



Policy Board

May 16, 2025

Call to Order & Introductions

Chair Méndez

Introductions

- Policy Board Members

- Ariel Méndez, Chair, City of Bend Councilor
- Phil Chang, Vice Chair, Deschutes County Commissioner
- Mike Riley, City of Bend Councilor
- Omar Ahmed, ODOT Central Oregon and Lower John Day Area Manager
- Melanie Kebler, City of Bend Mayor

- Alternates (if present)

- David Amiton, ODOT
- Chris Doty, Deschutes County
- Tarik Rawlings, Deschutes County

- BMPO Staff

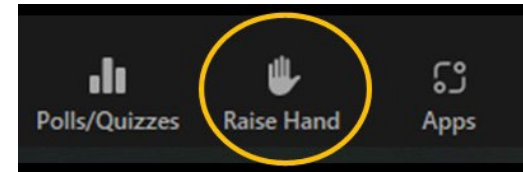
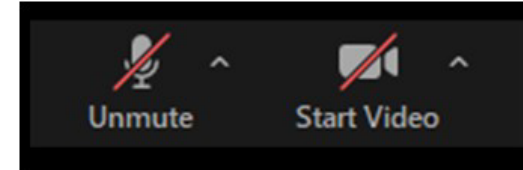
- Tyler Deke, Manager
- Andrea Napoli, Senior Planner
- Kelli Kennedy, Program Coordinator

Hybrid Meeting Guidelines

Tyler Deke, BMPO

Hybrid Meeting Guidelines

- You will be on **mute**, and your **video** will be off when you first join the meeting.
- Please click the raise hand icon to speak next.
 - If you join the webinar by phone, dial *9 to raise or lower your hand.
- This meeting will be recorded and is available as a live streaming event on YouTube.
 - The YouTube event can be reviewed on the City of Bend YouTube channel.



Public Comment

Chair Méndez

Public Comment

- Time for members of the public to provide comment.
- Additional time for public comment will be provided prior to adjournment.

Meeting Minutes

Chair Méndez

Meeting Minutes

- **Action requested:** review and approve the March 26, 2025, Budget Committee draft meeting minutes (Attachment A) and the April 18, 2025, Policy Board draft meeting minutes (Attachment B).
 - Recommended language for motion: *I move approval of the March 26, 2025, Budget Committee draft meeting minutes and the April 18, 2025, Policy Board draft meeting minutes, as presented.*

TAC & Policy Board Bylaws Amendments

Tyler Deke

TAC Bylaws Amendments

- Proposed minor changes to TAC Bylaws
 - Change “citizen” members to “community” members
 - Add language about preference for community members to serve on the TAC and Budget Committee
 - Consider changing membership status of COCC
- TAC approves most Bylaw changes
- Policy Board must “endorse” membership changes
- Other changes?
- **Action requested:** Consider approval of membership change
 - Recommended language for motion: *I move approval/endorsement of the TAC membership change as proposed*

Policy Board Bylaws Amendments

- Policy Board Bylaws
 - Initiated review discussion fall 2024
 - Changes supported
 - Add CET as voting member to Policy Board
 - CET Director as CET representative
 - Reducing City of Bend members from 3 to 2
 - Each member would get a vote (5 total votes)
 - Other small changes

Policy Board Bylaws Amendments (cont)

- Other items discussed
 - Quorum requirements: 3/5 or 4/5
 - Policy Board member alternates
 - Voting: simple majority (3/5) or super majority (4/5)
 - Adding TAC members as Ex Officio members
 - Clarifying MPO Manager role: contracting signing authority? Policy Board role in performance review?
 - Allowing Chair to decide if non-Board members can speak during a meeting
- Staff will review changes

Policy Board Bylaws Amendments (cont2)

- Amendment process
 - Parties to the IGA have a 30-day review period
 - If no party objects to the proposed amendments, Board may adopt the amended Bylaws by a unanimous vote
- **Action requested:** Direct staff to initiate the 30-day review period

Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendment

Kelli Kennedy, BMPO

2024-2027 MTIP – Overview

- Short-term (4-year) listing
 - Federal fiscal years 2024 through 2027
 - Transportation projects & programs
 - Expenditures
- Amended as needed – 2 types of amendments
 - Administrative
 - Full
- Available on [BMPO MTIP webpage](#):
 - Project list (updated quarterly)
 - Amendment log (updated quarterly)
 - Adopted MTIP

2024-2027 MTIP – Proposed Amendments

- One (1) proposed amendment

DETAIL	Amendment 1 (#24-27-2556)
Project Name (Number)	ODOT Fleet Charging Equipment (#23551)
Amendment & Reason	Update project locations*; increase the Preliminary Engineering phase by \$200K, and the Construction phase by \$580K**. <i>*Due to one location within BMPO area, also add project to the BMPO MTIP.</i>
Regulatory Agency	Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Funding Responsibility	Statewide (SW) Carbon Reduction; Maintenance
Funding Source	Carbon reduction program flex Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA)
New Project Total	\$ 2,575,352.00 (89.73% federal, 10.27% state)

2024-2027 MTIP – Public Comments & Action

- 21-day public comment period opened April 24.
 - No comments received.
- **Action requested:** review and consider approval of the proposed amendments.
 - Recommended language for motion: *I move approval of the proposed amendment to the 2024-2027 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program, as presented.*

Cascades East Transit (CET) Updates

Bob Townsend, CET

Cascades East Transit

Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council



COIC



MPO
May 2025 Update
Bob Townsend, Transit Director

CET Update May 2025

- CET Initiatives
- Fares
- Legislative Update
- Future of CET in Bend
- Logo



2025 Initiatives Overview

May – August: Bus Stop Improvements on Bend Fixed Routes

June 2: Weekday extended hours in Bend, 6:00 am – 7:30 pm

July: Transit Pass Introduction

July 14: Launch of Route 8 in northeast Bend, Potentially Airport Direct Route Launch, Reviewing Deschutes River Woods

Sept 1: Transit Pass requirement

October 1: Fare Implementation (Targeting Board Approval in August)



CET Draft Fare Guidelines

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Governed Routes

Route	One-Way Trip	Max Daily Rate	Monthly Pass	Annual Pass
Bend Fixed*	\$ 2.00	\$ 6.00	\$60.00	\$500.00
Community Connector*	\$ 2.00	\$ 6.00	\$60.00	\$500.00
Redmond Flex Routes*	\$ 2.00	\$ 6.00	\$60.00	\$500.00
Rural Routes (Shuttles)*	\$ 2.00	\$ 6.00	\$60.00	\$500.00
Bend Dial a Ride	\$ 4.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Redmond Dial a Ride	\$ 4.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rural Dial a Ride	\$ 4.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bend-Redmond Airport	\$ 15.00	N/A	N/A	N/A

*Eligible for Reduced Fare Program, Children 5 & Under Ride free if accompanied by adult, all operate under the same umbrella for max rate, monthly pass, and annual pass.

Recreational Routes

Route	One-Way Trip	Round Trip	Season Pass
Bachelor	\$ 7.00	\$ 12.00	\$299
Lava Butte (Up & Down)	\$ 5.00	N/A	N/A
Ride the River (All Day)	\$ 5.00	N/A	N/A
Transit to Trails	\$ 10.00	N/A	N/A



CET Draft Fare Guidelines

Individual Fare Reductions

- Persons Aged 60 and older
- Medicare Cardholders
- Persons who receive Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Benefits as long as they continue to receive these benefits.
- Disabled Veterans
- Students
- People who meet the FTA definition of people with disabilities “*Means any individual who, by reason of illness, injury, age, and congenital malfunction, or other permanent or temporary disability (including any individual who is a wheelchair user or has semi-ambulatory capabilities), are unable, without special facilities or special planning or design to utilize mass transportation and services as effective as persons who are not so affected.*”
- Low Income



