



SAFETEA-LU Comprehensive Plan Training

The federal SAFETEA-LU transportation authorization passed by Congress in 2005 requires a "locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan" intended to improve transportation services for persons with disabilities, individuals who are elderly, and individuals with lower incomes. The plan is required for three of the Federal Transit Administra-

tion funding programs, including Formula Program for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities (\$5310), New Freedom (\$5317) and Job Access Reverse Commute (\$5316).

The Public Transit Division invites you to participate in "Implementing the Locally Developed, Coordinated Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan Requirement."

This workshop will discuss community transportation coordination and offer techniques for developing the required plan.

A workshop will be held in Salem on Friday, July 21, 2006 and in La Grande on Friday, Aug. 18, 2006. For more information, visit the Public Transit web site and select "Upcoming Events." Our web site is at www.oregon.gov/odot/pt/.

Business Energy Tax Credit Administrative Rule Revision

The Oregon Department of Energy is in the process of amending Oregon Administrative Rules



that apply to the Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC) Program. A key issue being considered is the establishment of cost-effectiveness criteria for transportation projects.

The public comment period will end Sept. 12, 2006, and all comments need to reach the office of the Oregon Department of Energy by 5 p.m. The new rules will be effective by

Oct. 1, 2006. Copies of proposed rules will be available at the meetings and are posted on Energy's web site: <http://oregon.gov/ENERGY/CONS/BUS/BETC.shtml>.

A guide outlining the changes is also available. Hearing date, time and location information is available at: http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/CONS/BUS/docs/Meeting_invite.pdf.

Public Transit Division Administrator Changes

Transportation Colleague,

I want to notify you of an important change in ODOT's Public Transit Division. Martin Loring, Division Administrator, will work on special projects for the department effective July 17. Troy Costales, ODOT's Safety Division Administrator, will be Interim Public Transit Division Administrator.

My goal for this change is to ensure that ODOT'S Public Transit Division continues to offer very successful community transit programs and

also that the division sets a course to meet the significant challenges ahead for providing public transportation and mobility alternatives.

I sincerely thank you for your participation in and support for our transit programs. Troy and I look forward to working with you.

Matthew Garrett
Director
Oregon Department of Transportation

Defensive Driving Training

ODOT is contracting with Chemeketa Community College to provide defensive driving training for rural and special



transportation drivers.

There is no cost for the trainer and curriculum. The host agency will request the training and then work directly with the trainer to schedule the date and location. The agency is required to provide a meeting space, beverages and to enroll the drivers. They are also asked to open the training up to other transportation programs in the area.

Use of this opportunity is not required; ODOT grant agreements for vehicle purchases require that drivers be trained in defensive driving, and this program is designed to help agencies meet that requirement.

For more information or to request a training, contact Jean Palmateer at (503) 986-3472 or visit our web site, <http://www.oregon.gov/odot/pt/>.

Regional Trip Planner - Enhancing Tripcheck

The Regional Trip Planner Project, TripCheck-TO, will become part of the popular Tripcheck.com travel information web site.

While this free service will not be an itinerary planner, it will provide information about and links to transportation providers that make city connections or serve a particular city or county.

Public Transit Division staff is currently meeting with our partners to get agency and service information for inclusion in the TripCheck-TO site.

In addition to basic contact information, ODOT is collecting information such as provider links, service descriptions, service areas, days of service, service accommodations, eligibility requirements, city to city connections, and reservation requirements.

The data collected will be used during software development for testing purposes. After being updated again, data supplied by providers will also become part of the initial product release.



Screenshot of Tripcheck-TO in development

For more information about this project, contact Kathy King, at (503) 986-4004 or kathy.m.king@odot.state.or.us.

Oregon Transportation Plan Public Comment Period

The OTC has released the Draft Oregon Transportation Plan for a final public review.

More information can be found at: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/ortransplanupdate.shtml.

Written comments will be accepted until 5 p.m., Aug. 14, 2006 (date of receipt, not post-mark). Submit them to:

ODOT TDD Planning Section,
ATTN: Michael Rock
555 13th Street NE, Suite 2
Salem, OR 97301-4178.

Your feedback on this newsletter and the Public Transit Division web site would be appreciated. Please send your comments, suggestions, questions, or information that you would like to share with the transit community to Adam Torgerson, at adam.m.torgerson@odot.state.or.us.

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