

Area Commissions on Transportation to host public meetings

The North East and South East Area Commissions on Transportation, along with the Oregon Department of Transportation, will hold public meetings in eight eastern Oregon communities on the evening of Nov. 2 to discuss proposed transportation projects. The meetings at the eight locations will start at 6 p.m. The meetings are being held to provide information to the public and collect comments on the Draft 2008-2011, four-year STIP cycle. The list includes nearly 70 projects for eastern Oregon.

"These meetings are an excellent opportunity for people to learn more about transportation projects proposed for eastern Oregon and to share their thoughts and ideas," said Morrow County Judge Terry Tallman, who is the North East ACT (NEACT) Chair. "We will also be presenting information on how projects are selected for funding."

The four-year STIP, updated every two years, is developed through the coordinated efforts of ODOT, ACTs, federal and local governments, tribal governments and the public.

Each meeting will be linked via Eastern Oregon University's Video Services videoconference system. Those attending will have the opportunity to participate with all other sites. Comments and public testimony given during the evening will be documented and presented to the ACTs and the Oregon Transportation Commission for consideration, prior to finalization of the 2008-2011

STIP.

The local meeting location is at Blue Mountain Community College in Boardman, 300 NE Front Street, Boardman. Other locations include Ontario, Burns, Pendleton, Baker City, John Day, La Grande and Enterprise.

An ACT is an advisory body chartered by the Oregon Transportation Commission to help address all aspects of transportation. In eastern Oregon, the NEACT and South East ACT (SEACT) play a key role in identifying transportation related needs and the development of the STIP. The NEACT includes representatives from Morrow, Umatilla, Wallowa, Union and Baker counties and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The SEACT includes representatives from Malheur, Grant and Harney counties and the Burns-Paiute Indian Tribe.

For more information about the STIP, visit the ODOT website at www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/docs/0811stip/primerBrochure.pdf and www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/STIP/generalstip.shtml. For more information about ACTs, visit the ODOT website at www.oregon.gov/ODOT/COMM/act_main.shtml.

Accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities. Alternate formats (language translations, etc.) available upon request. For more information, please contact ODOT Region 5 Public Information Office Tom Strandberg at (541) 963-1330.

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CCRR offers required child care classes

Umatilla-Morrow Head Start has announced training classes for the months of November and December. For more information or to pre-register for classes, call Child Care Resource and Referral at (800) 559-5878 or (541) 564-6878. Classes available include:

Family Child Care Overview- Nov. 6, 2006, 6-9 p.m., Hermiston and Dec. 4, 2006, 6-9 p.m., Pendleton. This class is required by the Child Care Division for anyone wishing to become a registered family child care provider and for individuals that want to learn more about Oregon's laws governing child care. CCD Certifiers will be on hand to talk about the titles and regulations and to explain the on-site Health and Safety Review process. The class is free.

Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect (Spanish)- Nov. 13, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Pendleton. The class will be in Spanish. This class is required by the Child Care Division for anyone wishing to become a registered family child care provider and for DHS listed providers who want to qualify for the enhanced rates. It will cover Oregon's mandatory laws and how to recognize child abuse and neglect. This class will help you understand what happens when made, what the decision points and possible outcomes. There is a \$5 charge for the class.

Medic First Aid and CPR- Nov. 4, 2006, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Hermiston. You may receive your Infant Child First Aid/CPR certifications by attending this session for the low price of \$15. Payment for this class must be received at the time of registration to ensure a slot. There are only 12 slots available. Officer Smith will be the trainer for the class. The cost for the class is \$15.

Child Health and Safety (Spanish)- Beginning Oct. 25, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Hermiston. The class will be in Spanish. This month we will begin a five-part training program that covers a wide variety of information on all aspects of health and safety with children. This training is appropriate for anyone providing childcare in a home or center, as well as for parents. Participants will receive a manual and workbooks at each class. Sessions can be taken in any order, for a specific list of which session is offered each week contact the CCR&R. The cost for the class is \$5 per session or \$20 for all five sessions.

Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect- Nov. 9, 2006, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Hermiston. This class is required by the Child Care Division for anyone wishing to become a registered family child care provider and for DHS listed providers who want to qualify for the enhanced rates. It will cover Oregon's mandatory laws and how to recognize child abuse and neglect. This class will help you understand what happens when a report is made, the decision points and possible outcomes. The cost for the class is \$5.

Partnering with Parents- Nov. 14, 2006 6:30-8:30 p.m., Hermiston. Families and the relationship they have with child care providers is a very important part of caregiving. This session will focus on strategies for building effective relationships with families that will assist providers in their day-to-day interactions with families. The cost for the class is \$5.

