

Columbia County Community-Wide Transit Plan & US 30 Access Plan

Community Meetings

St. Helens
Vernonia
Clatskanie

March 2009



Presentation Overview

- **Project purpose**
- **Service**
 - Existing transit service
 - Proposed transit service improvements
 - Additional revenue to operate new service
- **Transit fare simplification**
 - Fixed route
 - Dial-a-Ride



Presentation Purpose

- **Update the public on the County's transit planning efforts**
- **Provide information on work to date**
 - Proposed service improvements
 - Proposed fare simplification
- **Obtain public input on proposals**
- **All material will also be available on the Columbia County Rider website**



Project Purpose: Community-Wide Plan

- **Provide direction to the County for planning and implementing transit over the next 10 years**
 - Types of transit services
 - Operations: how those services are provided
 - Facilities: stops, park-and-rides, bus maintenance
 - Funding
 - Marketing: promotion of/information about transit
 - Service coordination with transit operators in Clatsop County, Longview/Kelso, Portland

- **Addresses transit needs throughout the**
Community-Wide Transit Plan and US 30 Access Plan
County
Columbia County, Oregon



Project Purpose: US 30 Transit Access Plan

- **Provide recommendations for locating transit stops and park-and-rides along the length of US 30 in Columbia County (Westport to just south of Scappoose)**
- **More detailed recommendations than Community-Wide Plan:**
 - Specific stop & park-and-ride locations
 - Recommended improvements at each stop (for example, bus shelters, signage, sidewalks, wheelchair landing pads)



Vision Statement (1 of 3)

- **Public transportation services support Columbia County's quality of life by providing mobility options for County residents, employees, employers, and visitors.**



Vision Statement (2 of 3)

- **Columbia County Rider will provide quality, accessible transit service throughout Columbia County, with interoperable connections to regional multimodal transportation providers, while expanding service over time for all users in a fiscally responsible manner.**



Vision Statement (3 of 3)

- **Planning for Columbia County Rider service will meet the needs of the communities it serves.**



Project Work Tasks to Date

- **Plan & policy review**
- **Existing conditions evaluation**
- **Transit design toolbox**
- **Community & rider surveys**
- **Transit funding evaluation**
- **Public Meetings #1**
- **Service and fare change recommendations**
- **Public Meetings #2**



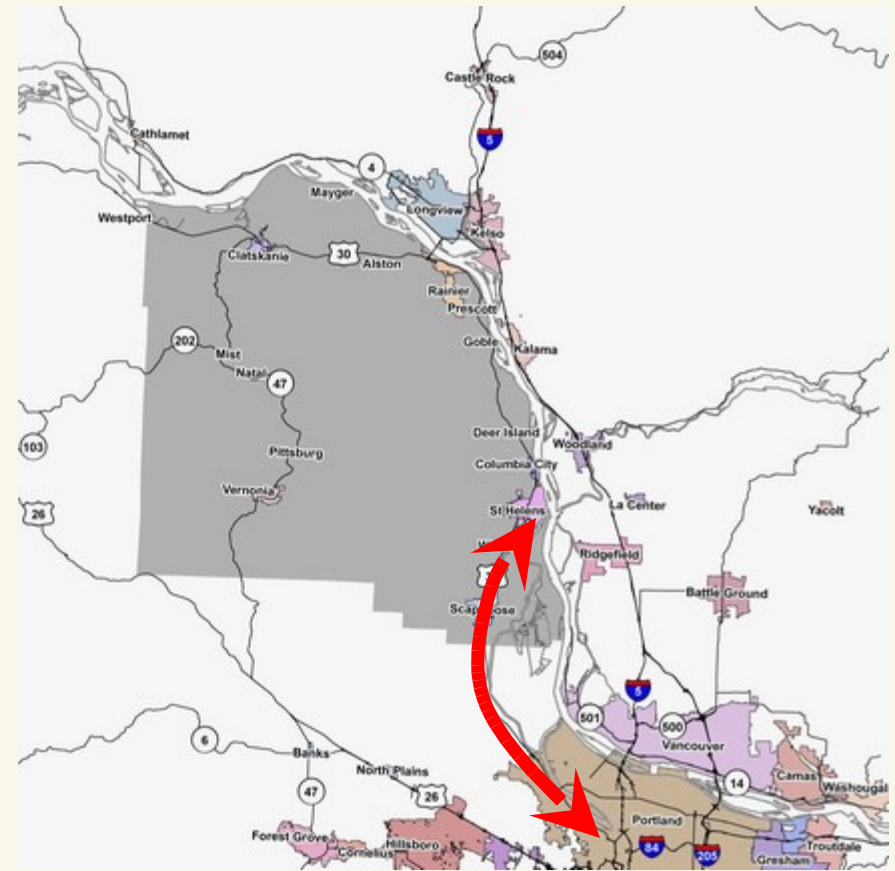
Future Project Work Tasks

- **Final plans & adoption**
- **Transit facility siting study**
 - Maintenance, administration, and potential transfer center functions



