

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND
TRANSPORTATION**

February 08, 2001 Hearing Room 343
03:00 pm Tapes 26 -27

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Sen. Gary George, Chair**
 Sen. Rick Metsger, Vice-Chair
 Sen. Margaret Carter
 Sen. Beverly Clarno
 Sen. Ken Messerle

STAFF PRESENT: **Patrick Balducci, Administrator**
 Nancy Masee, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:
 Introduction of Committee Bills
 SB 323 Public Hearing and Work Session
 SB 173 Public Hearing
 SB 451 Public Hearing

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 26, A		
003	Sen. Gary George	Chair. Opens meeting at 3:10 pm. Introduces informational meeting.
005	Linda Bye	Oregon Concrete and Aggregate Producers Association (OCAPA). Gives background on OCAPA. Explains the work of OCAPA and the products of concrete and aggregate. Expresses interest in the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Highway funding• Truck taxes• Land use activities• Supply and demand of aggregate products
007	Chair George	Transportation of aggregate has an important economic impact
020	Bye	Asks about concrete construction on Highway 5 and Corvallis.
053	Sen. Carter	Offers to find out that information for the committee.
055	Bye	Asks for a definition of aggregate products.
060	Chair George	Responds that any rocks that are mined are aggregate.
065	Bye	Asks about the supply of rock near highways being built.
089	Andrea Fogue	Answers yes, we have the information through 2060.
		League of Oregon Cities. Introduces Peter Fernandez and Lou Ogden. (EXHIBIT A)
095	Lou Ogden	Mayor of Tualatin and Vice Chair of the League's Board of Directors. Gives background on growth and development inside cities. Explains the demand on services is greater now but

		revenue to the state has increased because of the extra infrastructure that is provided by cities. Expanding and maintaining facilities and managing growth are constant issues of cities.
160	Peter Fernandez	City of Salem and the League of Cities Transportation Committee. Describes how the cities have great responsibility for road structure and upkeep. Explains that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cities are the largest owners of transportation systems • The city transportation system is the most complex system • The city transportation funding is in a crisis Discusses complexity of city streets provided for pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles. Describes the utilities, water and sewer, and a wide variety of users. The city must construct, maintain, and operate all these components of infrastructure.
236	Fernandez	Continues presentation on cities. Describes funding for the city. Comments on cities cooperating with the county in sharing equipment and becoming more efficient.
275	Ogden	Describes expanding right-of-way for city streets that increases costs per foot. Gives example of Tualatin area. Implores committee to convince voters to support needed funding for cities.
361	Chair George	Asks about the increase in minor arterials on the city map.
370	Ogden	Answers the neighborhoods complain about the shift in traffic to local streets.
413	Chair George	Closes informational meeting. Opens work session to introduce committee bills.
WORK SESSION TO INTRODUCE COMMITTEE BILLS		
414	Sen. Metsger	MOTION: Moves LC 3147, LC 3148, and LC 3289 BE INTRODUCED as committee bills.
415		VOTE: 5-0
416	Chair George	Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED.
417	Chair George	Closes work session. Opens public hearing on SB 323.
TAPE 27, A		
SB 323 PUBLIC HEARING		
050	Claudia Howells	Manager, Rail Division, ODOT. (Exhibit B) Gives background on SB 323. Supports SB 323 and explains why the department wants this bill. This bill is specific to light rail, streetcar operations, and trolleys.
124	Chair George	Asks about Tri-Met and their view.
126	Howells	Answers that Tri-Met understands the permanent program and they value what we do. Without our doing the program Tri-Met would lose their federal funding.
140	Sen. Clarno	Asks if this is a mandated situation where the legislature is involved.
143	Howells	Says if the operation is not moved into the oversight category, they are railroads.
160	Chair George	If they were charged based on gross revenue the charge would be greater.
162	Howells	Says she thinks it would not cover that.
165	Chair George	Closes public hearing. Opens work session SB 323.
SB 323 WORK SESSION		
185	Sen. Carter	Asks what is expected from the federal government.

