

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING

LANE TRANSIT DISTRICT

SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Pursuant to notice given to *The Register-Guard* for publication on April 20, 2006, and distributed to persons on the mailing list of the District, the Board of Directors of the Lane Transit District held a special meeting on Wednesday, April 26, 2006, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the LTD Board Room at 3500 East 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Eugene.

Present: Gerry Gaydos, President, presiding  
Susan Ban, Vice President  
Mike Eyster  
Dean Kortge  
David Gant, Secretary  
Mark Pangborn, General Manager  
Jo Sullivan, Clerk of the Board  
Kimberly Young, Minutes Recorder

Absent: Debbie Davis, Treasurer  
(One Vacancy, Subdistrict 6)

**CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Gaydos called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL** – Mr. Gaydos called the roll.

**PRELIMINARY REMARKS BY BOARD PRESIDENT** – Mr. Gaydos noted that the Lane Transit District (LTD) Budget Committee would be meeting directly after the Board meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** – There were none.

**BOARD CALENDARS** — Mr. Gaydos indicated that he would not be in the area for the May Board meeting. Mr. Pangborn noted the lack of action items for that meeting and said it would be cancelled if no items came up.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**—Mr. Gaydos called for comment from the audience.

**Margaret Harter**, a resident of The Pointe at 650 Harlow Road, expressed support for the EmX system but asked the Board to avoid restricting ingress and egress to The Pointe. She said that the development had two driveways 100 yards apart and residents needed to be able to turn both east and west. She suggested that the Board consider a Portland model that allowed residents to drive over the EmX lane. Ms. Harter asked the Board to avoid creating a situation in which residents had to drive out of direction and make U-turns.

**Kathleen Parlison**, also a resident of The Pointe, asked the Board to make the changes to the route that would allow residents unlimited access to the development. She suggested that buses run in mixed traffic at this point in the route.

**Maxine Walton**, also a resident of The Pointe, encouraged the Board to consider the request of the Springfield City Council that LTD take into account what was occurring on Harlow Road. She expressed concern about the potential that the route could eliminate a buffer along The Pointe that now provided an important sound barrier for residents. Ms. Walton agreed with the remarks of Ms. Harter and Ms. Parlison, saying that access was very important to residents of The Pointe.

Mr. Gaydos thanked those offering comment and invited them to remain for the next item, during which the EmX route of concern would be discussed.

#### **ITEMS FOR ACTION AT THIS MEETING**

##### **A. Pioneer Parkway EmX Locally Preferred Design**

Director of Development Services Stefano Viggiano provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the preferred design for the Pioneer Parkway EmX Route.

Mr. Viggiano called the Board's attention to the recommendation of the EmX Steering Committee in regard to the route, and noted the Springfield City Council's endorsement of that recommendation, which included a request that LTD employ the Transportation Systems Management (TSM) alternative on Gateway and Harlow roads until completion of the City's Gateway Street Study. That study was anticipated to take 18 months to complete. Mr. Viggiano indicated that the Metropolitan Policy Committee was the final decision maker on the design because of its responsibility for the allocation of federal funding to local governments.

Mr. Viggiano noted policy considerations associated with the steering committee recommendation, including LTD's New Starts August 2006 submittal, flexibility to add transit lanes on Gateway and Harlow, and the desire on LTD's part to honor its commitments to its partners in regard to the system.

Mr. Viggiano recommended that the Board adopt the Springfield Council recommendation and postpone its decision on transit lanes on Gateway and Harlow until on 2007-08. He acknowledged that by that time LTD would need to seek other funding for the transit lanes.

Mr. Kortge asked if future federal funding for the transit lanes would be threatened by the TSM option on Gateway and Harlow. Mr. Viggiano indicated that he believed that LTD had a good chance of securing the funding, even with the TSM alternative. Responding to a follow-up question from Mr. Eyster, Mr. Viggiano indicated that the TSM alternative did not increase travel time substantially for the opening year analysis, which is the basis upon small starts projects are analyzed.

Mr. Gaydos asked how the public would track the ongoing design issue. Mr. Viggiano indicated that LTD would publish newspaper advertisements, send direct mailings to residents, and hold public hearings. In response to a question from the audience, he indicated that occupants of multi-family housing would be notified individually.

Mr. Gaydos encouraged staff to get back to those who had expressed concerns about the route.

Responding to a question from Mr. Kortge, Mr. Viggiano said that LTD was responding to the questions asked by Gateway Mall management about the station appearance and the impact of the site plan on existing parking. Mall management indicated a willingness to look at LTD's proposal.

Mr. Gant observed that LTD had not yet had any experience with the first phase of the system, and a commitment of additional funds without that experience was difficult for him to support. He hoped the design worked well given the cost. He anticipated that at some point, LTD would have to fight some tough battles to get buses out of traffic to realize significant running time differences.

