LTD is presenting information as research, but not supplying the data!

At the EmX Steering Committee Meeting on June 5, 2012, LTD asked Jim Hanks "to provide his professional opinion based on his long experience with local traffic operations and with transit, and EmX."

Mr. Hanks referenced research he had performed (see attached meeting minutes and quoted paragraph below). When I asked LTD for a copy of the report and research, John Evans claimed it didn’t exist, that LTD had not hired Mr. Hanks to do this research. (See copy of emails below)

First of all, it should be against NEPA regulations to present un-documented info as research or factual. This was more of a ploy to influence the decision makers- LTD was ADVOCATING the project- still trying to suppress the opposition, but using un-founded data. If research is referenced, there should be public record of the research.

Second, Mr. Hanks was hired by LTD to provide parking lot design mitigation services as part of LTD’s outreach to property owners potentially affected by right of way acquisition for the project. To bring in Mr. Hanks as an "outside" opinion is far from the truth. This is a conflict of interest, as Mr. Hanks gains to benefit from the project. How does he provide an unbiased opinion?

As far as the information Mr. Hanks provided- parts of it have NO basis of comparison as he intended. For example, the paragraph below is from the meeting minutes.

“Mr. Hanks described how signals dictated roadway capacity constraint. By widening the roadway at signals where there were capacity issues, the West Eugene EmX project would create more capacity to operate and keep levels of service up. Making use of excess capacity mid-block for transit and turning vehicles also helped alleviate congestion. If conventional buses stopped on 6th and 7th traffic would back up. If lanes were built that combined EmX and turning traffic, those buses would stop a much smaller volume of traffic. Having the fast boarding EmX stations and vehicles instead of regular buses and bus stops also created system efficiency."

Above, Mr. Hanks compares the proposed EmX to conventional bus service on 6th/7th. THERE IS NO CONVENTIONAL BUS SERVICE ON 6TH/7TH, nor do they plan on moving it there. This is down-right manipulative! FALSE ADVERTISING! Does NEPA allow that too?

You will notice the Commissioner Leiken complimented Mr. Hanks "on his analysis and explanation". Again, I would like to see the analysis. Even if LTD claims they didn't hire Mr. Hanks for an analysis, obviously the Committee members were under the impression that an analysis is what was presented. FALSE ADVERTISING!
Mr. Hank also stated "that the project balanced the need to address the most critical traffic congestion issues with the need to minimize impacts to property."

I would like to see the proof of this. The project claims to alleviate congestion on West 11th, but in the most congested part (Garfield to Seneca), LTD plans on running EmX in mixed traffic. How does this address the problem? Is anyone aware of the actual problem that is trying to be solved? Or has this project been mitigated so much that we have lost sight of the actual problem that was asked to be addressed by the City of Eugene?

Mr. Hanks gave some explanation of why driveways were not ideal and contributed to congestion. First of all, that would imply that there is traffic in the outer lanes that are driving "through" and not turning, which contradicts LTDs report that drivers only use those outside lanes for turning. Second, after saying this, he clarified that he was talking about "improving public right-of-way at those driveways where there were no BAT lanes". So now he is basing his conclusion for decreased congestion on an aspect that LTD is not even planning on doing. FALSE ADVERTISING!

Also, note on page 3 of the Meeting Minutes, that a transit planning consultant, Jarrett Walker, hired by LTD, "reaffirmed LTD staff’s expression that a West 11th/13th alignment was preferable to the 6th/7th option". LTD did not include the results of this research in their EA. Does the EA require ALL research and reports completed for the project to be included in the EA. Why are they hiding this? I will tell you- because the report was not in favor of the current LPA. LTD is just settling for “something” so they can keep their administration funded through federal grants. How much money have they wasted in the past 2 years trying to win over the public with so called “research”, like the situation mentioned above.

As you can see- the information LTD is presenting lacks backbone and proof. LTD's statements are unsubstantiated. Don’t let this project go any further!!!