187	Howells	The federal government mandates safety oversight program over Tri-Met. Tri-Met would lose if they do not comply. The other operations would be state only at present.
207	Sen. Carter	Says she is comfortable with the explanation.
212	Sen. Messerle	Asks if there is any response from Tri Met.
216	Patrick Balducci	Committee Administrator. They were notified and no response was received.
230	Sen. Metsger	MOTION: Moves SB 323 be sent to the floor with a DO PASS recommendation.
324		VOTE: 5-0
324	Chair George	Hearing no objection, declares the motion CARRIED. SEN. CARTER will lead discussion on the floor.
326	Chair George	Closes work session on SB 323. Opens public hearing on SB 173 and SB 451.
SB 173 and SB 451 PUBLIC HEARING		
340	Balducci	Gives background on SB 173 and SB 451. Provides a side-by-side analysis of the two bills.
282	Sen. Kate Brown	Senate District 7. Supports SB 451. Says the bills can be combined. Addresses issues in the bill: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit use of electric scooter to streets under 35 mph • Limit use to those over age 16 • Open to use of helmets.
328	Brown	Electric scooters do not pollute. Summarizes her support for SB 451. Assumes these are less dangerous than skate boards.
358	Sen. Clarno	Asks if they have lights.
360	Sen. Messerle	Asks if there is going to vote on SB 451 and SB 173.
362	Chair George	Comments that the committee will consider combining bills.
TAPE 26, B		
007	John Geffen	General Manager, Ron Tonkin's Alternative Fuel Vehicle Division. Supports SB 173 and SB 451. Asks that the two bills be merged. (EXHIBIT C)
034	Geffen	Continues testimony in support of SB 173 and 451. Refers to other supporters of the bills, INCLUDING Portland City Councilman Charlie Hales.
077	Sen. Messerle	Notes that the SB 173 and SB 451 only apply to vehicles with two wheels. Asks if Ron Tonkin sells scooters with more than two wheels.
085	Geffen	Responds that there are citizens who need more stability but not a medical scooter, thus, some models have three or four wheels.
096	Chair George	Comments on use of scooters to get to light rail. What is the mileage.
100	Geffen	On a single charge they can get 18 miles. Scooters have lower emissions relative to cars, cause lower noise and less pollution.
112	Sen. Metsger	Comments on different modes of moving people, and if scooters or bicycle users should have to pay for infrastructures they are riding on.
115	Geffen	Responds he does not think so.
144	Clarno	Comments on bike lanes and funds to build them.
153	Balducci	Comments on different modes of travel to reduce pollution and traffic congestion.
169	Eric Clover	Ron Tonkin Sales. Supports SB 173 and SB 451. Explains

177	Geffen	consumer interest in the scooters is high. Describes uses for scooters and advantages of low noise and emissions. Responds that the scooter will most likely not go over 20 mph. Governors can be added to reduce speeds. Most do not exceed 12 mph.
185	Messerle	Asks about liability insurance.
188	Geffen	Answers it is available through homeowners insurance the same as a bicycle.
195	Chair George	Asks how many states recognize scooters.
200	Geffen	Responds the State of California recently enacted laws for scooters making them legal.
236	Sen. Metsger	Asks if California requires no title, no license, and no insurance.
245	Geffen	Responds yes.
250	Stan Porter	ODOT. Describes the complexities of introducing scooters into the transportation system for safety reasons. ODOT opposes SB 173. Describes California law on scooters that is similar to bicycle law (EXHIBIT D) .
350	Sen. Messerle	Asks how long it would take ODOT to study this safety issue.
368	Balducci	Responds to question on age for driver of scooter.
370	Chair George	Comments on helmet wearing.
380	Porter	Says California requires all riders to wear a helmet. Says ODOT opposes SB 451.
TAPE 27, B		
006	Glen Chastain	Oregon State Police. Explains that these vehicles are currently being operated in Oregon but are in violation of the vehicle code. Suggests following California's legislation.
029	Chair George	Asks if these scooters should be on bicycle lanes only.
035	Chastain	Says these bills would allow driving on highways.
059	Sen. Carter	Asks about so many competing vehicles on the streets and highways.
170	Chastain	Agrees there is competition between different vehicles and those operators not following laws.
074	Sen. Carter	Asks if the bill needs additional requirements to safety.
180	Chastain	Says yes, any safety aids specifying age, equipment, and lights. The legislation should have specific safety features included.
189	Sen. Carter	Continues discussing safety requirements.
190	Chastain	States legislation like California is better than what is proposed in SB 173 and SB 451, and it would be better for all riders to wear helmets. The more safety features put in the bills, the easier time law enforcement will have.
114	Sen. Metsger	Asks about Section 5 and Section 6, where definition is unclear as to whether bicycle rules are followed or are different.
120	Chastain	Replies specifically these motorized scooters cannot be ridden on sidewalks.
148	Chair George	Asks that the state police assist in drafting amendments to the bills. Sen. Carter will work on this to draft a combined bill. Closes public hearing. Adjourns meeting at 4:40 pm.

Submitted By,

Reviewed By,

Nancy Masee,

Patrick Balducci,

Committee Assistant

Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A – Written testimony, Andrea Fogue, 21 pp

B – Written testimony, Claudia Howells, 2 pp

C – Written testimony, John Geffen, 14 pp

D – Written testimony, Stan Porter, 3 pp