

MEETING NOTES (Informal)

ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 19, 2006
10 a.m. – Noon
Lane Transit District
3500 East 17th Avenue—Eugene, Oregon

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Necker, Chair
Mark Phinney
Bob Proctor
Hugh Massengill

L.M. Reese, Vice Chair
Scott Whetham
Kay Christopher
Kay Metzger

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

Michael Thomas

Kathy Jenness

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Evan Sloan
Aline Goddard
Kristine Sirmans
Dave Kleger

Jan Aho
Tara Salusso
Mary Otten
Ann Angvick

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Braunschweiger
Fred Stoffer

Glen Adams

STAFF:

Terry Parker

Cosette Rees

INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/AGENDA REVIEW

Mr. Necker called the meeting of the Lane Transit District (LTD) Accessible Transportation Committee (ATC) to order. Those present introduced themselves.

Mr. Necker reviewed the agenda. There were no changes suggested.

MINUTES APPROVAL

There was not a quorum of the committee present in order to act to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2006 ATC meeting.

PROGRAM AND PROJECT UPDATES

On-line Trip Planner: LTD Marketing representative, Cosette Rees was present to introduce testing of a new Website based LTD trip planner. LTD staff had partnered with Google Transit to produce a trip planner, which had not yet been released to the public, but was being reviewed by staff. She asked the members of the ATC if they would be willing to participate in the testing of this new product. She stated that the Website address (<http://www.google.com/transit>) and instructions would be e-mailed to those who LTD had e-mail addresses for.

There currently were some issues that LTD was aware of that needed to be worked out, but the Google Maps worked with real time information that is uploaded to them each time there is a change in the bus schedules.

Some concerns that were unknown included internet speed, i.e., dial-up versus broadband access, compatibility with screen readers for people with visual disabilities, and identifying where a system transfer could be made more conveniently and timely as opposed to traveling to a major station to make the transfer.

Members were asked to take a look at the Website, test it out using a variety of locations, and provide feedback.

Stop Announcements. Ms. Parker provided a summary of a large system map that indicated where automated stop announcements were occurring. She said that having the locations pinpointed on a large map gave staff an idea of where there were long gaps between announcements. Ms. Christopher said that often the announcement was occurring so too late to stop safely. Staff would continue to work on fine tuning the stop announcements, and suggestions for things that were not working well and for new stop announcements would be welcomed.

LTD Michelangelo Ads. Ms. Rees asked for volunteers to board a bus to review a new type of on-board advertising that LTD staff were considering. This advertising would be placed on the ceiling of the bus and have a bold, colorful nature to it. Following the review, the volunteers commented that the advertising was backwards. They liked the bold color contrasts and thought the glossy effect was good. They also commented that the physical limitations that some people experience could make the advertising unreadable, and they thought if the signs were put side-to-side, it would be easier for people who were seated to read them. Some were concerned that people who were boarding might stop to read the ads, causing a delay in boarding for others. They did not think the advertising on the ceiling would affect the operators.

FIELD TRIP – EMX FRANKLIN CORRIDOR TOUR

Mr. Necker adjourned the meeting so the members could participate in a tour of the EmX Franklin Corridor that was scheduled to begin operations in mid December.