Erin Walters

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: EVANS John <John.Evans@ltd.org>
Date: Wed, Aug 15, 2012 at 2:45 PM
Subject: RE: Jim Hanks Traffic Analysis
To: "g.g.glide@gmail.com" <g.g.glide@gmail.com>
Cc: REES Cosette <Cosette.Rees@ltd.org>, PERRON Kelly <Kelly.Perron@ltd.org>, VANWINKLE Lisa <Lisa.VanWinkle@ltd.org>, VOBORA Andy <Andy.Vobora@ltd.org>, SCHAPPER Jeanne <Jeanne.Schapper@ltd.org>, KILCOYNE Ron <Ron.Kilcoyne@ltd.org>, KORTGE Dean <Dean.Kortge@ltd.org>

Erin-

As I indicated previously, Jim Hanks did not produce a traffic analysis on the West Eugene EmX Extension project. Since the project’s traffic engineering consultant (DKS), as well as ODOT, FTA, and the City have all affirmed the validity of the project’s traffic analysis that shows 6th/7th and the rest of the corridor would operate as good or better with the project, we thought the committee would also be interested in another local expert opinion. We asked Mr. Hanks to attend the June 5th EmX Steering Committee to provide his professional opinion based on his
long experience with local traffic operations and with transit, and EmX. We also asked Mr. Hanks to explain these issues to the Committee in a way that would help them understand the detailed traffic and transit concepts addressed by the project. He did not provide any written material to the Committee or LTD related to his presentation.

Mr. Hank’s firm JRH, is providing parking lot design mitigation services as part of LTD’s outreach to property owners potentially affected by right of way acquisition for the project. At LTD’s expense, JRH has worked with property owners to design conceptual modifications to their parking lots to avoid or minimize any loss of parking due to roadway widening related to the project. These parking mitigation strategies were also addressed in the Environmental Assessment’s Property Impacts Analysis Technical Report. If the project continues into the design stage, LTD and our design consultants would continue to work with affected property owners to further refine the parking mitigation to best meet the interests of individual property owners, business and the project (while at minimum meeting the mitigation commitments from the environmental process).

In case you did not get my previous follow-up email with the attached document containing the June 5th EmX Steering Committee meeting minutes, here’s the link to the minutes on our website: http://www.ltd.org/pdf/EmX%20meeting%20agendas%20and%20minutes/LTD%20EmX%2006-05-12.pdf

I’ve copied this email to Jeanne Schapper, LTD’s Administrative Services Manager, to assist you with any formal public information request you may have on this matter.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Thanks,

John

John Evans, AICP
From: Erin [mailto:g.g.glide@gmail.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2012 9:53 AM  
To: EVANS John  
Cc: REES Cosette; PERRON Kelly; VANWINCKLE Lisa; VOBORA Andy; KORTGE Dean  
Subject: Re: Jim Hanks Traffic Analysis  

John-  

We were told that LTD paid him to do some research on this. How do you give a report to the board without having an actual report to reference?

I would like to know how much you paid him and i would like a copy of his report. There has to be data to back up is statements. I would like to see them. Consider this an official request- Please let me know when i can expect this.

and- a link to the minutes would be appreciated.

Erin  

On Tue, Aug 14, 2012 at 5:38 PM, EVANS John <John.Evans@ltd.org> wrote:

Hi Erin- Jim Hanks did not produce a 6th/7th traffic analysis on the WEEE project. You may be referring to his presentation at the June 5th EmX Steering Committee meeting. He provided only a statement of his professional opinion of the project to the Committee. His statement is summarized in the minutes from that meeting which are located on the project website in the Project Library under “Meeting Minutes and Materials”. Here’s the direct link to those minutes: http://www.ltd.org/pdf/EmX%20meeting%20agendas%20and%20minutes/6-05-12%20Agenda.pdf

Hope this is helpful,

John
Erin, I’ve forwarded your request to John Evans, who is the Project Manager, for follow up.

Thank you.

