



## COMMUTER SOLUTIONS

### Monthly Department Report – January 2007

Prepared for: Transportation Planning Committee (TPC)

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## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

### **CarPool/VanPool/Emergency Ride Home Program (ERH)**

Surveyed all commuters in Rideshare database via online or mailed survey. 186 responses out of 763 records. After purging 473 commuters in the active database.

Enrolled seven new worksites in the Emergency Ride Home program and 12 new commuters.

Completed first quarterly report on VMT and Emissions reductions based on survey and vanpool NTD reporting for the rideshare database.

Completed Valley VanPool subsidy grant application for second biennium ODOT STF Discretionary grants in amount of \$255,000.

PeaceHealth has committed to subsidize the per-seat cost of a new Valley VanPool pilot that will operate between Cottage Grove/Creswell and the International Way area targeting employees at the RiverBend Annex. Any empty seats will be offered to employees of nearby businesses.

Initiated pilot “Be Smart, Be Seen” program to provide bicycle lights to low-income bicyclists, in cooperation with Paul’s Bicycle Way of Life. Will be applying for \$5000 Bicycle Mini-grant for on-going program in cooperation with the City of Eugene.

### **Smart Ways to School Program (SWTS)**

Smart Ways to School received a \$5,000 grant from ACTS Oregon (Alliance for Community Traffic Safety) to conduct a middle school pilot project to promote alternative travel modes. Partners include the City of Eugene Public Works, Crime Prevention, Traffic Engineering, and Traffic Enforcement departments; Bicycle Transportation Alliance; Paul’s Bicycle Way of Life; and the Eugene 4J School District. The school will be selected soon and the project will be conducted during spring 2007.

Lisa VanWinkle was named chair of the Oregon Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee.

SWTS, parents, and staff of Roosevelt Middle School conducted a traffic observation to document safety issues associated with the school commute. This is part of an overall effort to promote alternative travel modes to/from school and improve safety.

### **Student Transit Pass Program (STPP)**

Student ridership measured during December 3-9 showed there were 35,292 boardings during the 7-day period. More than 90 percent occurred on school days; of these, about 64 percent of the boardings occurred during the before- and after-school commute time periods. While this includes only one week of travel, it represents a 35 percent increase over the average school day boardings measured last year. We can assume that the inclusion of students attending rural schools accounts for a portion of the increase, but more likely, the increase represents greater usage among students attending urban schools this year compared to last year.

### **Education and Awareness**

Staff participated on the Gateway Development Committee Meeting reporting on the preliminary research findings for the Gateway Transportation Surveys being conducted.