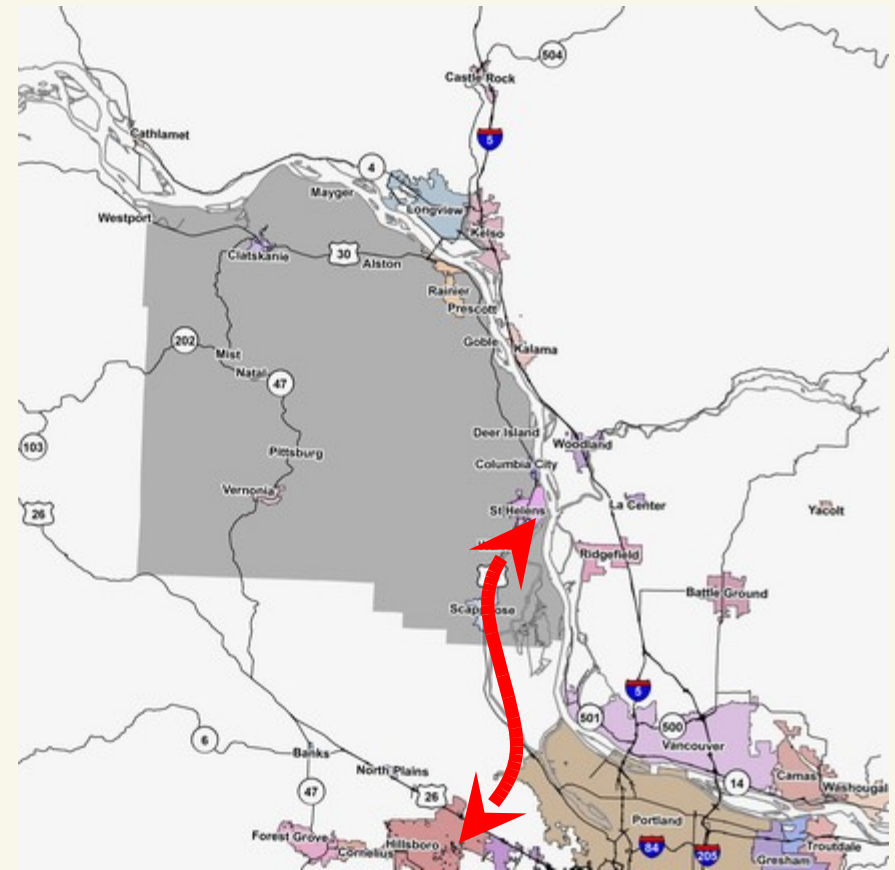
Current Service

- **St. Helens-
Scappoose-
Downtown Portland**
 - 10 round trips per day,
Monday to Friday