Cosette Rees
Lane Transit District
PO Box 7070
Springfield, OR 97475-0470
Phone: 541-682-6751 - New Number!
Fax: 541-682-5558
thanks

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Erin <g.g.glide@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 13, 2012 at 11:53 AM
Subject: Jim Hanks Traffic Analysis
To: VANWINKLE Lisa <Lisa.VanWinkle@ltd.org>

Can you email me a copy of Jim Hanks traffic analysis for 6th/7th? or is this online?

Erin Walters
kenneth scott has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"I am very opposed to expanding the Eugene EmX program. Do not try to force it on us."

You can contact kenneth scott via email, kennkarla@msn.com or mail (if available):
1172 delrose dr
springfield or 97477
Roger Lyseng has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"A waste of money."

You can contact Roger Lyseng via email, roger@rlyseng.com or mail (if available):
Robert Elmore has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"A totally unnecessary thing! The streets of Eugene are far too crowded as it is and to add this monstrosity is a joke! Existing buses are, for the most part, empty or near empty on these routes> Listen to the public for once, Miss Kitty."

You can contact Robert Elmore via email, QTKitties@comcast.net or mail (if available):
SANDRA DELLINGER has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"Yesterday I emailed you my concerns over the negative affect the West Eugene EMX would have on our business and employees. One of the major concerns I have is the closing of one of our driveways on West 6th Ave. I mistakenly typed that the driveway being closed is on Polk Street. Please note that I feel that closing the driveway on West 6th Ave. will not only be an inconvenience to us but between that and the blocked visibility due to the station location will cause us to lose customers and cost employees jobs.

Sincerely:

Sandra M. Dellinger"

You can contact SANDRA DELLINGER via email, gdell454@aol.com or mail (if available):
1330 West 6th Avenue
EUGENE OR 97402
Louise Vincent has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"We just don't need it. And it's not free money, someone has to pay for it."

You can contact Louise Vincent via email, jevince@q.com or mail (if available):
Angela Cox has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"I live out west Eugene and cannot imagine the EmX making the traffic congestion any less. Put this to a vote so we can end this once and for all!"

You can contact Angela Cox via email, amcgobeavs@gmail.com or mail (if available):

Eugene OR
Sasha Salazar has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"Eugene does not NEED the EmX Extension out W11th. Don’t waste my tax dollars on this ridiculous project."

You can contact Sasha Salazar via email, sashasalazar@live.com or mail (if available):
Randy Downing has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"This is not wanted by the majority. Now is not the time"

You can contact Randy Downing via email, randyd@barnhartassociates.com

or mail (if available):
Dave Allen has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"Since the implementation of EmX out Gateway, I have experienced a huge increase in traffic congestion on Gateway Street. Sometimes it takes 3 light cycles to get through the intersection of Beltline and Gateway St. Since this added congestion and turmoil was probably not a planned result of your gateway extension, how can you guarantee the same thing won’t happen out west Eugene? Especially since the proposed plan has EmX running in mixed traffic in the most congested areas! Stop now before you really mess it up!"

You can contact Dave Allen via email, firbutte@gmail.com or mail (if available):

Marcola Oregon
Scott Siegmund has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"Considering the economic difficulties many members of the community are facing whether business or personal and the serious potential of the economy turning down even farther depending on congressional taken in the near future, the necessity of a transit system servicing the west side isn't an immediate priority in the big picture. The number of small businesses that may be forced to close or relocate at a time when cash-flows are seriously low due to lack of traffic and access caused by large scale road construction of this nature appears not to matter in the eye's of EMX leaders.

I have yet to see ridership data that supports my daily visual observations of the hospital route. It appears the data reported to the public via local media is manipulated to justify EMX to the public.

There are certainly other areas that public sector energy and monies could be directed toward that would more benefit the contributing majority.

Oregon State debt per capita: $3,284 (15th lowest)

Pct. without health insurance: 17.1% (15th highest)

Pct. below poverty line: 14.6% (tied for 19th highest)

Unemployment: 9.6% (14th highest)

How EMX is going to help the last three stats? Even the poverty stat as the EMX will most likely reduce routes that service their locale.

