

From: Nikki Roemmer [<mailto:nikki@olcv.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 3:20 PM
To: GMDTransportationSystemPlan <tsp@bendoregon.gov>
Subject: Support for a Balanced TSP

Dear TSP Steering Committee,

Central Oregon Conservation Network (COCN) supports the first draft of the new Bend Transportation Plan that you are currently reviewing.

Transportation is one of the most important issues facing the Bend community. An environmentally sustainable transportation system that supports vibrant neighborhoods that are conveniently served by transit, sidewalks and bicycle infrastructure can promote an economically vibrant community and healthy lifestyles, provide transportation options for all of Bend's residents, and reduce congestion and greenhouse gas emissions.

COCN supports a Transportation System Plan for Bend that:

- is safe and healthy for Central Oregon's residents and environment;
- makes investments in historically underfunded walking, biking, and transit networks;
- and improves equity by better serving low-income, minority, disabled and other underserved populations.

We believe that the Bend community will benefit from a new Transportation System Plan that accomplishes the above.

Sincerely,
Nikki Roemmer
Coordinator, Central Oregon Conservation Network

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Nikki Roemmer
Central Oregon Regional Director

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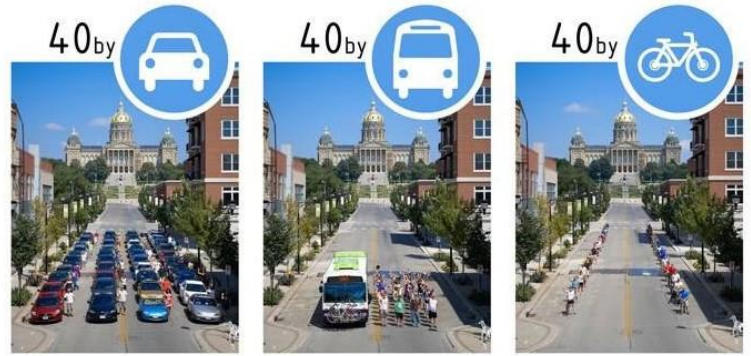
Central Oregon Conservation Network

Priority for a Healthy Central Oregon

Diversify Bend's Transportation Future

Transportation is one of the most important issues facing the Bend community. An environmentally sustainable transportation system that supports vibrant neighborhoods that are conveniently served by transit, sidewalks, and bicycle infrastructure can promote healthy lifestyles, provide transportation options for all of Bend's residents, and reduce congestion and greenhouse gas emissions.

The City of Bend is currently updating its Transportation System Plan (TSP), which will be the guiding policy, program, and infrastructure investment document for transportation in Bend until 2040. Any new transportation projects, including those focused on transit, bike lanes, sidewalks, and roads, must be included in this plan. The decisions made between now and the TSP's adoption will determine whether Bend's policies, programs and investments support a healthy, safe, and climate-friendly city or an automobile-centric city with few multi-modal options for residents.



Amount of space required to transport the same number of passengers by car, bus, or bicycle. (photos by Tobin Bennett) (Des Moines, Iowa - August 2010)

While automobiles are an important part of our transportation infrastructure, they are one of the biggest contributors of greenhouse gas emissions. A balanced transportation system is key to achieving Bend's greenhouse gas reduction goals and will support an economically vibrant community that protects public health and the environment, helps reduce congestion and ensures that all residents can get where they need to go.

COCN's *Diversify Bend's Transportation Future* campaign supports a transportation system plan for Bend that:

- **is safe and healthy for Central Oregon's residents and environment;**
- **makes investments in historically underfunded walking, biking, and transit networks;**
- **and improves equity by better serving low-income, minority, disabled and other underserved populations.**

We can protect our surrounding ecosystems and natural beauty by advocating for an environmentally sustainable transportation system.

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COCN is coordinated by the Oregon League of Conservation Voters Education Fund and powered by the thousands of Oregonians who belong to COCN's member organizations:

• Central Oregon LandWatch • Coalition for the Deschutes • Friends and Neighbors of the Deschutes Canyon Area •
Friends of the Metolius • Central Oregon Bitterbrush Broads – Great Old Broads for Wilderness • Oregon Land and Water Alliance •
Oregon Natural Desert Association • Oregon League of Conservation Voters • Oregon Wild • The Environmental Center •
Deschutes Redbands Chapter of Trout Unlimited • 1000 Friends of Oregon •

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