

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING

LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING

October 18, 1977

Pursuant to public notice given to the Register Guard for publication on October 13, 1977, to Newservice 16, and distributed to persons on the mailing list of the District, the regular monthly meeting of the board of directors of Lane County Mass Transit District was held at the City Hall in Eugene, Oregon, on October 18, 1977, at 7:30 p.m.

Present:

Richard A. Booth, Treasurer
Jack J. Craig
W. Gene Davis, Secretary
Daniel M. Herbert, President, presiding
Kenneth H. Kohnen, Vice President
Fred C. Dyer, General Manager
Mavis Skipworth, Recording Secretary

News media:

Marvin Tims, Register Guard
Lois Lindsay, Springfield News

Absent:

Glenn E. Randall

MINUTES: Minutes of the regular meeting of September 20, 1977, and the September 21, 1977 adjourned board meeting were distributed. Mr. Herbert asked that wording in the minutes of September 20, Page 3, paragraph 2, first sentence be changed from "rather than a flat rate" to "rather than a tax on taxable income." Without objection the minutes of September 20 were approved as amended and the minutes of September 21 approved as distributed.

MOTION
VOTE

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: There was no response to an invitation by the chairman for public participation.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Minutes of the October 11 Citizens Advisory Committee meeting were distributed for board information.

DESIGNATION OF REGISTERED OFFICE: Upon motion made by Mr. Kohnen, duly seconded and voted upon, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

MOTION
VOTE

RESOLVED that the registered office and business office of this District and of its registered agent, Fred C. Dyer, is changed from 532 Oak Street, Eugene, Oregon, to 815 Garfield Street, Eugene, Oregon 97402, and the General Manager is directed to give notice of said change to the Secretary of State of the state of Oregon and to the County-Clerk of Lane County, Oregon.

PROPOSED INCOME TAX ORDINANCE: Mr. Dyer distributed copies of a letter written by the Attorney General to Senator Edward N. Fadeley indicating that a vote on a measure for a mass transit district is to be voted on in the entire district. The letter further stated that, in accordance with statutory authorization, the board has the authority to refer a measure to the people.

A revised draft income tax ordinance containing four alternates which could be inserted, if preferred, by the board, together with an explanatory letter from Mr. Bryson, was distributed to board members. The alternates were: 1) for a single tax rate without credit, 2) for a surtax with credit, 3) for a surtax without credit, and 4) for a graduated tax in the same brackets as used in the Oregon personal income tax statute.

Mr. Kohnen suggested that in order to move toward a final draft, decisions should be made on: 1) whether to include a single tax rate or a graduated tax rate, and 2) whether to make the payroll tax applicable to corporations only. He listed information needed from the staff in order to make those decisions: 1) anticipated revenues on each proposal, 2) tax rates (%) that would be required of each, 3) a report on the feasibility of conforming district taxing boundaries to zip code boundaries, 5) some examples showing how the tax would affect typical taxpayers, 6) a determination from counsel regarding the timing for a referral to the voters, and 7) a revised timeline for moving ahead toward adoption, voter approval, and implementation of the necessary ordinance for an income tax.

MOTION Following a brief discussion, Mr. Booth moved that the board proceed with inclusion of a flat rate, and the motion was duly seconded.

AMEND VOTE Mr. Kohnen then moved to amend the motion to include a floor of \$5.00, below which no tax would be paid, the amount subject to verification by staff. The amendment was seconded and carried unanimously.

VOTE The question was put on the main motion as amended and carried unanimously.

Discussion then followed on whether to use a 1) payroll tax with credit, or 2) payroll tax only on corporations. The staff was instructed to prepare further analysis and report to the board.

Michael Merrell, Accountant, reported on a discussion held this day with Dick Yates of the Oregon Department of Revenue concerning projected revenues using various methods of taxation. He then presented to the board a table indicating possible combinations of taxation and assumptions of revenues through 1982.

FINANCE AND BUDGET: Regular monthly financial reporting was presented for board information.

MARKETING: A description of current activities was distributed for board review.

MOTION TOKEN PRICES: Mr. Craig moved that the board approve a staff recommendation to revise token refund value to \$.30, that tokens be packaged and sold through the district and retail outlets at a rate of five for \$1.50, and that special arrangements for discount rates on tokens be prohibited. The motion was duly VOTE seconded and carried unanimously.

RIDERSHIP: Regular monthly ridership reporting was presented for board information. Mr. Booth asked for an analysis of current ridership on Route #6, Jasper/Lowell, and Mr. Rynerson advised that as the number of trips was reduced June 28 to about one-quarter of the prior service, ridership is down to a comparable ratio.

Mr. Dyer reported that Sunday ridership has averaged 1,003 per Sunday between September 18 and 20.

