



March 29, 2011

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee  
From: Paul Thompson  
Subject: 2.a: Public Hearing on Lane Transit District West Eugene EmX Locally Preferred Alternatives

**Action Recommended:** Conduct Public Hearing

**Issue**

This is a public hearing before the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) acting as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Board. As one of the three decision-making bodies on the Locally Preferred Alternative, this Committee is scheduled to choose a locally preferred alternative (LPA) for the extension of the EmX bus rapid transit system into west Eugene on April 14, 2011.

No deliberation or decision is requested at this meeting. This meeting is established for public testimony, time for deliberation and a decision is scheduled for the MPC on April 14, 2011.

**Background**

The Eugene City Council voted on October 9, 2006, to identify West 11th Avenue as the City's priority for the next EmX corridor study. The Lane Transit District (LTD) Board of Directors endorsed the Eugene City Council action. Based on this direction, a plan for the West Eugene EmX Extension was developed. The initial plan identified 58 alternative routes and design options. Preliminary environmental analysis and further public review led to elimination of all but 12 routing options. During the public review period, LTD developed plans that incorporated measures to mitigate many of the impacts to adjacent properties, primarily by finding segments where the EmX vehicles could travel in mixed traffic, thereby eliminating the need for widening the street in those segments.

A Joint Locally Preferred Alternative Committee was established to make a recommendation to the three deciding bodies. The members of the Joint LPA Committee are Mayor Kitty Piercy and Councilors Andrea Ortiz and Chris Pryor from the Eugene City Council; Mike Eyster, Greg Evans, and Gary Gillespie from the LTD Board of Directors; and Lane County Commissioner Sid Leiken and Sonny Chickering, Oregon Department of Transportation, both representing the MPO. The Joint Locally Preferred Alternative Committee worked to refine the set of alternatives.

There are three decision-making bodies for the selection of the LPA, the MPC, the Eugene City Council, and the Lane Transit District Board of Directors. On March 9, 2011, the Eugene City Council selected the West 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> to West 11<sup>th</sup> alternative as the Council's LPA. On March 16, 2011, the LTD Board of Directors selected the West 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> to West 11<sup>th</sup> Mitigated Concept Alternative as their LPA.

**Recommendation**

Conduct Public Hearing

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Public Hearing Notice