

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

January 29, 1997 Hearing Room D

8:30 AM Tapes 8 - 9

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Rep. Bob Montgomery, Chair Chair

Rep. Mike Lehman, Vice-Chair Chair

Rep. Tim Josi

Rep. Jane Lokan

Rep. Bill Markham

Rep. Lonnie Roberts

Rep. Larry Wells

**MEMBER EXCUSED:**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Janet Adkins, Policy Analyst

Debi Parker, Administrative Support

**MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:**

**INFORMATION MEETING Informational meeting**

Regarding on new transportation proposal from Governor KitzhaberGovernor's office.

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 8, A		
001	Chair MontgomeryChair Montgomery	Calls meeting to order 8:35 a.m.
		<b>MOTION: Requests unanimous consent that the rules be</b>

005	Chair Chair Montgomery	suspended to allow REP. ROBERTS to BE RECORDED as voting AYE ON HCR 1  <b>CHAIR: VOTE: Hearing no objection, declares the motion carried.Motion to have Rep.Roberts vote on HCR 1, from the previous meeting's vote.</b>
014	Governor Governor John Kitzhaber	Testimony on funding within the transportation system, with emphasis on efficiency as a top priority. Details on this morning's proposal are due out by next Wednesday. There are two challenges: preservation and maintenance of the current infrastructure and congestion.
056	Governor KitzhaberGovernor	Continues testimony on the problems of congestion and the impact congestion has on our economy and lifestyle. Population and mileage are increasing, so we need to create new incentives to get people to consider other alternatives for transportation.
099	Governor KitzhaberGovernor	Concludes testimony.
102	Rep. Roberts	Truck tax is at it's top in this state, other states are subsidizing. Question about truckers evading this state.
125	Governor KitzhaberGovernor	The current cost responsibility rate is 64/26 trucks and cars. The approach suggested recommends the existing weight mile and gas tax at that ratio. . New construction shifts equation to 85/15. Suggestion of using the diesel tax to remedy this.
147	Rep. Lehman	Concern over rural residents having option of toll or alternate route.
147	Governor KitzhaberGovernor	Answers concern.
158	Rep. Lehman	Asks how are we going to ensure the proposal affects people in the rural areas as much as people in urban areas.
164	Governor KitzhaberGovernor	Answers concern. Allowance must be made for amount of miles traveled. Rural products sold overseas will be affected in prices by truckers' rates of transportation.
168	Rep. Lehman	Questions if shipping will be done out of places other than Portland.
170	Governor KitzhaberGovernor	Not part of this proposal, but may be considered.
179	Rep. Josi	System efficiency. Questions what the legislative packet will do to increase system efficiency.
187	Governor KitzhaberGovernor	The real savings to the public are in system efficiency.
202	Chair MontgomeryChair Montgomery	The Hood River also has unemployment, as does Portland.
214	Chair MontgomeryChair Montgomery	Introduction of Grace Crunican, ODOT Ddirector, and Greg Wolf from the Governor KitzhaberGovernor's office.

218	Greg Wolf	Community Development Advisor to the Governor Kitzhaber Governor. Gives proposal's highlights: preservation and maintenance are concerns throughout the state. Highlights livability and economic opportunity. This proposal ties funding to system use.
250	Wolf	Continues testimony on highlights of Governor Kitzhaber Governor's proposal.
275	Rep. Markham	Questions if there are implications to the constitutional trust fund.
278	Wolf	No proposals of such changes. Access fee would be additional to the trust fund.
285	Grace Crunican	Director of Transportation for the State of Oregon. Testimony. <b>(EXHIBIT A)</b> Initiative deals with roads. Links modernization and efficiency.
333	Crunican	Testimony continues.
359	Crunican	Goal is to meet operations, maintenance, and preservation needs.
<b>TAPE 9, A</b>		
001	Crunican	Testimony continues.
003	Chair Montgomery Chair	Questions regarding how many vehicles Oregon has with studded tires.
009	Crunican	360,000-400,000 cars have studded tires. 3 million cars in Oregon. <b>*STATISTICS CORRECTED AND UPDATED (EXHIBIT D) PROVIDED AFTER MEETING</b>
015	Chair Montgomery Chair	*Summation that therefore 10% of vehicles have studded tires.
017	Crunican	Continues testimony. Explains some new fees. Tries to close the gap between state, regional and local concerns. Efficiency efforts currently tried in various counties to test new concepts. Explains where the various fees would be distributed.
080	Chair Montgomery Chair	Question about details.
085	Chair Montgomery Chair	Employer pays tax.
093	Rep. Lokan	Asks if it's a good thing to have the taxpayers pay.
100	Crunican	Answers Rep. Lokan. Concept of "everybody pays".
106	Chair Montgomery Chair	Households in Oregon: \$64 64 million.
117	Crunican	Comments on collections. Out for bid in private sector. <b>(EXHIBIT A, page 3)</b> All registered owners would pay fees. 1.4 cents per mile would be charged for passengers and small vehicles. Sliding scale for commercial and large vehicles. Size and weight of vehicles also taken into account: affects road damage.
150	Crunican	Continues testimony. Collections would happen with registration fees.