Do what's morally right, not what makes you appear impressive to your public sector peers."

You can contact Scott Siegmund via email, ssiegmund@comcast.net or mail (if available):
Michael Hollingshead has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"I view this as being a huge waste of tax payer money. I can't believe this is being pushed forward with out a public vote."

You can contact Michael Hollingshead via email, Mikeh@eugeneskindivers.com or mail (if available):

1090 W, 6 th Ave
Eugene OR 97402
Danna Cvitanovich has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"I and every other tax payer should have the right to vote on whether our hard earned money is spent on this project."

You can contact Danna Cvitanovich via email, dannac@live.com or mail (if available):
1576 Haven St
Eugene OR 97402
Jackie Mitchell has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"let us vote this is a horrible idea"

You can contact Jackie Mitchell via email, jmmitche0429@aol.com or mail (if available):
2128 Sparrow Court
Eugene OR 97401
Bob Drury has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"I was born and spent my first thirty years in Eugene and still visit friends and family sometimes monthly. I now live in Vancouver, Wa. where the citizens are being held hostage over Mass Transit Proponents trying to shove it down our throats with no vote. The first thing that strikes me about the Eugene Proposd Routes is the idea that this will accomplish anything to help the populace (cars, trucks and buses) move easier with less congestion. If you simply Google a map of Eugene or look at the proposed route maps shown on this site, it is pretty obvious that this is a recipe for Gridlock which will not only impede all traffic but affect many Bussiness' both large and small that line the routes shown. Why not move the routes from west 6th and 7th to west 11th and 13th from downtown to Garfield, then jog to West 7th Place to Stewart Road and then South to West 11th? Another alternative would be to make West 8th, 9th, or 10th one way or Bus and Local traffic only to Garfield and then follow my proposed route West. Anyone who thinks congesting major innercity arterials with Bus Stops is going to make things better must be sniffing glue. This project as being put forth is nothing more than a boondoggle for a few contractors, a misplaced sense of pride for a few beurocrats, and another drain on the working folk's pockets. In the Portland area, small bussiness' have been forced to close or move by the mass transit routes taking over major Arterials rather than rerouting them from the heavy (and mostly small) bussiness' that line the routes and have lost all or most of their parking. Demand a Public vote or at the very least a delay in implementing this disaster before it turns West Eugene into another I-5 Gridlock like we have in Portland every day.

Bob Drury"

You can contact Bob Drury via email, lorideorbob@aol.com or mail (if available):
919 n.e. 82nd Ave.
Vancouver, Wa. 98664
Kurt Thomet has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"When common sense is overtaking by a government that does not listen to the business people who create the jobs, there is little left to work hard for. Please re-consider. Empty buses, businesses that will be impacted negatively. We are not yet big enough. Let's make Eugene a fiscally responsible city that has a partnership with business, not a war."

You can contact Kurt Thomet via email, kthomet@questsolution.com or mail (if available):

2775 Suncrest Avenue
Eugene OR 97405
John Brown has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"Why is LTD choosing the most expensive route to acquire and operate, when there is a less expensive alternative available?

We see the City of Eugene rethinking a new City Hall versus repurposing the existing facility or co-locating with EWEB due to economic realities, we just saw the Eugene Police department repurpose an existing building rather than build new and save over $15 million taxpayer dollars,

Why can't LTD do the same and if they are really committed to building, then at least do it with the tax payers in mind and demonstrate through their actions that they are listening and that they do care about how this impacts the finances of the local employers. The mere fact that the LTD Board is appointed and they can raise our taxes without any vote or resource is fundamentally wrong."

