail division. Continues with ODOT rail division overview: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Rail Retention and Development Program</li><li>○ Rail Right of Way and Property Management Unit</li><li>● Current ODOT Rail Related Initiatives<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Short Line Infrastructure Improvements Projects</li><li>○ Intercity Passenger Rail Projects<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Track and Signal Work in Northeast Portland.</li><li>■ Eugene and Albany Station Improvements</li><li>■ Oregon City Station</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>

- Freight/Passenger Projects
  - Astoria Line Improvements and Lewis and Clark Passenger Service.
  - East Marion County Excursion Rail
- Commuter Rail
  - Washington County commuter Rail
  - Additional Commuter Rail Interest
- Federal Issues
  - Two Federal regulatory agencies:
    - Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
    - Surface Transportation Board (STB)
  - Funding
    - Amtrak Future (**EXHIBIT C**)
    - Major regulatory issues

Concludes presentation.

235	Rep. Cliff Zauner	Asks about Oregon Operation Lifesaver (OOL), and whether it is a national group or just in Oregon.
240	Howells	Explains OOL is a non-profit operation, Oregon's involvement in the national umbrella organization Operation Lifesaver Inc., and how OOL is funded.
245	Rep. Zauner	Asks where funding of OOL staff comes from.
260	Howells	Describes the certification process for OOL volunteer presenters, and mentions how OOL helps fulfill statutory requirements of educating the public about rail safety.
265	Rep. Mitch Greenlick	Asks about barriers in moving to high-speed rail between Portland and Seattle.
275	Howells	Clarifies that the Portland to Seattle line is the responsibility of the state of Washington which is also struggling with money. Beyond 80 mph requires that those lines be separated from the freight rail infrastructure, costing billions of dollars.
290	Rep. Greenlick	Asks about speed of rail, and whether they could achieve a 3 hour commute time between Portland and Seattle.
295	Howells	Acknowledges that this is the goal of both Oregon and Washington, with the goal of achieving a 2 hour run time between Eugene and Portland, however again the problem is funding.
305	Rep. Greenlick	Asks about commuter line between Salem and the Washington County line.
310	Howells	Comments that the feasibility is based on information they do not have yet.
330	Chair Brown	Thanks Ms. Howells for her testimony.
335	Rep. Zauner	Asks Mr. Everett about the Donald City crossing.
340	Everett Cutter	Oregon Railroad Association, Manager. The Donald City crossing is not a Burlington Northern crossing, but now operated by a short-line railroad company, and deferred the matter to them.
345	Rep. Zauner	Recognizes Cutter for his efforts in Woodburn.
360	Lorna Young	Oregon Department of Transportation, Division of Motor Vehicles Manager. Gives overview of the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

**(EXHIBIT D):**

- Mission/overview
- Programs and Budget
  - Driver Programs
  - Vehicle Programs
  - Budget
- Offices and Employees

**TAPE 6, A**

080	Rep. Terry Beyer	Asks about online vehicle registration.
090	Young	The DMV is planning to have online registration by the end of this biennium, in 6 months. Continues with presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Performance Measures</li><li>• Customer Focus</li><li>• Strategic Direction</li><li>• Accomplishments</li></ul>
220	Rep. Greenlick	Asks for availability of report regarding the DMV's efforts to work with the medical community to develop rules for expanding the types of medical impairments that physicians must report to the DMV.
225	Young	Responds that once they get closer to implementation she will come back and present it to the committee. Continues with presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What's Next<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Driver Safety</li><li>○ Fraud Prevention</li><li>○ DMV from Home</li></ul></li></ul>
380	Chair Brown	Inquires what identification is required in order to receive a driver's license in Oregon.
385	Young	Details the need for proof of identity through birth certificate, passport, and social security card. Explains that in Oregon there is no requirement that you be legally present in the United States in order to receive a driver's license, which the DMV struggles to address.

**TAPE 5, B**

015	Rep. Zauner	Asks about ease of getting a drivers license in his district.
020	Young	Acknowledges that a canceled mail envelope can be used to verify that the individual lives in Oregon. Recognizes that some citizens do not have a permanent address, and need to be accommodated.
045	Rep. Beyer	Asks about the title loan business in Oregon.
050	Young	Recognizes the difficulty of the title loan business, and identifies the problems with recording these transactions. Continues addressing the topic of driver's license safety and integrity and other DMV priorities.
115	Chair Brown	Thanks Ms. Young for her presentation, and opens public hearing on HB 2035.

**HB 2035 – PUBLIC HEARING**

130	Janet Atkins	Committee Administrator. Offers summary of HB 2035.
165	Roger Martin	Executive Director of the Oregon Transit Association, testifies in support of HB 2035.
210	Rob Bovett	Assistant County Counsel, Lincoln County, presents written testimony

		( <b>EXHIBIT E</b> ) in support of HB 2035, elaborating on why HB the district was created under Chapter 451 rather than Chapter 267.
250	Cynda Bruce	Lincoln County Transportation District, testifies in support of HB 2035, submitting a sample Lincoln County bus schedule ( <b>EXHIBIT F</b> ), and a chart of the annual ridership statistics in Lincoln County ( <b>EXHIBIT G</b> ).
265	Terry Thompson	Lincoln County Commissioner, testifies in support of HB 2035.
270	Rep. Beyer	Asks whether they are the only district chartered under Chapter 451.
285	Bovett	Identifies Lincoln County as the only district chartered under Chapter 451.
295	Martin Loring	Oregon Department of Transportation, Public Transit Division Manager, offers written testimony in support of HB 2035 ( <b>EXHIBIT H</b> ).
400	Chair Brown	Thanks Mr. Loring for his testimony, closing the public hearing on HB 2035, and opens work session on HB 2035.

**HB 2035 – WORK SESSION**

405	Adkins	Expresses her concern about the lack of an emergency clause in HB 2035 and any delay in payments which could be caused because of this. Also, explains that the subsequent referral to the Ways and Means committee needs to be rescinded for HB 2035.
415	Bovett	Recognizes the lack of an emergency clause, but expresses concern for holding up the bill in committee, recommending that the bill be passed and amended later when in senate committee.
420	Adkins	Points out the effective date without an emergency clause is January 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2004.
425	Chair Brown	Observes the need to amend HB 2035, closes work session on HB 2035, and adjourns the meeting at 10:05am.

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

**A – Written testimony: rail division overview, Claudia Howells, 6 pp.**

**B – ODOT Rail Division Overview, Claudia Howells, 75 pp.**

**C – Future of AMTRAK and Funding for Intercity Passenger and High Speed Rail, Claudia Howells, 6 pp.**

**D – Written testimony: DMV overview, Lorna Young, 21 pp.**

**E – HB 2035, written testimony, Rob Bovett, 4 pp.**

**F – HB 2035, Lincoln County Transit Bus Schedule, Cynda Bruce, 4 pp.**

**G – HB 2035, ridership statistics in Lincoln County, Cynda Bruce, 1 p.**

**H – HB 2035, written testimony, Martin Loring, 2 pp.**