



Lane Transit District
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Backgrounder

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 6, 2008

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Lane Transit District

Lane Transit District is the eco-friendly public transportation solution serving the greater Eugene metropolitan area in Lane County, Oregon. What began with 19 Volkswagen Microvans in the 1960s has evolved into a world-class mass transit operation featuring hybrid-electric buses and award-winning bus rapid transit.

Always at the forefront of community needs, LTD has been refining its operation since its inception. Whereas those in the 1960s had to wait for wheelchair-accessible buses to arrive on their routes, today we are awaiting improvements ranging from expanded bus rapid transit operation and the potential for light rail service. In fact, LTD is currently in the process of adding an additional service route for its Emerald Express (EmX) through Pioneer Parkway and the Gateway areas of Springfield due to the popularity of the current EmX service. Ridership increased tremendously with the addition of the current route between the downtown Eugene station and downtown Springfield station, and is expected to rise once again with this addition.

LTD never ceases to remember whom it serves. The Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area has a population around 250,000 with high ridership per capita. In fact, there are 10 million boardings annually. Interestingly, LTD helps transport 1,100 bicycles a day and 8,500 wheelchairs a month—the same as Seattle’s King County Metro. Providing riders with a high level of service is at the core of what we strive for every day.

Green is our favorite color. Although it is not the color of our buses, LTD has made green initiatives a priority for many years and will continue to do so in the future. That’s why we are on the forefront of testing biodiesel blends with plans to increase biodiesel use across the entire fleet. We’re working to reduce our nation’s dependence on foreign oil, lower greenhouse gas emissions and build a local biodiesel industry right here in Lane County.

LTD is a mainstay in our community and will continue to be for many generations. In many ways it is a symbol of our greater community—a trailblazer that is always looking to go above and beyond the call of duty. At its inception, some may have thought that mass transit in a city of this size was somewhat of a pipe dream, but after 38 years of expansion and innovation, those fears should be put to rest. Lane Transit District will continue to provide an essential service with more relevance than ever for years to come.