You can contact John Brown via email, john@eebcre.com or mail (if available):
Richard Wike has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"I know that EMX uses some kind of grant (which is free money right), but why put all these dollars into something that less than 5% of the population uses. How many of these empty gas guzzlers are there on the streets now. Terrible waste of whoevres money it is (it's our's but the promoters of EMX don't seem to get that). Why not divert the funds to education or law enforcement where it is really needed. But i'm sure the argument will be it is earmarked for public transportaion and if we don't use it we lose it, well then let's lose it and send a message to our all knowing congress that this is just one of many govenment funded projects that doesn't need to be done especially with what the tax payers are burdened with now. Get rid of this and the layers and layers of management it takes to administer something like this and put it to good use. "

You can contact Richard Wike via email, wike@comfortflow.com or mail (if available):
Rich Bernhardt has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"This project is a waste of money and time. The main purpose of busses are to move people. The west Eugene route visits local businesses and does not service the main population. There is no park and ride at the end of the route and no plans to make the end a hub that services the western part of the city. LDT should be planning a route to service River Road or Coburg areas.
Second LDT could get just as much good that is if any good is possible by building bus pull outs in the area busses not stop at. Currently this blocks one of 2 lane on W11th which affects traffic  These pull out could be positioned at intersections and the bus could have priority in signals at these intersection to help in traffic flow.
This can be done with far less money that what it will take to proceed with the current plan. This project is a looser and it is my tax dollars (even the fed's part of it)"

You can contact Rich Bernhardt via email, rbernhardt@eeeug.com or mail (if available):
SANDRA DELLINGER has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"We have owned a business at 6th Ave and Polk for 30 years. Along with our tenant we provide 12 family wage jobs. We have been studying the affect the current EMX plans to come down 6th Ave. (along with the closing of one of drive ways and the location of a station in our lot) will have on both of the businesses. We are unsure if we can keep our business open if EMX chooses this route. This is due to (1) The closing of one of our driveways facing Polk, we will no longer be able to work on the large RV's, trucks and buses. (2) Loss of customers due to the station cutting off our visibility. (3) The loss of parking, we are already using all of our existing parking. Please consider local businesses and their long time employees."

You can contact SANDRA DELLINGER via email, gdell454@aol.com or mail (if available):
1330 West 6th Avenue
EUGENE OR 97402
Jeff Lozar has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"LTD is big part of the driving force behind this project. Being unelected and having the power to spend other peoples money and condemn property leaves the public with little recourse. The fact they and the Eugene city council refuse to put this to a public vote is wrong. I oppose this project along with the majority of the effected citizens - put it up to a vote so everyone can see the level of support this project has."

You can contact Jeff Lozar via email, jlozar@hotmail.com or mail (if available):
520 Antelope Way
Eugene Oregon 97401
Irving Weiner has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"EA Comment

I am making this comment to strongly dispute the claim by LTD that this project will not harm businesses on the proposed route.
I have owned and operated a garden center on W. 11th Ave for more than 20 years.
I chose to locate on W. 11th Ave, because of the large amount of vehicle traffic.
Plus the fact, this has been the ‘designated’ area of town for these types of commercial businesses.
City zoning code mandated that my type of business be located in this area.
The overwhelming number of businesses on W. 11 are auto related.
Auto repair, car stereo, home improvement, fast food drive thru’s and garden centers, to name a few.
The survival of these businesses depend on vehicle traffic.
If the traffic flow is interrupted for 2 plus years during construction, it could cut sales by as much as 40%, causing employee layoffs, and potential business failure.
The surviving businesses after 2 years will fare no better, with 12 marginally used busses passing by every hour, adding to the congestion and chaos.
I would also like to state, I am a strong supporter and advocate of mass transit, however this west 11th EmX expansion project is unnecessary, out of scale for our community, and too expensive for what we get.
I sincerely hope a more deserving project receives this funding.
A project that will actually do some good, and benefit our country.

Irving Weiner
2836 W. 11th Ave
Eugene, OR 97402
"

You can contact Irving Weiner via email, irvandeileen@hotmail.com or mail (if available):
2836 W. 11th Ave
Eugene OR 97402
Robert DuPriest has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"Eugene does not need or want an EmX system destroying traffic and causing congestion on W. 11th. Buses work just fine. Small buses when ridership is thin and larger buses when ridership is up. Don't waste money on EmX. It will also decrease tax revenues from affected businesses."

