

## Crook County Special Transportation Fund (STF) Advisory Committee

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### Virtual Meeting Agenda Wednesday, December 9 1 to 2 pm



Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89433445064?pwd=NUt4WEp5cGtoMzY4K2tBOHNEa1dvZz09>

Meeting ID: 894 3344 5064 Meeting Passcode: 533789

If you prefer to call in by phone, please dial (253) 215-8782 and enter the Meeting ID: 894 3344 5064 followed by the Meeting Passcode: 533789

- 1:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 1:05 Public Comment Period
- 1:10 Review and approval of September 16, 2020 meeting minutes
- 1:15 Overview of upcoming application timelines
- 1:25 Discussion of current STF funding and projects
- 1:35 Project ideas and input for 2021-2023 projects
- 1:45 Scheduling a meeting for early/mid January to review STF and 5310 projects
- 2:00 Adjourn

To request this information in an alternative format, please call Derek Hofbauer, COIC Outreach and Engagement Administrator, at 541-548-9534 or send an email to [dhofbauer@coic.org](mailto:dhofbauer@coic.org) at least three days in advance of the meeting. Crook County encourages persons with disabilities to participate in all programs and activities. This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. If you need accommodations to make participation possible, please contact Derek.

**Crook County STF Virtual Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, September 16**  
**10:00 to 11:00 am**



STF Advisory Committee Member Attendees:

George McCart, Shannon Dearth, Colleen Ferguson, Marylou Bernard, Ken Fahlgren

Provider Representative: Andrea Breault, Cascades East Transit (CET)

Meeting facilitator: Derek Hofbauer, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC)

Meeting Attendee: Theresa Conley Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)

**Welcome and introductions** – Derek Hofbauer, COIC

- Attendees were asked to make introductions to the group.

**Public comment period**

- No public comments.

**Review and approval of December 2019 meeting minutes** – Derek Hofbauer, COIC

- The committee unanimously approved meeting minutes.

**Community Connector and Rural Dial-A-Ride ridership overview** – Andrea Breault, CET

- COVID-19 has caused a reduction in ridership across all CET services. CET continues to implement Oregon Health Authority guidelines for transit agencies such as disinfecting high-touch surfaces on buses, requiring face coverings for drivers and passengers, maintaining social distancing on all vehicles to ensure 6 feet between drivers and riders and 3 feet between passengers, and implementing maximum capacity limits on buses. The entire CET system is currently fareless to limit interactions between passengers and drivers.
- FY20 Crook County STF Program Funding Ridership Totals:
  - Community Connector
    - 9,916 passengers
    - 1,801.45 service hours
    - Route 26 (Redmond – Prineville) – 9,916 passengers, 1,801.45 service hours
  - Rural Dial-A-Ride
    - 3,841 passengers

**Review of CET Veteran's Healthcare Transportation Services Grant** – Andrea Breault, CET

- CET was awarded an Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) grant to provide transportation to healthcare services for veterans living in Central Oregon.
- This service will provide a much-needed ADA-accessible transportation service for veterans to reach doctor appointments, the VA clinic, pharmacies, and other important healthcare destinations located across the region.

- CET is working directly with Crook, Jefferson, and Deschutes counties, as well as the American Legion in Warm Springs set up a process to reduce the administrative red tape for veterans to access the service.
- The goal is to start the service this fall.
- Ms. Ferguson asked if it was possible to share funds with the Band of Brothers, which currently serves the transportation needs of Crook County.
  - Ms. Conley responded that nonprofits are eligible to apply for STF-funds as a sub recipient for rural veteran services.

**CET 2040 Transit Master Plan update** – Andrea Breault, CET

- CET’s Transit Master Plan provides short, middle, and long-term public transportation goals for the region.
- Many funding opportunities require projects to be linked to approved and adopted planning documents. Through the 2040 Transit Master Plan, CET has the opportunity to pursue innovative projects, which can now be referenced in the new plan.
- Highlights include:
  - Delivery of an equitable and accessible regional public transit service that connects
  - Improvement of transit stops and facilities and integrate new technologies
  - Reduction of transfers and increase geographic coverage & service frequency
  - Investment in a smaller, more nimble bus fleet with on-board technology
  - Explore opportunities to implement on-demand services such as microtransit
  - Pursue funding scenarios outside of grants and STIF (e.g. property tax)
  - Implement consistent code recommendations for local municipalities to spur transit-supported development

**STF/STIF consolidation and legislative updates** – Derek Hofbauer, COIC

- The Oregon legislature passed Senate Bill 1601, which provides immediate flexibility for public transportation service providers to use STIF formula funds to maintain existing services. This legislation also helps to reduce fiscal impacts to transit agencies due to COVID-19.
- SB 1601 also consolidates the STF and STIF programs, which will become effective on July 1, 2023.

**STF/STIF application timeline** – Andrea Breault, CET

- STIF Discretionary Projects due November 2, 2020
- STIF Formula Fund Projects due February 1, 2021
- 5310, 5311, and STF Projects due March 1, 2021
- STF application due March 21, 2021

**STIF project updates and funding allocation estimates** – Andrea Breault, CET

- CET is conducting an internal planning process for increased service between Redmond and Prineville. The goal is for the added runs to mirror commuter travel patterns.

Currently, there is a gap in service between 3 - 5pm for which this increased service frequency could fill.

- Additionally, CET staff is exploring future stop locations past the Ray's Supermarket, which would make bus service more accessible to people across the city.
- A goal of expanded service is to connect Juniper Canyon to transit options.
- A vehicle was purchased to add more runs from Prineville to Redmond, which likely includes a one-seat ride to Bend (no transfer necessary).
  - Ms. Ferguson asked if this new vehicle is it ADA-compliant.
  - Ms. Breault responded that this vehicle is ADA compliant.
- The expected decrease in FY2020 STIF funding due to the economic downturn is \$14,367 for FY20 and \$39,144 for FY021.
- Ms. Breault asked the group if they believe that Prineville is growing to a point that the current Dial-A-Ride boundary should be reassessed.
  - Mr. McCart shared that there are multiple new developments under construction such as Crystal Springs, Wild Horse Mesa Apartments, and Iron Horse.
  - Ms. Ferguson also mentioned that a new apartment complex is being built off North Main Street.
  - Ms. Breault will explore areas of growth in Prineville to better assess this topic.

## **Adjourn**