PETITION: Mr. Rynerson advised that residents of McKenzie Manor, 6228 Main St., Springfield, have requested extension of Sunday bus service to the Manor. He said the petitioners were advised that at the present time resources are not available to extend service, but the route will be closely monitored for possible extension should it become feasible.

CENTRAL TRANSIT STATION: Mr. Rynerson presented a listing of advantages and disadvantages of the alternative sites now under consideration for a central downtown transit station at 10th and Willamette, 7th Avenue between Willamette and Olive Streets, and 8th and Willamette.

Clark Cox, Citizens Advisory Committee member, said he personally preferred the 7th and Willamette site because of the possibilities of integrating with inter-city carriers. Myron Feig of the Downtown Development Corporation also expressed preference for that site, commenting that there would be better traffic flow on 7th Street and the noise and pollution of the buses would be less offensive than on 8th Street. Mr. Dyer said the 8th Street site would best serve the transportation needs of the riding public because of its proximity to the shopping area and he spoke of the safety hazard involved in patrons crossing the four-lanes of 7th and 8th Streets to reach that area. He said he was aware of traffic engineering difficulties on 8th Street that would need further analysis. Ray McIver, Eugene Downtown Association, said his group believes the 8th Street site is prime retail space and the mall could grow toward and past the 7th Street site, making it more accessible for shopping.

MOTION Mr. Craig moved the board instruct the staff to develop a detailed analysis, including traffic and air control, of a transit station at the 8th and Willamette site. Mr. Booth seconded the motion. In following discussion, Mr. Herbert said he believed the 8th Street site would better serve the transit riding public than 7th Street, and that almost half of the 8th Street site would still be available for other potential uses. He said a favorable vote would express his position that the 8th Street site offered the best service to the downtown area. Mr. Kohnen concurred, and commented that while it must be recognized that the ultimate decision on the location would have to be made cooperatively with other agencies, the board's concern should be for the transit system and he would support the motion.

VOTE The question was put and the motion carried unanimously.

ROUTE AND SCHEDULE REVISIONS: Mr. Rynerson advised of rescheduling on Routes 11, 20 and 22 to compensate for unforeseen increases in travel time on those routes. He further reported on minor route changes affecting Routes 10, 20 and 30.

SOUTH EUGENE/UNIVERSITY OF OREGON RIDERSHIP POTENTIAL: A report indicating two alternatives for a direct route from the South Eugene area to the University of Oregon and the potential ridership was presented in response to an earlier request by the board. Mr. Rynerson advised that there presently are no vehicles or resources available to implement the service. Tim Dallas, Director of Operations, advised that reliability could be jeopardized if spare vehicles were further reduced; that additional buses and preventive maintenance facilities would be required. Ms. Susan Elder, Southeast Firs Neighborhood Association, spoke of

the importance to her group for the direct routing, and the board directed the staff to review possible reallocation of resources and to give special consideration to implementation of the service at the earliest possible date.

OPERATIONS: The board received regular monthly reporting from the Maintenance Division, the Passenger Disruption Log and Employee Work Record.

Mr. Dallas advised that radio and console installations have been completed and radio communication now operating on all buses, other than the #300 series, should have a positive effect in alleviating schedule disruptions.

The board was advised that at the September 13 Citizens Advisory Committee meeting, member Bill Leonard requested information in response to questions raised by Mr. Kirtland at the June 14 budget hearing of Dial-A-Bus vehicles laying over at Valley River Center with their engines idling for long periods of time. A memo indicating district policy on vehicle layovers and engine idling was distributed for board information, in addition to an example of a typical day's operation in October.

Mr. Dallas reported that Urban Mass Transportation Administration has concurred with the district's analysis that a competitive price was received on the sole bid for the bus washer and the district is authorized to proceed with the contract award.

EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES: The chairman advised that a November 15 meeting will be held in Salem with the Oregon Department of Transportation, the Transportation Commission, and representatives of public transit boards, and the board was requested to appoint two representatives from the district to attend. Mr. Booth moved that Mr. Herbert and Mr. Kohnen be designated as representatives of the district to attend. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously. The general manager will also be in attendance.

MOTION

Mr. Herbert advised that Tri-Met has requested the district to act as a joint petitioner in seeking a determination of the constitutionality of the Oregon State Transportation Financing Act. Upon motion by Mr. Craig, seconded by Mr. Booth, the board unanimously approved the following resolution:

VOTE

RESOLVED that Lane County Mass Transit District join with Tri-Met in its petition to the Supreme Court of Oregon to determine the constitutionality of and to interpret and declare the meaning of Chapter 662 Oregon Laws 1977 called the "Oregon Mass Transportation Financing Act", said proceeding to be at the sole expense of Tri-Met.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was then adjourned to Tuesday, November 1, 1977, 7:30 a.m. at the Eugene Hotel for further discussion of the income tax ordinance and to receive staff reports on the information requested.


Secretary