You can contact Robert DuPriest via email, robertdupriest@comcast.net or mail (if available):
Jeff Lozar has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"Lane county just closed jail beds and laid off deputies. We no longer have 24 hour sheriff patrols thanks in part to the Federal government no longer making SRS payments. Unlike this EMX project public safety is a priority. What sense does it make to remove our sheriff presence because the Federal government does not have the money and then hand out a nearly equivalent amount of money to run an empty buss to Wall Mart. PLEASE quit wasting money - our children will have to pay this money back someday."

You can contact Jeff Lozar via email, jlozar@hotmail.com or mail (if available):
520 Antelope Way
Eugene Oregon 97440
Dennis Dahle has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"I have been a Lane Country resident all of my life, I am entering my third year at the University of Oregon and I have just moved into an apartment on City View. I do not believe the EMX expansion will help congestion on W 11th. Even if it does, The benefits WILL NOT outweigh the costs. It is absurd to spend so much taxpayer money on something that nearly half of the taxpayers actively oppose. Additionally, the detours and delays caused by road construction (lasting months if not years) will be a daily source of frustration for everyone in Eugene. Please listen to the people and DO NOT build. At the very least allow Lane County residents to vote. We are a democracy after all."

You can contact Dennis Dahle via email, dennisd@sdirubber.com or mail (if available):
1459 City View apt 214
Eugene Oregon 97402
Steve Scott has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"The proposed idea will be under utilized, just as the buses are. Why not wait until the demand for something better than buses is realized?
The burden of vehicle traffic on our streets will be worsened. Don't make our community suffer because you want to leave a legacy.
Has the state signed off on this horrible idea? I can't believe they have. 6th and 7th are under state jurisdiction."

You can contact Steve Scott via email,
steven.g.scott@thestereostore.com
or mail (if available):
472 W 7th Ave, Ste 1
Eugene OR 97401
Gordon McGraw has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"The EMX will negatively impact my business as well as others. It will make getting to my business very difficult, making my customers travel nearly a mile additional to get to me. please review this project, it is costly and won't benefit my business at all. Please don’t do it just because yo can put thought into your decision."

You can contact Gordon McGraw via email, gordon@overheaddoor-eugene.com or mail (if available):
2090 w 7th place
Eugene. Oregon 97402
Mike Robson has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"Over the last several years it appears that the LTD wants to replace local buses with an express bus in West Eugene. This project is going to cost an enormous amount of money both Federal and Local. I see signs all along W.11th and ads on buses protesting the proposed expenditures. Shouldn't the citizens of Eugene have an opportunity to vote for or against the proposal? This isn't North Korea is it?"

You can contact Mike Robson via email, mikerobson80@gmail.com or mail (if available):
3235 Old Union Church Road
Salisbury North Carolina 28146-7930
Daryl Egbert has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"I have listened to both sides debate the issues over EmX and the intended bus route to West Eugene via 6th and 7th Avenues. I have heard polished speaches from our City Council and presentations from LTD Staff. I have heard expert opinions from reliable realitors and accountants as well as first hand testimony of businesses like mine who are on the proposed route. As a business owner on W. 7th for over 28 years, I am unconvinced that there will be little or no interruption to my business especially as I have tried to negotiate these very same streets during the construction on the very far West end in both directions this summer.

In addition, I believe that the construction costs are simply too high for the very limited benefits and from the philisophical perspective, it is unwise to spend the proposed amount of money with funds that are literally being provided from a government financial system that can't balance it's own budget.

Finally, this route was not the number one choice for LTD according to several LTD sources and the system is simply out of scale for low density towns and cities such as ours.

I am not against public transportation, but it is time that we as a community don't try to outsmart our common sense for the sake of public official back slapping. Don't let this be another public transportation project that 10 years down the road becomes a weight around neck that we get stuck supporting with no way to "get off the bus"."

