

# TRANSPORTATION REPORT

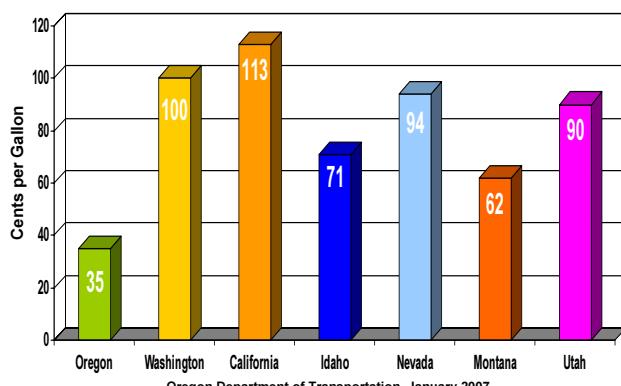
## WHY IS PORTLAND EXPERIENCING THIS PROBLEM?

Traditionally, Portland has relied on our share of the state gas tax to safely operate and maintain our streets and bridges. There are a number of significant problems with the state gas tax:

- ◆ The last increase in the gas tax was in 1993 — the Oregon Legislature has failed to raise the state gas tax for fourteen years
- ◆ Oregon's gas tax is 24 cents per gallon — a fixed amount per gallon fails to provide any increase to cover inflation
- ◆ Since the last increase in the state gas tax (1993), transportation costs have increased over 70% (League of Oregon Cities, 2006)
- ◆ The distribution formula for the state gas tax results in only 46 cents of every dollar of gas tax being returned to the Portland region
- ◆ The revenue from the gas tax has not kept up with the increasing demand on the system because of the growing population.

## CAN WE SOLVE THIS PROBLEM WITH CITY GENERAL FUNDS?

Allocating more general fund revenue to transportation services would result in budget cuts to other important city services like fire, parks, and police.



All auto-related taxes per gallon of gas in the western states

## WAS TOO MUCH OF TRANSPORTATION'S MONEY SPENT ON LIGHTRAIL AND THE STREETCAR?

The primary source of funding for Portland's streetcar and lightrail systems are federal funds. If not used by Portland, these funds would have been allocated to another city. The state constitution restricts the use of state gas tax revenue for these types of projects.

## WHAT OTHER OREGON CITIES DO TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM

Many other Oregon cities have solved this problem through local gas taxes or street maintenance fees.

### SEPTEMBER

#### OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS

Join City staff and your neighbors to review specific transportation needs and possible solutions in your neighborhood.

**Monday September 10, 7-9pm**  
Central Northeast Neighborhoods  
Community Room  
4415 NE 87th Avenue

**Monday September 17, 7-9pm**  
Southwest Portland  
Multnomah Center  
7688 SW Capitol Hwy.

**Tuesday September 18, 7-9pm**  
Northwest Portland  
Friendly House, Keystone Room  
1737 NW 26th Avenue

**Thursday September 20, 7-9pm**  
East Portland  
East Precinct Community Room  
737 SE 106th Avenue

**Monday September 24, 7-9pm**  
Southeast Portland  
St. Philip Neri Church-Carlin Hall  
2408 SE 16th Avenue

**Tuesday September 25, 7-9pm**  
Northeast Portland  
King Neighborhood Facility  
4815 NE 7th Avenue

**Thursday September 27, 7-9pm**  
North Portland  
Kenton Firehouse  
8105 N Brandon Avenue

## What are Portlanders Doing to Solve this Transportation Problem?

A committee has been formed to help address Portland's Transportation problems and solutions. The committee includes over 70 community leaders from businesses; neighborhoods; bicycle, pedestrian, and transit communities; elected officials; and the traffic safety community.

The stakeholders committee will guide this process and formulate a funding package that will be reviewed at the October town hall meetings. The funding package is being fine tuned through a rigorous audit process.

The stakeholders committee is committed to the following principles:

- ◆ The proposal will include a specific list of projects
- ◆ Projects will be spread across the city with benefits in every neighborhood
- ◆ New revenues will be selected based on the principles of "user pays" and "tax fairness"
- ◆ Project selection will be based on sound engineering, safety, and fiscal responsibility
- ◆ The proposal will include an oversight committee to ensure efficient project delivery

#### WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

- ◆ Endorse the process (you can endorse the process online at [www.portlandonline.com](http://www.portlandonline.com) — if you request follow-up, a staff person will call you and discuss additional opportunities for involvement)
- ◆ Fill out a survey online at [www.portlandonline.com](http://www.portlandonline.com)
- ◆ Attend an open house or a town hall meeting (see accompanying schedule for your neighborhood's date and time)
- ◆ Write a letter to your community paper
- ◆ Invite a member of the Stakeholders committee to meet with a group of your neighbors or association to discuss this issue in detail



### OCTOBER

#### TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Join Commissioner Adams in reviewing the proposal developed by the Safe and Sound Streets Stakeholder Committee.

**Tuesday October 16, 7-9pm**  
Central Northeast Portland  
Madison High School  
2735 NE 82nd Avenue

**Thursday October 18, 7-9pm**  
Northeast Portland  
Jefferson High School  
5210 N Kerby Avenue

**Monday October 22, 7-9pm**  
East Portland  
Menlo Park Elementary School  
12900 NE Glisan

**Tuesday October 23, 7-9pm**  
North Portland  
Rosa Parks Elementary  
8960 N Woolsey

**Wednesday October 24, 7-9pm**  
Northwest Portland  
Metropolitan Learning Center  
2033 NW Glisan

**Monday October 29, 7-9pm**  
Southwest Portland  
Wilson High School  
1151 SW Vermont

**Tuesday October 30, 7-9pm**  
Southeast Portland  
Sellwood Middle School  
8300 SE 15th