Deer present unique challenges to area drivers

Each year, car collisions with deer account for more than 150 human and nearly one and a half million deer fatalities. October through December is the high season for the crashes, since it is a time for both wandering deer and shortened daylight hours.

Most collisions with a deer occur during this time of year when deer are mating and migrating. "Drivers need to be particularly cautious with the season's shortened daylight and deer foraging near roadsides. It's a very dangerous combination," cautioned Ray Palermo, director of public relations for national car insurer, Response Insurance. "To compound it, more drivers are on the road at dawn and dusk, the very time of day when deer are most active."

An adult deer can weigh more than 200 pounds and a car striking one can not only result in the death of the deer, but also incur, on average, \$2000 in damage to the vehicle. A few basic cautions for drivers include:

-Scan a wide swath of the roadside. Slow down when approaching a deer standing near the side of a road and be prepared. If startled, the deer can bolt onto the roadway and into your path. If necessary, honk your horn and flash your lights to try to scare it away.

-Be alert for more deer than you may see at that moment. Where there is one deer, there are often more nearby.

-In many instances, it is best not to swerve around the deer since the deer may move in the same direction.

You may also inadvertently hit another vehicle, or go off onto a dangerous shoulder. Unless certain of those road factors, it is often best to simply brake and continue in your lane of traffic.

-Be particularly careful at dawn and dusk and when driving either over a hill or around a curve, where visibility is limited. Use your high beams to give you a greater area of visibility and allow you to see the deer's eyes sooner.

-Deer whistles or ultrasonic deer avoidance systems attached to vehicles have never been proven to work by independent studies and may give drivers a false sense of security.

-Take deer crossing signs seriously, particularly those installed specifically for this time of year. Be particularly cautious in wooded and agricultural areas where there is little distance between the road and the woods.

Heppner Methodist Church to hold bazaar and raffle



Geriann Meligan and Jessica Hamilton help display this year's raffle items.

The Heppner United Methodist Women's group (UMW) will be holding its annual church bazaar and chicken casserole luncheon on Friday, Nov. 3 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., in the basement of the Methodist church.

This year there will be an additional event, which is a raffle drawing for two baskets of bath and beauty products that will be held at noon on Nov. 3. Raffle tickets may be purchased from UMW members at any time prior to the drawing. The proceeds from this raffle will be used to assist residents as needed in the St. Pat's Senior Center. Besides the raffle, there will be crafts and gift items, baked goodies, plus Ida's Table, which has collectibles and second-hand items for sale.

Lunch will include casserole, jello salad, pie and a beverage. The cost is still \$5, which it has been for many years. Pie and coffee only may be purchased separately.

Everyone is invited to come, browse, eat lunch and do some shopping for the coming holidays.

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Oregon Department of Transportation Meeting Announcement

STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PUBLIC REVIEW MEETING - NOV. 2nd

The North East and South East Area Commission on Transportation and The Oregon Department of Transportation invite you to participate in a Public Review Meeting regarding the Draft 2008-2011 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Date/Time: November 2nd, 2006, 6-8 PM Pacific Standard Time (7-9 PM Mountain Time)

Meeting Locations: Eight eastern Oregon sites listed below

The 2008-2011 STIP identifies major Oregon transportation projects proposed for construction between 2008 and 2011. Meeting participants will hear information on how projects are selected for funding and review projects identified for the eastern Oregon region. Interested parties are encouraged to attend this meeting at a site in your area.

MEETING LOCATIONS:

<p>Harney County ESD - Burns 25 Fairview Heights Burns, OR (6:00 PM PST)</p> <p>Wallowa County ESD - Enterprise 107 SW 1st Room #109 Enterprise, OR (6:00 PM PST)</p> <p>Grant County ESD - John Day 835 S. Canyon John Day, OR (6:00 PM PST)</p> <p>Blue Mountain Community College - Pendleton Emigrant Room 119 2411 NW Carden Pendleton, OR (6:00 PM PST)</p>	<p>Treasure Valley Community College - Ontario Weese Bldg. Room LV-1 650 College Boulevard Ontario, Oregon (7:00 PM MST)</p> <p>Eastern Oregon University - La Grande Inlow Hall, Basement Room 013 One University Blvd. La Grande, OR (6:00 PM PST)</p> <p>Blue Mountain Community College - Boardman 300 NE Front Street Boardman, OR (6:00 PM PST)</p> <p>Blue Mountain Community College - Baker City Baker City - Conference Room 3275 Baker Street Baker City, OR (6:00 PM PST)</p>
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For details regarding this video conference meeting, or to request alternative formats (language translations, etc.) please contact Tom Strandberg, ODOT Public Information Officer, at 541-963-1330.