

11-20-19 submitted

Hello, my name is Erin Foote Morgan. I am here today in two different roles that align on one issue: transit planning and funding.

The first hat I wear today is for Hubbell Communications, representing our client, the owner of the facility adjacent to the transit station as well as a group of more than 40 business owners and residents near the transit station. Last week we released a safety study of the transit system's hub, Hawthorne Station that shows it is dangerous, not fully ADA accessible, at capacity, the only one of its kind of in Oregon and perhaps the nation and that no transportation impact analysis was required by the City of Bend when the station was sited there.

Secondly, I wear the hat of a community member, with a long history of engagement in Bend's planning and community-based decision-making on transportation issues.

Coming from this background, I want to share with you three observations:

1. **We haven't done enough planning and funding of transit to reap the benefits of this system, which is an integral element of reducing congestion.** Of taking vehicles off the system. We all know that it's faster to walk some places than to ride the bus. I hosted a meeting earlier this week and it was faster and more reliable for a person in a motorized wheelchair to drive that wheelchair from the Old Mill to the Safeway building than to ride the bus.
2. **Despite an intergovernmental agreement with CET to manage the bus system, the City of Bend does have an obligation to ensure that transit is adequately integrated into our overall transportation system.**
3. **We have a moment right now, that we may not have again for a generation, to help get transit off and running in the right direction.** With just a little bit more funding in the bond, for instance some funding for a transit station and possibly some planning money to site mobility hubs and that new transit station, the City of Bend can fulfill that needed support role.

My ask of this committee today is that you continue to invite CET to share with you a formal proposal for that is needed in the bond to support their goals.