

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

January 26, 2001
9:00 AM

Hearing Room D
Tapes 15 - 16

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Rep. Bruce Starr, Chair**
 Rep. Alan Brown, Vice-Chair
 Rep. Jeff Merkley, Vice-Chair
 Rep. Richard Devlin
 Rep. Jeff Kropf
 Rep. Donna Nelson
 Rep. Diane Rosenbaum
 Rep. Joanne Verger
 Rep. Cliff Zauner

MEMBER EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT: **John Leon, Committee Administrator**
 Kate Campeau, Committee Assistant

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: **Invited Testimony**
 Adoption of Committee Rules
 Oregon Department of Transportation Overview

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.

<u>TAPE/#</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Comments</u>
TAPE 15, A		
<u>OREGON REFUSE AND RECYCLING ASSOCIATION</u>		
004	Chair Starr	Calls the committee to order at 9:05 a.m.
008	Kristin Mitchell	Governmental Affairs Director, Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association (ORRA). Submits written material (EXHIBIT A) gives a brief overview of ORRA and statement of support for transportation improvements.
060	Rep. Nelson	Asks about campaign plan for recycling, i.e., moving away from styrofoam cups, etc.
070	Mitchell	Responds that ORCA is really at the back-end of the process and does not have a campaign to promote the use or disuse of materials.
080	Rep. Devlin	Comments that in some jurisdictions haulers actually pay fees which in turn pay for campaigns which encourage recycling.
092	Chair Starr	Asks if garbage haulers pay weight mile tax.
093	Mitchell	Answers that they do pay.
095	Rep. Starr	Asks if they pay only when they are on state highways or neighborhood routes and is that separate or combined.
100	Mitchell	Answers that she does not have that information.
103	Rep. Devlin	States that it is combined.
104	Chair Starr	Requests that written testimony be provided.
108	Bob Montgomery	Former Representative, Cascade Locks. Comments on three bills from last session. Notes that two of these bills, SB 773 and SB 86 addressing property rights. Discusses these bills and their

		impact on transportation issues.
196	Craig Greenleaf	Deputy Director, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Submits written material (EXHIBIT B). Talks about SB773 and SB86. Discusses access management and objective standards for issuing permits.
268	Rep. Zauner	Asks if local municipality takes over highway when assuming authority over access.
274	Greenleaf	Answers that there are ways for local governments to take over access management decision and full responsibility of facility.
287	Rep. Zauner	Asks in regards to access work on Highway 214 in Woodburn, would it be possible to do work on highway or just access management.
289	Greenleaf	Answers that there are ways through access management treatment or perhaps to explore a jurisdictional transfer.
297	Rep. Nelson	Asks for clarification of answer to Rep. Zauner's question.
312	Greenleaf	Answers that this process is interrelated and interdependent.
320	Rep. Verger	Asks question regarding state highways that are assumed to be city streets. Asks if ODOT provides jurisdictional exchanges outside of city limits where it would obviously be a major highway.
339	Greenleaf	Answers that that is an example of a parallel facility.
350	Rep. Zauner	Asks if a transfer of funds would be conducted.
388	Greenleaf	Answers that the precise treatment of any particular segment of highway would be looked at. Discusses variety of arrangements made as to how jurisdictional transfers are handled.
435	Rep. Rosenbaum	Asks if there are ways in which Ballot Measure 7 would change what was agreed to regarding contesting and appealing property value assessment.
449	Greenleaf	Answers that the Attorney General's opinion is important in assessing consequences.
469	Rep. Rosenbaum	Asks if local governments are in a holding pattern until the Attorney General's decision.
490	Greenleaf	Answers that there are differing opinions about how local government will be impacted by this. Continues with discussion of SB 86 and the impact of that bill on ODOT.
TAPE 16, A		
155	Rep. Zauner	Comments that business can be adversely effected by ODOT's decisions.
163	Greenleaf	Answers that SB 86 would operate in full closure of Woodburn access.
190	Chair Starr	Notes that there is definitely an issue when ODOT makes a decision that greatly impacts business. States that a solution needs to happen.
205	Rep. Brown	Asks if there is a program that reviews potential access problems by deed.
220	Greenleaf	Answers that that can happen.
247	Rep. Verger	Asks if criteria are too severe. Offers examples of severe access management.
255	Greenleaf	Offers explanation for some of the access management decisions in small communities that Rep. Verger discussed – states that ODOT is intending to reassess decisions and make possible revisions. Notes that this is an issue that is of great concern to the department.
340	Rep. Nelson	Asks when that will take place.

