

**Meeting Minutes
Road User Fee Task Force
December 10, 2012
Oregon State Capitol, Conf. Room 350**

Task Force Members in Attendance: Craig Campbell, Representative Terry Beyer, Representative Cliff Bentz, OTC Commissioner Mary Olson, Benton Co. Commissioner Linda Modrell, Mayor Craig Dirksen, Representative Vicki Berger (ex-officio), Representative Margaret Doherty (ex-officio); by phone – Susan Brody, Commissioner Tammy Baney

Task Force Members Not Attending: Senator Bruce Starr, Jack Roberts, Senator Rod Monroe, Tammy Dennee

Staff in Attendance: ODOT - James Whitty, Lynn Averbeck, Kathy Kleen, Chuck Larsen, Randal Thomas, Darel Capps, Jack Svadlenak, Victor Dodier, Art James, Betsy Imholt, Katie Thiel; DMV - Stephanie Zellner, Lori Bowman.

Guests: Mazen Malik (LRO), Andrew Plambeck (GO), Jeff Allen (Drive Oregon), Stacy Cowan (SEIU), Alec Shebiel (Auto Alliance), Ann Hanus (AOC), Craig Honeyman (LOC)

The task force was convened at 12:10 p.m.

Welcome, Introduction, Approval of Minutes and Administrative Matters

The minutes from September 13, 2012 meeting were approved without objection. This is Mayor Craig Dirksen's last meeting with us. Commissioner Modrell is not officially appointed yet.

There were no requests to present public testimony.

Status Report – Road Usage Charge Pilot Program

The pilot program will have two phases. Phase 1 started November 1 and consists of 31 participants, all with internal combustion engine vehicles (ICEs). Rep. Doherty asked if participants are supposed to get something confirming that it's working. Jim explained that the system knows if data is coming or not and have already followed up where needed. Invoices have gone out and are being paid. Many of the bills are for tiny amounts. Section 8 of the draft per-

mile road usage charge bill directs ODOT to set reporting frequencies according to individual circumstances of the individual, determined by rule.

Phase 2 started December 1 with 12 additional Oregon participants, consisting of hybrid electric vehicles (HEV) and late-comer ICEs. Washington DOT and Nevada DOT also added 44 participants from their states.

The smartphone plan is about to start but has technology development issues. The mileage reporting device for the smartphone plan was not commercial, off the shelf, technology so the vendor is still discovering bugs to resolve. Smartphone plan participants will start later this month.

Basic Plan device works for ICEs because the motor tells the device it's time to work. Electric vehicles (EVs) need further development (accelerometer access).

The OBDII standard has been set for ICE and HEV vehicles but not for electric vehicles yet. ODOT's vendor is reverse-engineering for each vehicle model in the pilot. Working with industry would be better and will happen more easily once the RUC bill passes.

Status of Research Activities

Mazen Malik of Legislative Revenue Office reported he met with ODOT and the consultants about the divergent fleet forecasts. He was able to clearly point out flaws in each process. Each group accepted his view and are making adjustments to the forecasts. The ODOT forecasters are making assumptions for future fuel consumption factors.

The Rural/Urban Report was recently completed but is still under review. The PowerPoint contains some initial findings.

Finalization of Road Usage Charge Legislation for 2013

The RUFTF legislation (LC 266) will be submitted to the legislature tomorrow as a committee bill.

The draft legislation has comments from five groups. The EV Alliance can't support the bill because their market research shows mileage charge would impact EV purchase decision. Mr. Whitty will determine if they have a full understanding of the current legislation or are basing the comment on the prior 2011 bill.

Mr. Whitty has traveled around the state speaking to all the area commissions on transportation. His view is that his policy presentation isn't the best for these

audiences. Saying “applies to vehicles 55 mpg or more” but people need to hear “but not you” in addition to that. “Are you going to get me eventually?” Fleet full of pickups – probably not. You’re below the midpoint with the old pickups. Rep. Beyer pointed out that if the gas tax ever goes away, then you will “get him”. There are basically 3 kinds of viewpoints.

Rep. Beyer asked if ODOT is okay with the draft legislation. Mr. Whitty indicated that ODOT was satisfied with the draft.

Rep. Beyer asked for motion to submit LC 266 to revenue committee. Motion was made by Mary Olson and seconded by Mayor Dirksen who noted he has some reservations about the first application of road usage charges that he had spoken about in the September meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Additional RUFFT Actions

Recognitions were given to Mayor Dirksen and Chair Beyer for their service to the task force. Mayor Dirksen was given a certificate of appreciation and Rep. Beyer was given a plaque bearing a gavel to acknowledge her role as task force chair.

Rep. Beyer nominated Mary Olson as Chair and this was seconded by Craig Campbell. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adjournment was at 1:10 p.m.