



Lane Transit District EmX West Eugene Corridor

In This Issue:

- West Eugene EmX Expansion Project Enters Scoping Phase
- General Timeline
- Why Study Transit Improvements in West Eugene?
- How Can You Plug In?
- Terms and Acronyms

Why Study Transit Improvements in West Eugene?

West 11th Avenue is the main corridor for travel to western Lane County and the Oregon Coast. Along this corridor are several major employment centers, large commercial developments, a growing residential population, and valuable natural resources. Growth in traffic along the corridor creates congestion and safety issues for businesses and residents that make it tough for all travel, including by bus. Without improvements, these issues will only get worse. Continued growth in the area is spurring development that emphasizes mixed-use communities where daily services are within walking distance and can be easily accessed by bicycle and transit.



EmX on East 11th Avenue at the University of Oregon Dads' Gates

Recognizing the traffic problems in West Eugene and the opportunities for transit improvements to enhance the area's livable community, the Eugene City Council selected West Eugene as the City's priority for the next EmX corridor study. The Lane Transit District Board of Directors endorsed this decision.

EmX Steering Committee Members

- Gerry Gaydos, Chair
- Ramona Cline
- Debbie Davis
- Dan Egan
- Greg Evans
- Tammy Fitch
- Steve Gordon
- Dave Jewett
- George Poling
- Peter Sorenson
- Hillary Wylie

For more information or to provide input, contact LTD's Project Manager Tom Schwetz, PO Box 7070, Eugene, OR 97401 or call (541) 682-6100. You also may e-mail your comments to we.emx@ltd.org.

Prst Std
 US Postage
 Paid
 Eugene OR
 Permit No. 267

PO Box 7070, Eugene, OR 97401



Upcoming Meetings on the West Eugene EmX Extension Project:

Public Scoping Open Houses

Monday, October 8
3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Elks Lodge, 2470 West 11th Avenue, Eugene

Tuesday, October 9
3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Eugene Public Library, Tykeson Meeting Room

Join Us! LTD staff will provide information on the project to date, and then we will simply listen. Our goal is to hear your priorities, concerns, and ideas about the project.

Staff from the City of Eugene also will be available to provide information on their projects in West Eugene.

Alternative formats of printed material and/or a sign language interpreter will be made available with 48 hours' notice. The facilities used for these meetings are wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 682-6100 (voice) or 1-800-735-2900 (TTY - Oregon Relay). Si desea información en español, por favor llame a LTD al 682-6100 ó visite nuestra pagina web: www.ltd.org



West 11th Avenue and Garfield Street

West Eugene EmX Extension Project Enters Scoping Phase

Last May Lane Transit District (LTD) participated in a multi-agency open house that focused on traffic concerns in West Eugene. At this event LTD discussed the West Eugene EmX Extension (WEEE) project, and how EmX may be a strategy to improve travel for transit and other traffic in and through West Eugene. The event was well-attended and provided LTD with valuable input as we enter into the scoping phase of the project.

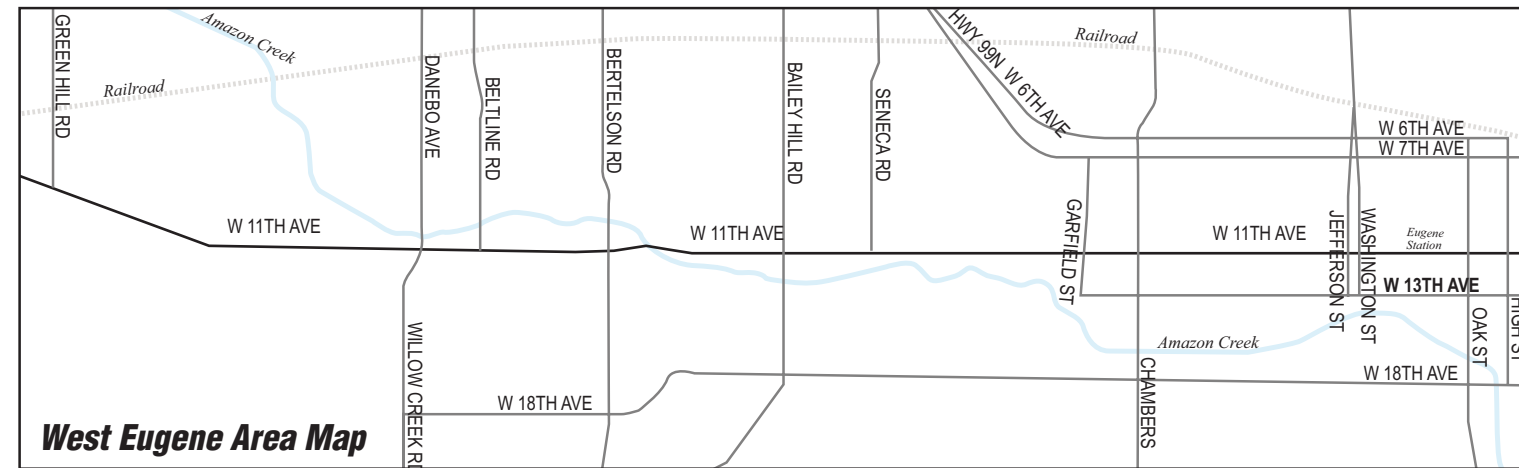
Following the open house we reviewed input received from the public and the EmX Steering Committee. As a result, we broadened the definition of the study area. Originally we showed a study area of one-quarter mile north and south of West 11th Avenue. As a result of the discussion, we expanded this boundary to consider a greater variety of options for the best way to move transit through the area. The graphic below shows the general study area.