CET Draft Fare Guidelines

Group Fare Reductions

- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (CTWS) Tribal Members
- Private Non-Profit Agencies
 - 501-3-c and/or 501-19-c, or approved equivalent verification
 - Annual Contract/Agreement with COIC/CET Required
- Employers, Institutions, or Schools with more than 10 monthly or annual pass purchases.
 - Annual Contract/Agreement with COIC/CET Required



2025 Transit Legislative Updates - QE

184.752 Definitions. *As used in ORS 184.752 to 184.766:*

(1) “Public transportation service provider” includes a qualified entity and a city, county, special district, intergovernmental entity or any other political subdivision or municipal or public corporation that provides public transportation services and is not otherwise described in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) “Qualified entity” means the following:

(a) Counties in which no part of a mass transit district or transportation district exists;

(b) Mass transit districts organized under ORS 267.010 to 267.394;

(c) Transportation districts organized under ORS 267.510 to 267.650; and

(d) Federally recognized Indian tribes. [2017 c.750 §122m]

(e) Counties and/or Federally recognized Indian Tribes can designate a Public Transportation Service Provider as the designated QE.



2025 Transit Legislative Updates - QE

- **ODOT STIF Rules Advisory Committee**

- Working on rule changes that minimize administrative oversight being performed multiple times

- **HB2795 – Changes STIF Program and definition of qualified entity**

- The bill's current language does not benefit CET or the tri-county area as currently written
- Deschutes County has provided letters to legislators to change language reflecting QE legislation matching Central Oregon needs

- **COIC Board Letter requesting legislation to change QE language**

“We are proposing adding language to the existing Transportation Bill, or any other relevant bill that would modify the definition of QE to allow the option for counties, which are the current designated QE’s to designate a Public Transportation Service Provider as the designated QE for their county.”



2025 Transportation Package – Payroll Tax

- **OTA Proposed a phased increase from 0.1% to 0.5% over 8 years**
 - Increases at this level would allow us to expand service and increase frequencies
- **Initial Transportation Package outlined an increase from 0.1% to 0.18%**
 - An Increase at this level will allow account for recent inflation and allow us to maintain our proposed 2025 expanded services, but would not allow future expansion



Future of CET in Bend

- **Significant Changes Affecting Ridership in Bend**

- Route Specific Outreach Plans
- Expanded Service Times
- Addition of Route 8

- **Budgetary Changes Affecting CET**

- Potential Legislation impacting Payroll Tax / Revenue
- Re-Introduction of Fares
- Federal Funding & Grant Availability ????

- **Next Steps**

- Data Gathering, Comparing Ridership on Routes, Frequency vs. Expansion/Canceling Routes
- Spring 2026 – Revisiting Bend Fixed Route Strategy/Priorities
- Implementation of HUB System – 2027?



CET Logo Update





Bob Townsend

Cascade East Transit Director

rtownsend@coic.org

Cell 541-980-8952

QUESTIONS?

Subcommittee for Review of Community Member Applications

Chair Méndez

Subcommittee to review applications

- Three upcoming community member vacancies on BMPO committees
 - Two on the Budget Committee
 - One on the Technical Advisory Committee
- Positions were advertised via press release, social media, and email notification to interested groups as part of the City of Bend's current recruitment for advisory committee members
- Staff also contacted members regarding interest in reappointment
- **Action requested:** Identify one or two Board members to review applications and provide a recommendation for consideration at the June 20, 2025, Policy Board meeting.

Other Business

Chair Méndez

Other Business

- Policy Board agenda item requests
- Staff updates
 - Bend Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP) Update – Status
 - Oregon Legislative Session – transportation funding update
 - BMPO STBG funding to CET (now SHF)
- Next meeting of the BMPO Policy Board – June 20, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.
 - Potential topics:
 - TAC Bylaws and Policy Bylaws amendments adoption
 - Community Member Appointments for BMPO Committees
 - Deschutes River Trail (DRT) Riverfront Street Design Project Update
 - State Highway Fund (SHF) Program: Project Application Criteria Update
 - Year-End Promissory Note

Public Comment

Chair Méndez

Adjourn

Chair Méndez



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