

These minutes contain materials which paraphrase and/or summarize statements made during this session. Only text enclosed in quotation marks

report a speaker's exact words. For complete contents of the proceedings, please refer to the tapes.

Measures Heard  
Organizational Hearing

SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION

January 24, 1991Hearing Room 137  
8:00 a.mTapes 6 & 7

MEMBERS PRESENT:Sen. Joan Dukes, Chair  
Sen. William McCoy, Vice-Chair  
Sen. Peter Brockman  
Sen. Glenn Otto  
Sen. Paul Phillips  
Sen. Tricia Smith  
Sen. Eugene Timms

STAFF PRESENT: Ruth Larson, Committee Administrator  
Shannon Gossack, Committee Assistant

WITNESSES: Robert Bothman, Oregon Dept. of Transportation  
Judy Gregory, Oregon Dept. of Transportation  
Denny Moore, Oregon Dept. of Transportation  
Don Forbes, Oregon Dept. of Transportation

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TAPE 6, SIDE A

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

008 CHAIR DUKES: Calls meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

014 BOB BOTHMAN, DIRECTOR, OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:  
Submits and reviews written testimony. (EXHIBIT A) (EXHIBIT B)

190 SEN. PHILLIPS: Has a study been completed on the West side project?

192 BOTHMAN: We are not completed yet, but we are close to finishing the first phase.

199 SEN. PHILLIPS: Have you worked with Land Use Planning closely so they don't sabotage every needed transportation program we have in this state?

204 BOTHMAN: I think we have. We have worked hand in hand with them and even provided some of the staff.

215 SEN. TIMMS: Discusses the Access Oregon Program.

234 BOTHMAN: We are redefining the federal aid system at this time.  
-Discusses the preservation program.

261 SEN. TIMMS: A lot of our highway funding comes from the Federal Government. How we prioritize where the money goes is going to be important.

267 BOTHMAN: One of the things that has changed substantially is the shift of responsibility from the federal government to the state government. Today we have enough flexibility that we can shift money around based on our own priorities.

282 SEN. TIMMS: We as legislators now have more responsibility to make sure state money is spent fairly in the state of Oregon. That is what bothers me. We have changed the process.

301 BOTHMAN: Discusses the federal primary highway allocation.

309 SEN. SMITH: How is your Department working on a federal level to get as much as you can.

337 BOTHMAN: The federal funding is the bottom line. The battle is between the fast urban growing states. We battle with the allocation of the money so that Oregon comes up satisfactory and we feel we're doing alright.

361 SEN. SMITH: Is there a ranking system in the federal process based on a states progressive policy?

370 BOTHMAN: There are provisions that link transportation funds to land use planning. There are only about five or six states that have comprehensive land use planning like Oregon. Those states will get some benefit out of that type of planning.

394 JUDY GREGORY, ASST. DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION, ODOT: Refers to written testimony. (EXHIBIT A)

TAPE 7, SIDE A

003 GREGORY: Continues reviewing testimony. (EXHIBIT A)

055 SEN. TIMMS: What is your Emerging Small Business Program?

060 GREGORY: It takes 1% of highway construction dollars and makes it available to emerging small businesses to compete for contracts or subcontracts.

075 SEN. SMITH: Is your Affirmative Action Program included in your Human Resource Development Program?

079 GREGORY: Yes it is. Our recycling program is just getting started and they are designing it as we speak.

087 SEN. SMITH: What does your Affirmative Action program show right now in terms of women and minority hiring?

090 GREGORY: Our focus is on increasing women and minorities at top management.

115 CHAIR DUKES: Do we still get stripper well money for transit?

118 DENNY MOORE, ADMINISTRATOR, PUBLIC TRANSIT DIVISION: Yes we do get those funds, but I don't know exactly how much it will be. Reviews written testimony. (EXHIBIT A)

125 CHAIR DUKES: I would like to know how much of that money is going for transit and how much and where any other money is going.

126 MOORE: Continues with written testimony. (EXHIBIT A)

168 CHAIR DUKES: Asks for information about how measure 5 will effect the taxing districts.

183 SEN. SMITH: I would like to know not only the districts that lose money but the ones that are at the limit. I would also like to know what services you provide to Marion/Polk County.

197 MOORE: Continues with testimony.(EXHIBIT A)

229 SEN. OTTO: How much money is left in the Mass Transit Financing Authority Fund?

240 MOORE: That authority was established in the early 80's and was a revenue bonding approach for replacing vehicles and buying or building facilities.

252 SEN. OTTO: How can we make it more usable?

256 MOORE: I am sure Tri-Met will answer that question. They have accumulated various authorities over the years.

281 SEN. SMITH: How are smaller transit districts financing their new equipment?

287 MOORE: Pay as you go but that also means depending on 80% federal funding.  
-Continues with testimony.(EXHIBIT A)

319 SEN. SMITH: Do you have any kind of program to help rural communities establish some sort of substitute transit between communities? Bus service has dried up in the rural areas.