Study Process

In accordance with federal requirements, we plan to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will document any potential environmental effects that could occur as a result of possible transit improvements in West Eugene and the surrounding area.

Preparation of this document includes a scoping process that will include the following:

- Informing the public and agencies about the transit safety and congestion problems, and the need for improvements to solve those transit problems
- Informing the public about the environmental review process
- Asking for input about the project process, alternatives, and issues to be studied in the EIS
- Identifying issues of concern and areas of potential impact



How Can You Plug In?



Your involvement is important! LTD has been working to create a variety of ways for you to connect. Check out these opportunities to get information and provide feedback:

- Visit LTD's website at www.ltd.org. Follow the links to the West Eugene EmX Extension Study Corridor.
- Send an e-mail to we.emx@ltd.org.
- Attend Steering and Corridor Committee meetings. Visit LTD's website for meeting schedules.
- Attend the open houses.
- Attend a presentations at neighborhood, civic, and professional organizations.
- Read the project newsletters.
- Receive E-Newsletters. Send us an e-mail request and receive project updates electronically!



Residential area on West 11th Avenue

You're Invited!

LTD will host two public scoping open houses in October to identify alternatives to improve transit efficiency and safety through the corridor. The open houses will be held on Monday, October 8, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Elks Lodge at 2470 West 11th Avenue. Another open house will be held Tuesday, October 9, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Eugene Public Library in the Tykeson Meeting Room.

Some of the goals of these events will be to:

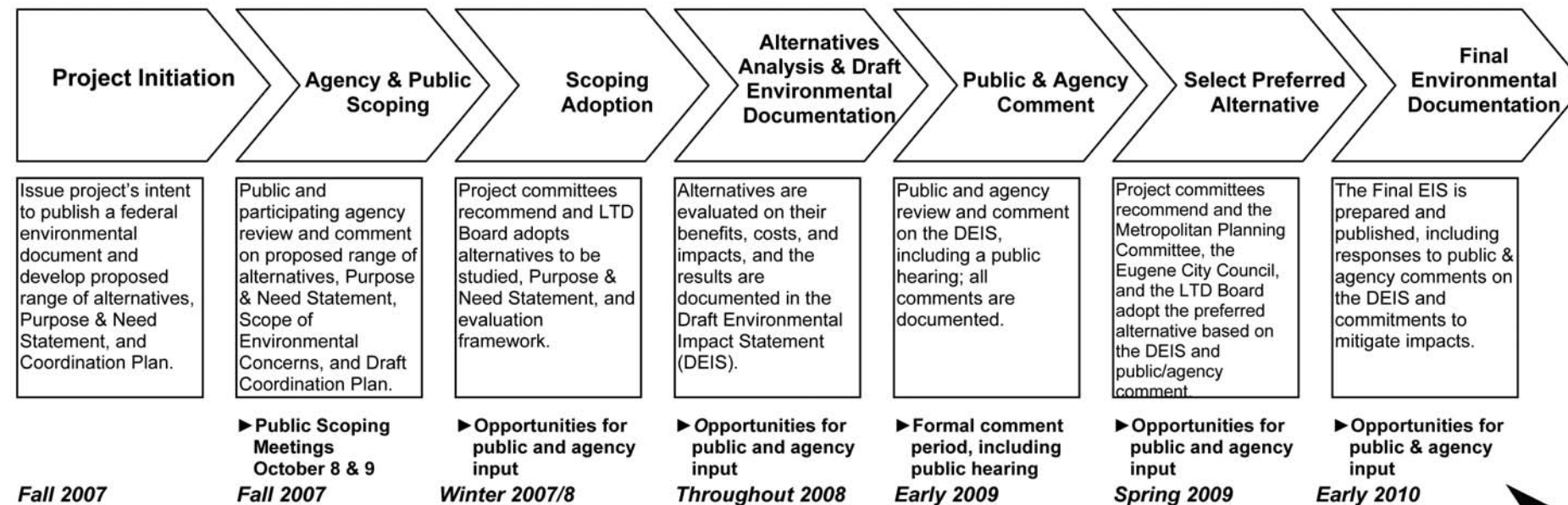
- Identify the problems and possible solutions
- Identify alternatives deserve further study
- Provide information about how decisions will be made



Schedule a Presentation by LTD

If your neighborhood, civic, or professional organization would like a speaker from LTD to make a presentation to your group about the West Eugene EmX Extension project, please contact Cosette at 682-6143.

Preliminary Process and Timeline



PROGRESS

Terms and Acronyms

Alternatives Analysis – A review of the feasible options generated through a “scoping” process that is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)– Federally required environmental review that determines the extent to which a proposed transportation project will impact the physical and social environment in the project area.

FTA – Federal Transit Administration

LTD – Lane Transit District

NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) – Federal legislation that requires the identification and analysis of potential environmental and social impacts of proposed federally funded transportation projects, and incorporation of the findings into future decision-making about the project.

Scoping – The NEPA-required process to determine the range and significance of issues to be addressed in an EIS.