171	Rep. Roberts	Reiterates question concerning how one government entity can tax another.
177	Crunican	Discussion of who pays and to explain the structure of the program. Continues testimony. Money would also go toward studies of new programs which may work well. Studded tires would be ten dollars per tire.
217	Rep. Roberts	Statement regarding new tires coming out, and loss of money to the program if people prefer tires that don't have the fee.non-feed tires.
223	Crunican	Comments that soft Soft studded tires being developed. Stated some statistics regarding how many drivers in Oregon that were later updated. <b>(EXHIBIT D)</b> .
228	Crunican	Conclusion of testimony.
240	Chair Chair Montgomery	Questions regarding difference between livability, and existing land use planning requirements. SB 100, Oregon Transportation Plan.
250	Wolf	We're not doing enough to improve our costs. Cites example of this.
267	Chair MontgomeryChair Montgomery	Asks if these funding proposals issues have been discussed over the interim.
271	Wolf	Regional and state committees have talked about the structure of the proposal. They presented other suggestions.
290	Chair MontgomeryChair Montgomery	Asks if the costs affecting a larger bureaucracy being needed have been considered, and if so what numbers we're looking at.
295	Crunican	Answers these questions.
313	Wolf	Open to ideas to minimize costs.
330	Chair MontgomeryChair Montgomery	It's easy to throw rocks, but we need a solution, and this is the current proposal to consider.
336	Rep. Lehman	1.2 studded tires per household in the state of Oregon.
343	Chair MontgomeryChair	Refers to Roger Martin.
356	Roger Martin	Executive Director of the Oregon Transit Association. Compliments the Governor KitzhaberGovernor on paying attention to the transportation system in Oregon. <b>(EXHIBIT B)</b> and <b>(EXHIBIT C)</b> Discusses gas taxes of 30 years ago.
<b>TAPE 8, B</b>		
001	Martin	Currently gas tax is "archaic". Cars are more fuel efficient, so the same amount of taxes do less. Predicts there will be natural gas stations for alternative fuel vehicles in our state's future. Electric cars will also come into use. Merits of the Governor KitzhaberGovernor's proposal is it broadens the base of who pays.
		Refers to <b>(EXHIBIT B)</b> . All 36 counties have programs that transport

054	Martin	the elderly: it's a federal requirement. It's now paid by the cigarette tax. If the access passes 34 million dollars will go to the handicapped and elderly transportation. Suggests all vehicles will be equipped with transponders, which will be measured throughout the state. Points out that despite our state's "most expensive gas tax", we pay far less overall to operate our automobiles. Urges public to think outside the box of current ideas. Concludes.
120	Rep. Josi	Appreciates Martin's comments.
127	Chair MontgomeryChair	Thanks visitors for comments. Concludes meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Debi Parker, Janet Adkins,

Administrative Support

Policy Analyst

Transcribed Partially by,

Jennifer Peck

Administrative Support

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

**A - Transportation Funding Proposal, 3 pp, submitted by Grace Crunican, Director, ODOT**

**B - Highway Fund Apportionment's, 1 pp, submitted by Roger Martin**

**C -Clackamas County Invoice, 1 pp, submitted by Roger Martin\par D - Memo from Victor Dodier correcting and clarifying statistics from meeting, 1 pp, provided by Rep. MontgomeryDebi Parker**