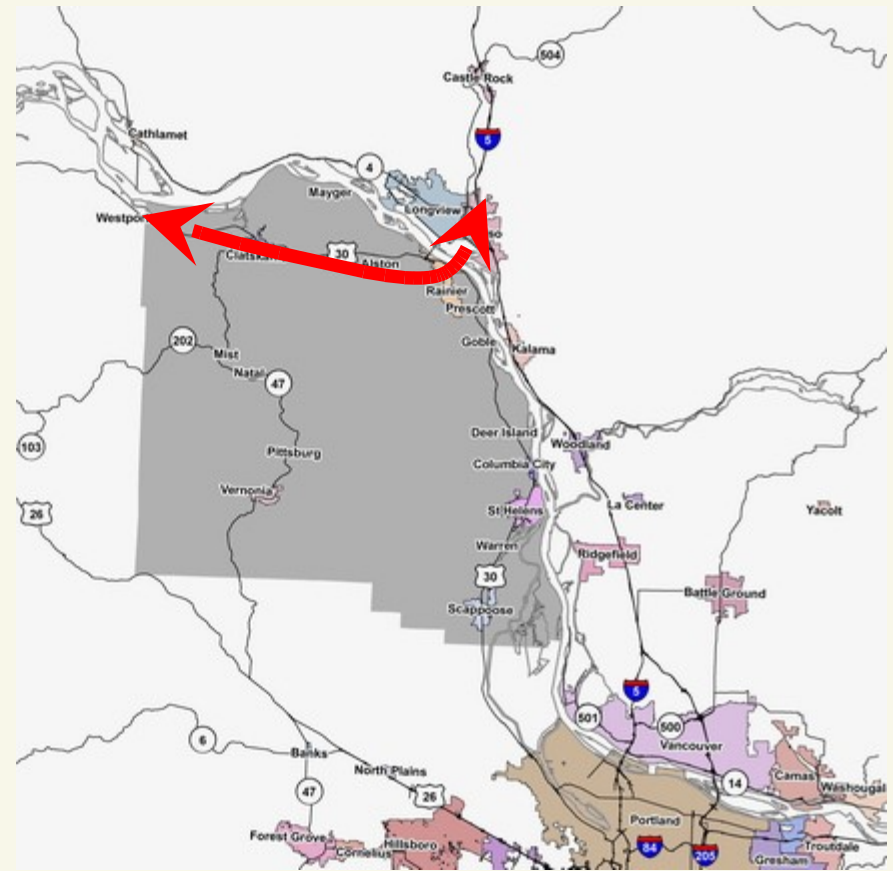
Current Service

- **St. Helens-
Scappoose-
PCC Rock Creek-
Willow Creek MAX**
 - 6 round trips per day,
Monday to Friday



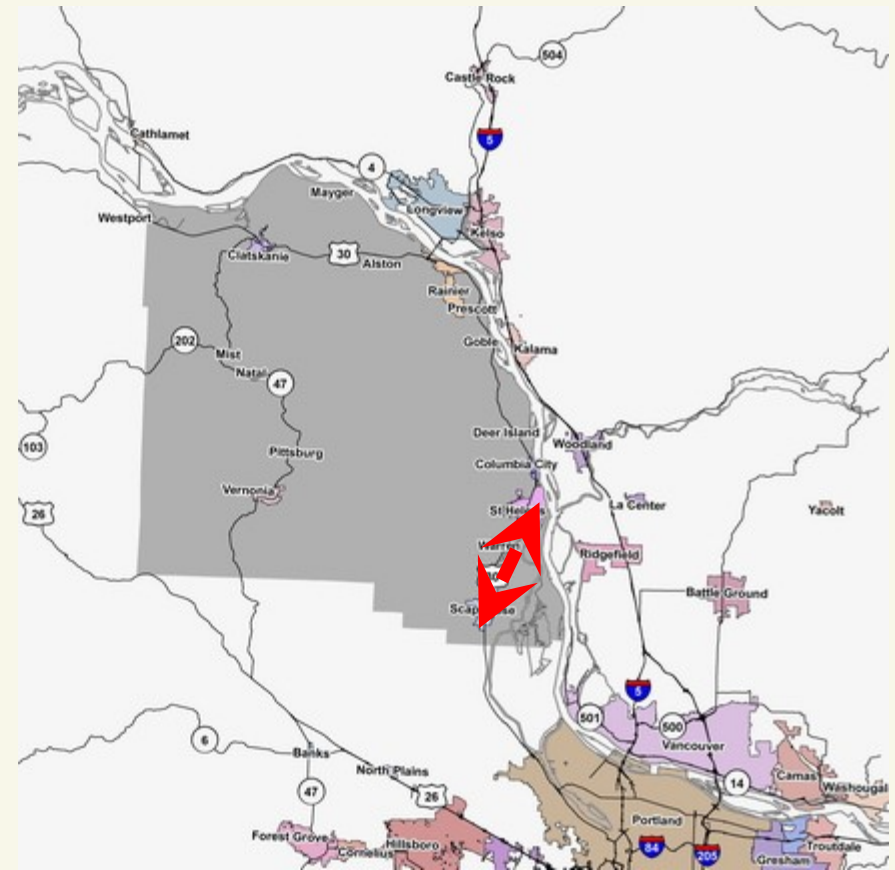
Current Service

- **Westport-
Clatskanie-
Rainier-Longview-
Kelso**
 - 4 round trips per day,
Monday, Wednesday,
Friday



