

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: CLINE Jody N [jodycline@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 4:27 PM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Subject: Public Hearing Input

MPC Members,

I had hoped to attend the public hearing tonight to express my support for the West Eugene EmX Extension. Since it turns out that I will not be able to attend, due to family commitments, I am submitting my comment and support via e-mail.

First and foremost, I encourage the MPC to support the WEEE. Being a resident of West Eugene and a long time public transit rider, I know first hand what a positive impact extending EmX service to West Eugene will have.

I've heard a few concerns that I'd like to address.

First - that riders in West Eugene will not ride EmX. It is true that it takes some serious "ease of use" to get us out of our cars. In that regard, it is amazing how different riding on EmX is from regular bus service. The frequent schedule makes transit easy - if you miss the connection you planned to make, there is no lengthy wait for the next bus. EmX is easier to board and depart from and a far more comfortable ride. Bringing your bicycle along is so much easier as well. Once West Eugene riders try EmX they will return.

Second - I've read on signs that West Eugene is "Nowhere". This is downright offensive. Those of us who live in West Eugene certainly live "somewhere". And many of us commute from this "somewhere" to another "somewhere" already covered by EmX service.

Third - that perhaps one of the other alternatives is "better". At this point, since both the City of Eugene and LTD have approved the 6th/7th St. alternative, it seems most expedient that (if WEEE is to happen) the MPC should also approve the 6th/7th St. alternative.

Since my two year of Grandson has now run off with the wireless mouse, I will cut this short and once again encourage your support of WEEE and the alternative approved by the City of Eugene and LTD. Don't allow this transit option to fail due to political haggling.

Sincerely,

Jody Cline
5546 Charles Way
Eugene, OR 97402