

Jefferson Westside Neighbors

A City-Chartered Neighborhood Association

www.jwneugene.org

November 17, 2010

Tom Schwetz
EmX Project Manager
Lane Transit District
PO Box 7070
Eugene, OR 97401

RE: Schedule for decision on WEEE locally-preferred alternative

Dear Tom,

At our meeting on November 15, 2010, the Jefferson Westside Neighbors (JWN) Executive Board unanimously (6-0) approved the following motion requesting a delay of at least two months in the decision on the West Eugene EmX Extension (WEEE) locally-preferred alternative (LPA):

The Jefferson Westside Neighbors (JWN) Executive Board directs the Chair to take appropriate steps, including sending letters on behalf of the Executive Board to LTD, the Mayor and City Council and the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC), to urge that the schedule for selecting a “locally-preferred alternative” (LPA) for the West Eugene EmX Extension (WEEE) be extended to be no earlier than May 1, 2011.

The Executive Board believes the additional time is the minimum necessary to allow the public, members of the Joint Locally Preferred Alternative Committee (JLPAC) and members of the City Council and MPC to adequately understand and vet the WEEE Alternatives Analysis Report and for the public to provide informed comment to the advisory and decision-making bodies, prior to any recommendations or decisions.

As you're aware, I (and other JWN board members) have been carefully reviewing the *WEEE Alternatives Analysis Report (AA Report)*. Although our review is not complete, we've found a number of substantive issues that need clarification, and possibly revision, in order to have an accurate representation of the results for the seventeen Methods of Evaluation (MOEs). I've communicated with you on several of these items and more issues are forthcoming.

I've also been in close communication regarding the *AA Report* with Joshua Skov, Chair of the Eugene Sustainability Commission and a member of LTD's EmX Steering Committee and WEEE Corridor Committee. Mr. Skov has told me he believes, as I do, that the WEEE alternatives assessment must be restructured in order for the public and decision makers to understand the important issues upon which the LPA should be chosen.

2010-2011 Executive Board

Paul Conte, Chair; Sue Cummings, Vice Chair

Garrick Mishaga, Treasurer; Josh Bolton, Secretary; Rene Kane; Tony Rosta

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It will require additional time to complete a thorough review of the *AA Report* and to revise and/or restructure, as needed. Completing this work is an essential prerequisite to the JLPAC making a recommendation, as well as the City Council and MPC making their decisions.

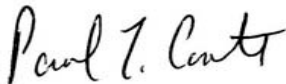
Further necessitating a delay is the impending public discussion and City Council deliberations on the "Envision Eugene" process to determine a new, Eugene-only Urban Growth Boundary. This process is enormously complex and potentially very contentious, and the scheduled action in February by City Council creates a highly-compressed window for the public and Council to consider the issues.

It would be unreasonable to expect Council to make well-considered decisions on both Envision Eugene and WEEE LPA in the time between now and the end of February.

On behalf of the JWN Executive Board and membership, I want to express our appreciation for the efforts LTD has made to ensure a well-informed community. In that spirit, we are optimistic LTD will extend the schedule by a modest amount to allow thorough consideration of the alternatives.

Would you please keep me informed regarding LTDs discussions and decision regarding the WEEE schedule?

Respectfully,



Paul Conte, Chair
1461 W. 10th Ave.
Chair@jwneugene.org 541.344.2552

Cc:
Eugene Mayor and City Council
Metropolitan Policy Committee
WEEE Joint Locally Preferred Alternative Committee