

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: BRIAN WEAVER [brian1813@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, April 01, 2011 5:56 AM
To: Springfield Mayor
Cc: STEWART Faye H; Federal Transportation Admin; BOZIEVICH Jay K; *Eugene Mayor, City Council, and City Manager; Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization; OurMoneyOurTransit.com; SORENSON Pete; Phil Barnhart; Rick Krochalis; HANDY Rob M; LEIKEN Sid W; Thomas Radmilovich
Subject: Comments you made during the March 10th MPC meeting.

Mayor Lundberg,

I have a few questions about the comments you made during the West Eugene EmX portion of the March 10th MPC meeting.

You mentioned that we (public, MPC?) are "early" in a "painful process". Did you mean that it will be painful for you, and the MPC, to vote "yes" on the 6th/7th & 11th Ave alignment, knowing that the West Eugene EmX project is hugely unpopular with business and property owners? Or, did you mean that it is the beginning of a painful process that the business and property owners will suffer if, and when, when this project is started?

I can tell you that if I were an elected official, I could not conscionable vote "yes" for this plan, knowing full-well how greatly this project will negatively impact hundreds of business and property owners. Yes, I believe this would bother me, knowing I could have protected the public, and prevented sad stories like Springfield Cleaners losing half of their customers, or George Cole spending \$160,000 to defend his property from LTD.

You also commented, and compared the two segments in Springfield to the proposed alignment in West Eugene, in terms of public outrage. The designated bus lanes in Springfield are in the medium, or in the center of Franklin Boulevard and Pioneer Parkway, which did not require any widening. However, LTD's plan for West Eugene is complete different, so the bus routes in two cities can not be accurately compared.

Please study LTD's Mitigation and Concept Plans for West 6th/7th Avenues, and West 11th Avenue, in Eugene. After studying these plans, you will realize that the bus routes in Eugene are much more intrusive than those now in Springfield. This is why the EmX in West Eugene has become gravely contentious.

The W 11th route has been mitigated, and the EmX bus will travel in shared lanes on about half of the avenue. (This includes two bus stops, at Wendy's and Papa Murphy's restaurants, that will still block a lane of traffic, when loading and unloading passengers.) But please do realize that shared lanes are the reason that LTD has cited for slow bus times. Since this plan will double bus traffic, LTD will ultimately want to widen W 11th by 32 feet, 16 feet on a side for designated lanes, as shown in their Concept Plan. This will invariably lead to more nasty legal fights with LTD, involving eminent domain; so much for "mitigating negative impacts". This will undoubtedly create havoc for all properties and businesses owners. The "pain" will be incomprehensible.

It is vitally important to understand how intrusive this plan is, and consider how the public will be negatively impacted, before voting. If the West Eugene EmX is implemented, I

would expect dozens, or perhaps hundreds of sad stories, similar to the two I have mentioned.

Thanks for your time, and thank you in advance for clarifying your comments.

Sincerely,
Brian Weaver
West Eugene