You can contact Daryl Egbert via email, daryle@thecarpetcompany.biz or mail (if available):
Kim Sawyer has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"EmX on W11th makes no sense. LTD cannot afford 4 buses an hour like they have in the past. Now we only have 2 an hour. due to shortfalls in LTD's operating budget. This 100 million dollars does not cover operations, so how will LTD afford 6 bigger buses an hour. The citizens of Eugene will be left to pay for this when LTD cannot!"

You can contact Kim Sawyer via email, sawyerki@comcast.net or mail (if available):
3865 West 11th Ave.
Eugene OR 97402
Jerome Berryhill has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"I live in West Eugene, and frequently use west 6th, 7th & 11th Avenues. The LTD buses, with their frequent, erratic stops, are already an immense impediment to the smooth flow of traffic on 11th.

Giving them dedicated lanes, and extending the problem to 6th and 7th, will greatly lessen the capacity of those streets to carry traffic.

Furthermore, as I have had cause to note on Franklin Blvd by the U of O, putting two-way bus traffic next to a one-way traffic lane is

*extremely* dangerous to cross-traffic, especially bicycles and pedestrians, as they do not expect a vehicle to arrive at high speed against the flow of traffic. This plan will get people killed. It will worsen an already difficult traffic situation. And no one wants it.

Drive up 6th avenue. Take the bus out 11th. Read the signs. What part of "NO!" is hard to understand?"

You can contact Jerome Berryhill via email, JBB@JeromeBerryhill.com or mail (if available):
4180 Wood Avenue
Eugene OR 97402
Kevin Prociw has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"I believe there are plenty of reasons why West Eugene EmX is a bad idea and unfortunately, while I wish that I could believe that those that are reading this take the comments of those that are opposed to this project into consideration, I sincerely doubt that they will have any affect.

As a frequent rider of LTD through the West 11th corridor (I ride route 40 and 43 on average 4 days a week), it is extremely rare for me to see ridership that would justify a full EmX build-out with 80 trips a day. Eugene is a college town and the bulk of the riders that I see on the buses are high school and college students. During the summer, ridership drops significantly. During non-peak hours (regardless of the time of year), the buses are mostly empty. Eugene needs a bus system that can scale with it's growth. As part of the requirements for federal funding, EmX requires over 80 trips during the weekday which translates into wasted fuel and driver wages during the non-peak hours (3/4's of the day.) This is inefficient and hardly "green" when it comes to the environment.

Above all of the other concerns that most people are mentioning is the fact that congestion on West 11th is worsening as the years go by. West Eugene EmX will (at best) offset some of the traffic associated with the future growth in West Eugene. However, EmX can not address the exponential growth of traffic flow resulting from the growth of Veneta or the increase in traffic that results from more people driving over from the coast. If we are going to spend 100 million dollars on a project designed to relieve congestion on West 11th, we should not be limiting our scope to something that will have such a minimal affect in the long term. I realize that Eugene is trying to get more people out of their cars an onto public transportation (a reasonable goal) but we also need to be realistic. EmX can not solve the immediate needs and will be hard pressed to keep up with the growing demand in the future.

For this reason and many others, I urge decision makers to re-evaluate West 11th EmX and consider other options.

Kevin N. Prociw "

You can contact Kevin Prociw via email, kevinprociw@yahoo.com or mail (if available):
226 Ferndale
Eugene OR 97404
Ron Heddinger has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"I am against you spending payers money on an unneeded update. I see both small & emx buses running empty or with very few people. The buses you show full is probably full of Oregon students and they probably get their tickets discounted. Thank you, Ron
Also, requiring older people to walk a longer way to catch a bus."

You can contact Ron Heddinger via email, Pattih43@comcast.net or mail (if available):
3484 Westward Ho Av
Eugene Or 97401
Richard Hardy has written to you about the EA Comments opposing West Eugene EmX, their message is as follows.

"To us taxpayers money is a waste our money. We are sick of big government & pers stealing our children and grandchildren's future."

You can contact Richard Hardy via email, gentlemanjimhardy@gmail.com or mail (if available):