

Purpose and Need Statement *

The **Purpose** of the proposed West Eugene EmX Extension project is to implement high-capacity public transportation service in the West 11th Corridor (east/west), utilizing the adopted high capacity transit mode identified in the Regional Transportation Plan, that is less hindered by congestion and that provides efficient, effective, dependable and visually appealing service throughout the life of the project.

The project would support local, regional, and state plans and goals for land use and transportation, and support economic development and redevelopment opportunities in the corridor, while being sensitive to and protecting the natural and built environmental resources and continue to obtain local public participation in its development.

The **Need** for the project results from:

- Historic and projected increases in traffic congestion in the West 11th Corridor due to increases in regional and corridor population and employment;
- Lengthy transit travel times and deteriorating public transportation reliability in the West 11th Corridor due to growing traffic congestion;
- Increasing operating expenses, combined with increasingly scarce operating resources, while demanding more efficient public transportation operations;
- The decision in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) to implement a bus rapid transit (BRT) strategy for the region;
- Recent removal of the West Eugene Parkway as a proposed regional project, further constraining future capacity on the corridor and increasing the need for public transportation-related options;
- The region's growing reliance on public transportation to meet travel needs in the West 11th Corridor;
- Prioritization of the West 11th Corridor by the City of Eugene and LTD as the region's third BRT corridor;
- Local and regional land use and development plans, goals, and objectives that identify the West 11th Corridor for residential, commercial, retail, and industrial development to help accommodate forecasted regional population and employment growth; and
- Limitation of options for transportation improvements caused by the identification and protection of important resources in the natural and built environment in the West 11th Corridor, including but not limited to wetlands, rare plants, and animals and their habitat.

Goal and Objectives

The *West Eugene EmX Extension Project Goal* is the same as the project's Purpose, as stated above. The Purpose and Goal states the intent of the project; the Need identifies why the project is important. As a whole, the Goal and Objectives guide the establishment of screening criteria and measures that will be used to select the Range of Alternatives to be studied in the project's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and the establishment of evaluation criteria and measures that will be used to select the project's Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA).

Objectives

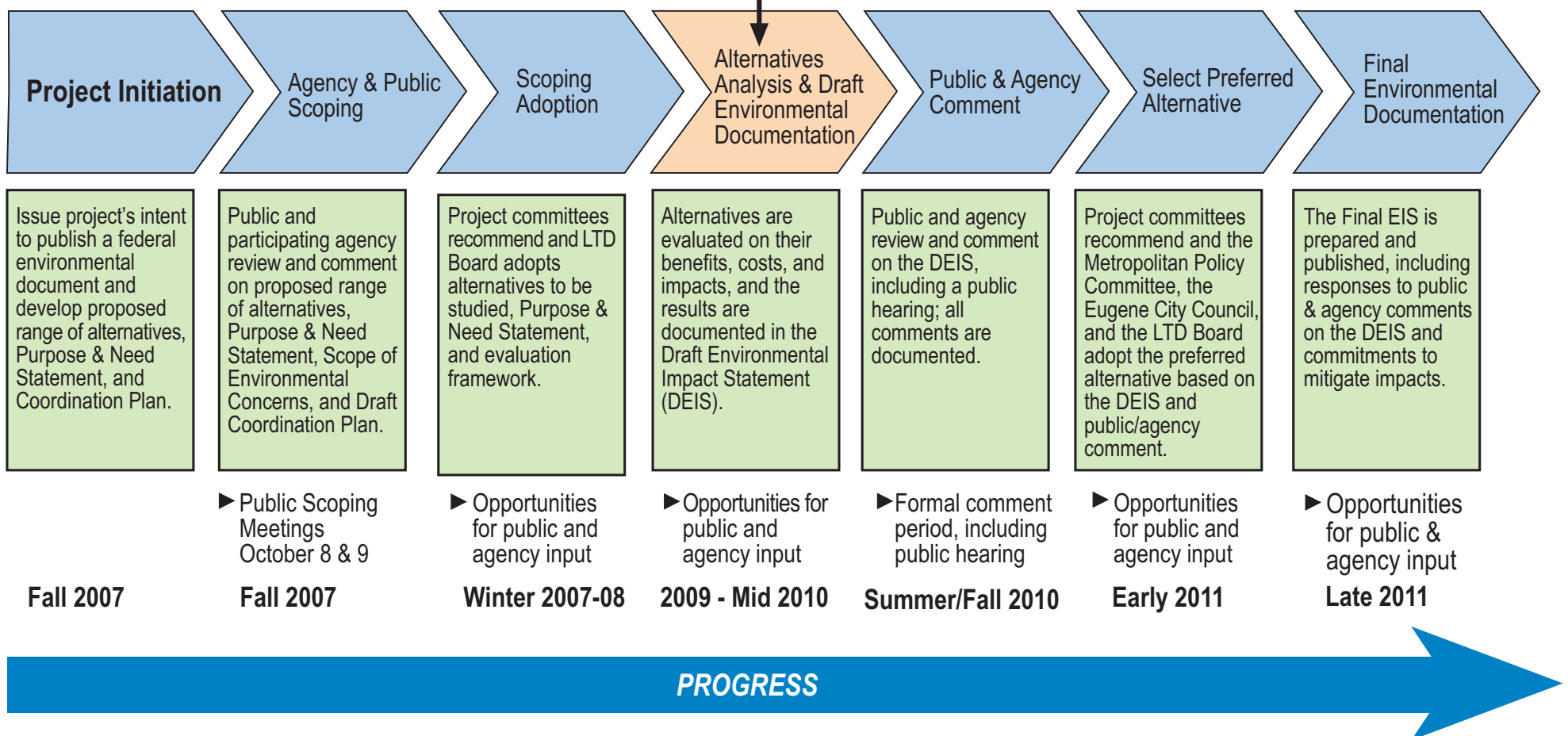
Within the project corridor, the **Objectives** of the West Eugene EmX Extension Project are to:

1. Improve customer convenience by reducing travel time, increasing service reliability, and making other service improvements;
2. Improve operating and other efficiencies to maximize the use of scarce resources;
3. Serve as a catalyst for planned transit-oriented development and support development that is consistent with adopted land use plans;
4. Help accommodate future growth in travel by increasing public transportation's share of trips;
5. Take into account the travel and safety needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists;
6. Contribute to establishing a fiscally stable public transportation system;
7. Design the project in a way that is consistent with laws related to resources in the natural and built environment; and
8. Support LTD and the City of Eugene's sustainability policies, including efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

* Adopted by LTD Board on 3-19-08

Note:
Schedule subject to change.

We are here.



Your involvement is important! LTD has been working to create a variety of ways for you to connect. Check out these opportunities to get information and provide feedback:

- Visit LTD's project website at weemx.ltd.org.
- Send an e-mail to we.emx@ltd.org.
- Attend Steering and Corridor Committee meetings. Visit LTD's website for meeting schedules.
- Attend the open houses.
- Attend a presentation at neighborhood, civic, and professional organizations.
- Read the project newsletters.
- Receive E-Newsletters. Send us an e-mail request and receive project updates electronically!



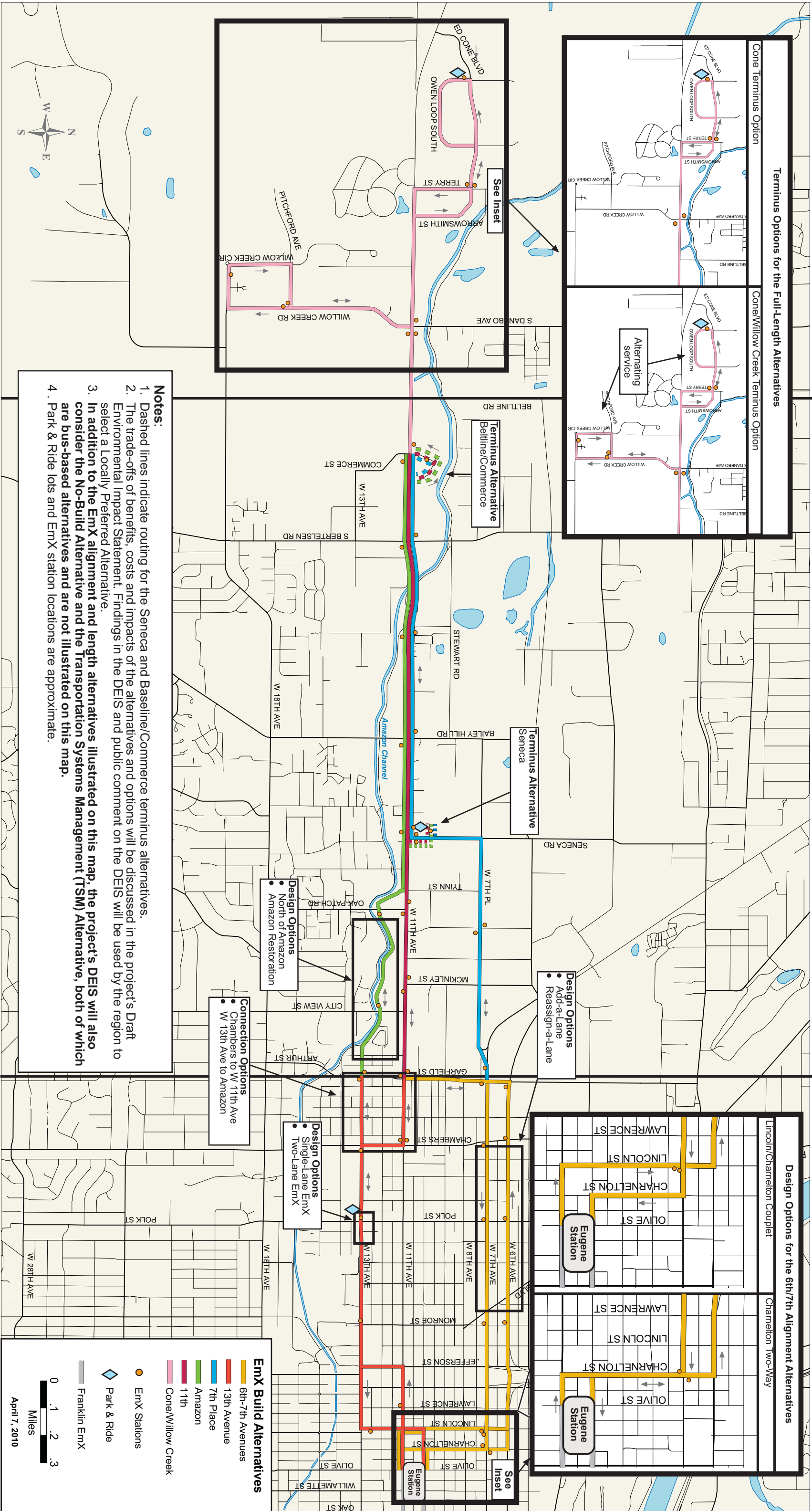
PO Box 7070, Eugene, OR 97401

April 7, 2010

Segment C
West of Beltline

Segment B
Beltline to Garfield

Segment A
East of Garfield



Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Range of Build Alternatives and Design Options