Ms. Ban expressed appreciation for the remarks of Mr. Gant. However, she believed that LTD would have future opportunities to implement EmX more fully in the Harlow and Gateway corridors when development patterns evolved and densities increased.

Mr. Pangborn concurred that LTD was backing down somewhat, but pointed out that if the District had a decision by the end of 2007, LTD could still meet existing construction schedules. He said that there were ways, such as special signaling gates, to have EmX lanes and allow for left turn access

Responding to a question from Mr. Eyster, Mr. Viggiano acknowledged the potential impact on the buffer area at The Pointe from the two-lane option. That involved acquisition on both sides of the road, with a potential impact on the landscaping in the buffer.

Responding to a question from Mr. Gant, Mr. Gaydos said that Tammy Fitch of the Springfield City Council had indicated to him that the remainder of the Council would say no to any proposal other than the one before the Board. Mr. Pangborn anticipated that the Springfield study would give LTD time to work through the issues with the City Council and affected property owners.

**MOTION** Mr. Eyster moved adoption of LTD Board Resolution No. 2006-015: "Be it resolved that the LTD Board of Directors hereby adopts the Locally Preferred Design as approved by the Springfield City Council." Mr. Eyster provided the second.

**VOTE** The motion was approved as follows:  
 AYES: Ban, Eyster, Gaydos, Kortge (4)  
 NAYS: Gant (1)  
 ABSENTIONS: None  
 EXCUSED: Davis, (one vacancy) (2)

#### **B. Second Reading and Adoption of Amended Fare Ordinance**

Director of Marketing and Communications Andy Vobora was present to answer questions about the ordinance.

Mr. Gant determined from staff that LTD was not dramatically over budget in regard to fuel prices.

MOTION Mr. Kortge moved to read the ordinance by title only. Ms. Ban provided the second.

VOTE The motion was approved as follows:  
AYES: Ban, Eyster, Gant, Gaydos, Kortge (5)  
NAYS: None  
ABSENTIONS: None  
EXCUSED: Davis, (one vacancy) (2)

General Manager Pangborn read the ordinance by title only: "Lane Transit District Thirteenth Amended Ordinance No. 35, An Ordinance Setting Fares for Use of District Services."

MOTION Mr. Kortge moved adoption of LTD Board Resolution No. 2006-016: "Be it resolved that the LTD Board of Directors hereby adopts Lane Transit District Thirteenth Amended Ordinance No. 35, An Ordinance Setting Fares for Use of District Services." Ms. Ban provided the second.

VOTE The motion was approved as follows:  
AYES: Ban, Eyster, Gant, Gaydos, Kortge (5)  
NAYS: None  
ABSENTIONS: None  
EXCUSED: Davis, (one vacancy) (2)

### **C. Special Service Policy Revision**

Mr. Vobora recalled the Board's earlier work session discussion of the topic. Mr. Gaydos confirmed with Mr. Vobora that he had been in contact about the policy revision with representatives of the Country Fair.

Mr. Vobora anticipated that the organizers of the Olympic Trials would seek direct assistance from LTD after they had decided on the services they wanted to provide. Many events would occur during evening hours.

### **D. General Manager Employment Agreement**

Mary Neidig, Director of Human Services and Risk Management, was present for the item.

Mr. Gaydos summarized the resignation of former General Manager Ken Hamm and the Board's appointment of Mr. Pangborn as interim and then permanent general manager on February 15. He called the Board's attention to the contract for the general manager's services recommended by the Board Human Resources Committee, saying that the compensation remained at the same level partly because LTD had not been obliged to spend any additional dollars on a national search and because of savings realized from position consolidations.

MOTION Mr. Eyster moved adoption of LTD Board Resolution No. 2006-018: "Resolved, that the LTD Board of Directors hereby approves the General Manager Employment Agreement as presented at the April 26, 2006, Board meeting. Mr. Gant provided the second.

VOTE The motion was approved as follows:  
AYES: Ban, Eyster, Gant, Gaydos, Kortge (5)  
NAYS: None  
ABSENTIONS: None  
EXCUSED: Davis, (one vacancy) (2)

Mr. Pangborn introduced new Commuter Solutions staff member Tracy Smith.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AT THIS MEETING**

- A. **Board Member Reports** – There were no Board member reports.
- B. **Monthly Financial Report** – Diane Hellekson, Director of Finance and Information Technology, indicated that the District was in good financial shape. She clarified some erroneous information published in *The Register-Guard*, saying that the District had approximately 800,000 boardings in March. She anticipated that the District would be within budget for fuel costs for the year.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Gaydos adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

  
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Board Secretary

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