350	Greenleaf	Answers July of 2001.
380	Rep. Nelson	Asks if an emergency plan is in place so communities don't have to wait so long.
390	Greenleaf	Discusses methods for resolving emergency situations.
400	Chair Starr	Asks if these two bills will help solve access/planning problems that have been discussed today.
402	Greenleaf	Answers yes. Stresses that ODOT is trying very hard to make fundamentally sound decisions. Stresses that this is not a simple process and many demands and interests need to be taken into consideration.
455	Chair Starr	Affirms that businesses have closed due to access cut-off.
460	Greenleaf	States that ODOT has tried to work much harder finding a solution.
500	Rep. Starr	Asks questions regarding larger freeways where there are interchanges. Asks if there is a rule in ODOT stating that interchanges are not to be closer than one mile.
521	Greenleaf	Answers that there are provisions.
TAPE 15, B		
050	Chair Starr	States that he needs flexibility in dealing with a situation in his district.
054	Rep. Zauner	Asks if that is a federal or state rule - that it has to be one mile in regards to interchanges.
060	Greenleaf	Answers that there are provisions that apply in both circumstances.
069	Rep. Zauner	Asks who makes the final decision, the state or the federal government.
073	Greenleaf	Answers that the decision is made by the state but subsequently reviewed by the federal government.

UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF SB 909 (1999)

130	Thomas Lulay	Executive Deputy Director/Chief Engineer, Highway Division, Department of Transportation. Submits written material (EXHIBIT C) and gives brief overview of SB 909 and impact on highway safety.
147	Chair Starr	Asks question regarding the safety of Highway 18.
279	Troy Costales	Division Manager, Safety Division, ODOT. Answers that great attention has been given to that stretch of the highway.
280	Chair Starr	Asks question regarding other safety corridors that still remain.
287	Rep. Kropf	Comments on rumble strip and effectiveness of that device.
314	Lulay	Asks a question regarding ice indicators.
350	Doug Tindall	Answers that a more in-depth report on the roadway information system is available.
410	Rep. Kropf	Maintenance Supervisor, ODOT. Discusses ice sensors in highways to prevent accidents.
422	Tindall	Lauds anti-icing chemical. Comments on various accidents and bridge safety issues.
449	Rep. Knopf	Answers that wind socks are being assessed.
451	Tindall	Suggest that a better indicator would be a sign that warns of high winds.
494	Rep. Kropf	Answers that flashing signs would be a greater effort and are very costly.
TAPE 16, B		
060	Rep. Nelson	Comments about turn lanes.
		Asks about prioritizing for safety corridors. Asks what the

		purpose is of having a time designation if there is no plan or implementation.
098	Costales	Responds that safety corridor designation is brought about for many reasons. Notes that aggressive, angry drivers can have huge impact on designation of safety corridors.
140	Rep. Nelson	States that there is no plan, no emergency classification to respond to problems immediately.
200	Chair Starr	Asks how ODOT makes this decision. States that ODOT needs to find a way to get to yes, and if this entails changing statutes, then so be it.
207	Lulay	Answers that he will get back to the committee regarding Rep. Nelson's concerns.
215	Rep. Nelson	Requests that things be resolved soon.
221	Rep. Kropf	Commends maintenance crews during high winds.
238	Rep. Veger	Asks for comment on initiative on an initiative at the national level for automobile lights turn to turn on automatically.
264	Costales	Comments that daylights do help. Expresses concern for motorcycles safety. Notes that drivers tend to drive too fast and follow too close. The better the information ODOT can provide to the driver the better off we are.
271	Rep. Devlin	Asks if there are any states that require automatic headlights.
280	Costales	Answers that he does not know
285	Rep. Devlin	Comments that if this committee wants ODOT to say yes to changing things, they need to know that ODOT will expect communities to come forward with resources to do these projects.
307	Chair Starr	Comments that this is true and that there are private resources for these projects.
320	Rep. Devlin	Comments on Washington County's unique quarter billion dollars in property taxes and notes that this is not available in other counties.
205	Rep. Brown	Asks if there is a program that reviews potential access problems by deed.
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320	Rep. Devlin	Comments on Washington County's unique quarter billion dollars in property taxes and notes that this is not available in other counties.
328	Chair Starr	Comments on private resources to deal with area.
330	Lulay	States that options can be discussed. Notes that multiple options were studied and debated.
340	Chair Starr	Notes that discussion around bill focused on expenditures made on areas where there were high crash sites.
358	Lulay	Comments on the intent of the legislation.
	Costales	Comments on expenditures on safety issues and notes that they increased \$7.5 million a year after SB 909 passed.
386	Chair Starr	Adjourns meeting at 10:48 a.m.

Reviewed By,

Kate Campeau,
Committee Assistant

John Leon,
Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A – Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association, written material, Kristan Mitchell, 2 pp.
- B - Update on Implementation of SB 773 and SB 86 (1999), 9 pp.
- C – Update on Implementation of SB 909 (1999), Tom Lulay, 1 p.