330 MOORE: Refers to testimony.(EXHIBIT A)  
-Discusses the RAZ Trucking issue.

414 MOORE: Continues with written testimony.(EXHIBIT A)

TAPE 6, SIDE B

030 DON FORBES, ADMINISTRATOR, STATE HIGHWAY PROGRAM, ODOT: Reviews written testimony.(EXHIBIT A)  
-Discusses "ON THE ROAD DOLLARS".  
-Explains Access Oregon Highways. (intrastate system)

167 SEN. OTTO: In your long range plans do you have a method to get people out of automobiles and into some other mode of transportation?

183 FORBES: We are working much closer with the transit division and they are the ones who would provide the incentives for car-pooling.  
-Discusses the West side light rail.

202 MOORE: We do have an elaborate strategy for dealing with congestion and among them is light rail and the highway options. We have a team concept and we are working on a energy emergency program. There will be more ride share and transit initiatives from us.

220 SEN. OTTO: Discusses the new state office building in Northeast Portland.  
-They were talking about all of the parking spaces they would need and light rail is only two blocks away. Is there any coordination between General Service and Transportation on these things? One state agency is going one way and others are going a different direction and there seems to be a lack of communication.  
-Light rail is the best bargain in Portland.

245 FORBES: Discusses city parking codes.

301 SEN. SMITH: Perhaps we could trade the City of Portland light rail for the minimum parking rule and get funding? Why do we have to wait until we are in crises before we implement an

energy conservation program?

318 MOORE: A system is in place right now. We have an embellished program for energy crisis.  
We really accelerate our efforts to get people to and from work.

341 SEN. SMITH: Why do the freeways in Portland not include car-pool and bus lanes during peak hour traffic?

351 BOTHMAN: We did have HOV lanes prior to the MAX project. They are not very popular and there is adequate capacity through other forms of transportation.  
-Discusses HOV lanes in the Seattle area.

375 SEN. SMITH: As long as we reward people for getting into their cars and not the people who car-pool people will continue to stay in their cars. As long as it's at least as convenient they are going to continue to do that.

394 BOTHMAN: I think it would be a good idea to talk to our Demand Management Team. It is geared toward Portland with a fallout to the other urban areas. We do not at this time have a major plan that would enhance or increase the size of the system in Portland.

425 SEN. SMITH: Salem is facing gridlock on several of its major arterials in the next five years.

428 BOTHMAN: I don't think there is really a shortage of fuel. There is adequate supply for a long time.

438 SEN. SMITH: I think we have to do it because there are other reasons, more sound long term environmental reasons then, "we may run out of gas".

441 BOTHMAN: I agree with that.

TAPE 7, SIDE B

006 SEN. MCCOY: What is the state match on federal funds?

013 BOTHMAN: It varies all the way from 88% federal to 92% on the freeway system.  
-Discusses federal funding on the light rail project.

022 SEN. MCCOY: What role has our state played in upping these percentages?

026 BOTHMAN: I played a very active role in that at the national level. We have worked hard through out delegation.  
-Discusses the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.  
-We have put together a coalition of users here in Oregon and have come up with the 10 points we want to make.

035 SEN. MCCOY: Do we have plans for a heavy rail system through the state?

037 BOTHMAN: I think we will have it in Oregon, but I don't think we are going to drive that. We just don't have the ridership numbers that can pay for the cost.  
-Discusses areas of the United States where there is heavy rail transportation.

072 SEN. OTTO: Talks about the concentration of industry.

087 BOTHMAN: The Access Oregon Program was focused on trying to get the access out into rural Oregon. Our program right now is that same issue.

101 SEN. TIMMS: I think it is important to have policies that relate to those issues because down

the road those areas will be the growth areas.

112 SEN. SMITH: I think the Department of Transportation is the key to the future health of Oregon and we have to be careful on how we proceed in your department.

131 CHAIR DUKES: We have a lot of questions and a lot of them are very specific. So we will bring these people back in.

136 SEN. SMITH: I understand that the Mass Transit administrator stands to lose 10% of his general fund budget this session. I wonder if there are some alternatives within the Department to make up that revenue?

140 BOTHMAN: The answer is yes, and we will be happy to talk to you about that.

159 CHAIR DUKES: We can be a real effective advocate if we sign on to what you are doing. We can also work the other way from time to time.

163 SEN. TIMMS: I am impressed with your program. If you show me something that works and I will go along with it.

201 CHAIR DUKES adjourns meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted by: Reviewed by:

Shannon Gossack  
Ruth Larson  
Assistant Administrator

EXHIBIT LOG:

A - Robert Bothman, Testimony, 48 pgs.  
B - Robert Bothman, Testimony, 6 pgs.