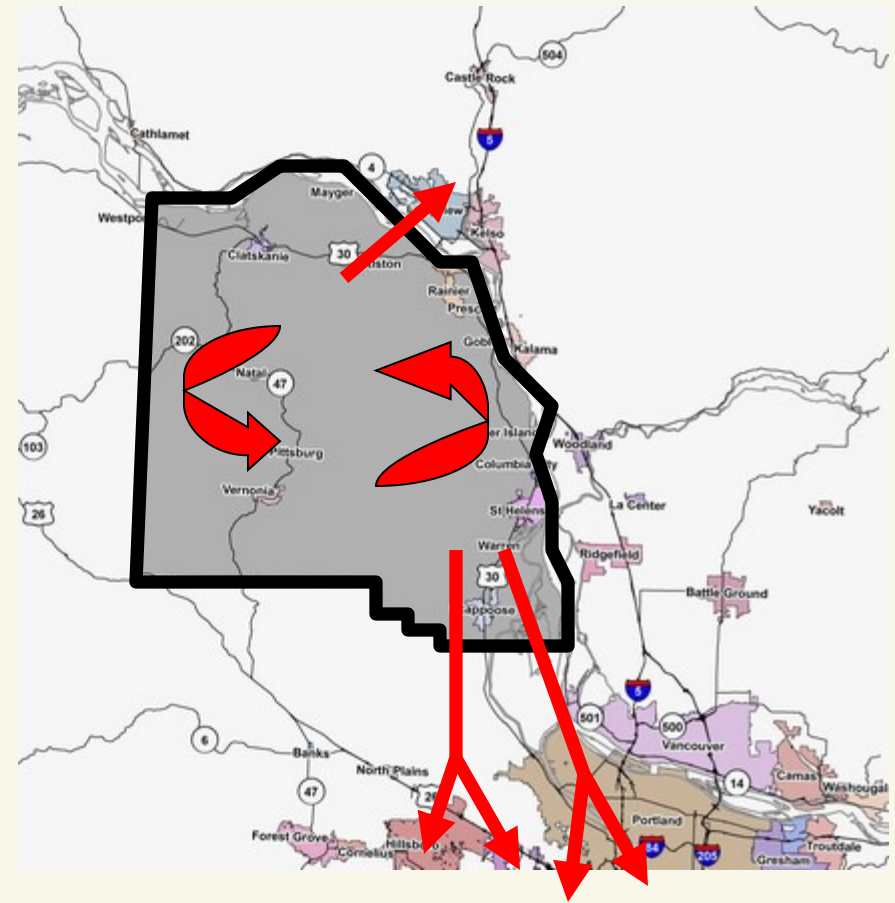
Current Service

- **St. Helens-Scappoose flex route**
 - 6 round trips per day, Monday to Friday



Current Service

- **Dial-a-Ride**
 - Available Monday to Friday

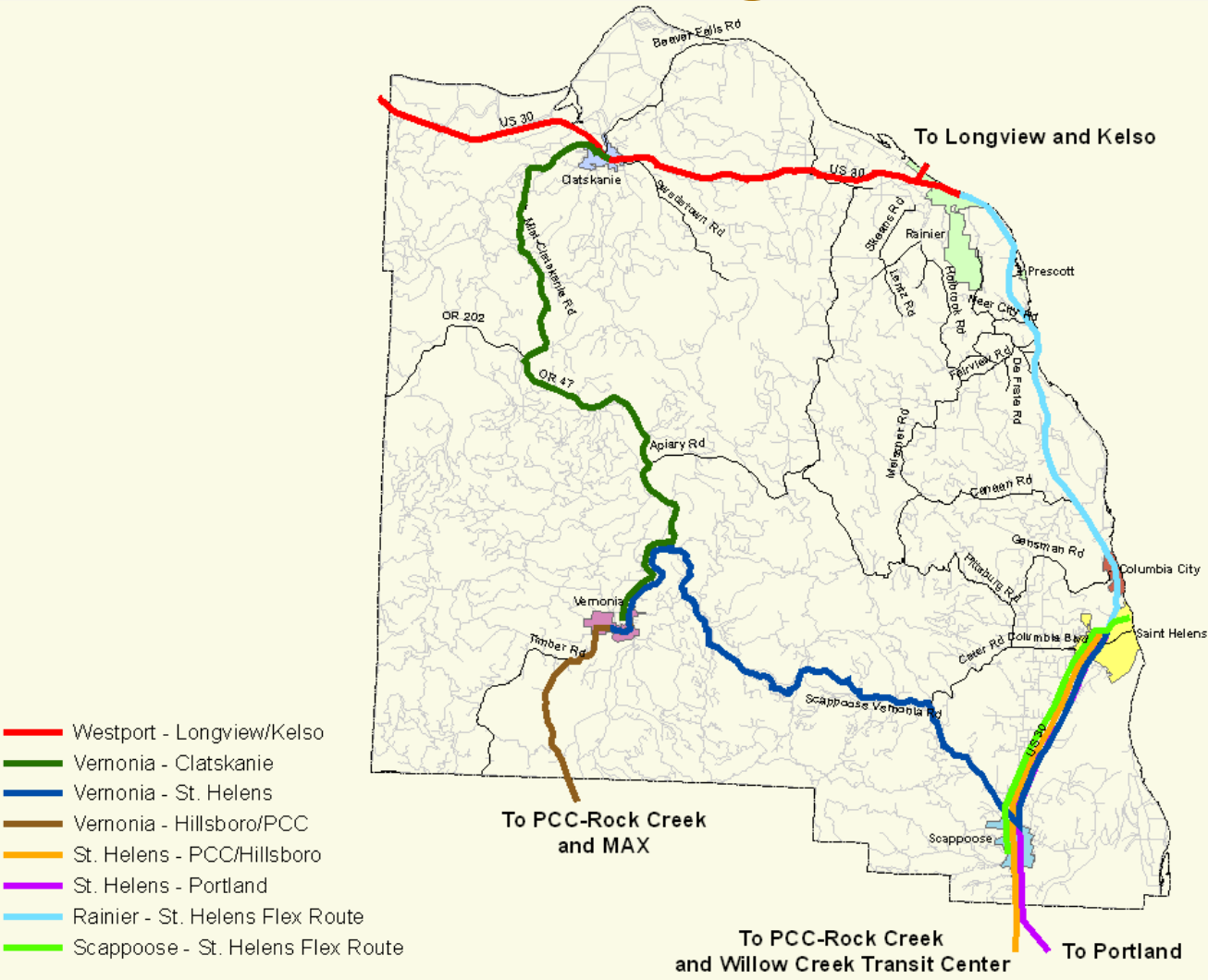


Resident Survey Results: Recommendations to Transit Committee

- **Public transportation is good or needed**
- **Promotion is needed**
- **Expand service**
- **Maintain or lower the fares**
- **Get better equipment, improve efficiency, use new fuels**
- **Funding a Special Transit District through taxes has public support**
- **Move forward with plans, don't give up**



Proposed Service Changes



- Westport - Longview/Kelso
- Vernonia - Clatskanie
- Vernonia - St. Helens
- Vernonia - Hillsboro/PCC
- St. Helens - PCC/Hillsboro
- St. Helens - Portland
- Rainier - St. Helens Flex Route
- Scappoose - St. Helens Flex Route



Proposed Service Changes

■ **Westport-Longview/Kelso**

- Transfer Westport-Clatskanie segment to Sunset Empire Transit (\$17K savings)
- Provide service every weekday (\$39K cost)
- Saturday service (\$12K cost)
- Adjust route schedule to match CUBS (no cost)
- Remove Longview WalMart stop (\$17K)

■ **Rainier-St. Helens**

- Continue new FlexRoute (no cost)



Proposed Service Changes

- **St. Helens-Portland**

- Adjust schedule to arrive shortly before the hour/ half-hour (no cost)
- Add larger bus (nominal added operating cost)
- Add 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. trips (\$56K cost)
- Saturday service (\$12K)



Proposed Service Changes

▪ **Vernonia**

- 3x per week FlexRoute to Scappoose & St. Helens (\$67K cost)
- 2x per week FlexRoute to Clatskanie (\$44K cost)
- Weekday service to Hillsboro & PCC-Rock Creek (\$112K cost)



Fare Simplification Proposal

Cash Fares

	To:					
From:		Portland/ Hillsboro	St. Helens/ Scappoose	Rainier/ Longview/ Kelso	Vernonia	Westport / Clatskanie
Portland/Hillsboro			\$5.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$10.00
St. Helens/ Scappoose		\$5.00	\$2.50	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$7.50
Rainier/Longview/ Kelso		\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50	\$7.50	\$5.00
Vernonia		\$5.00	\$5.00	\$7.50	\$2.50	\$5.00
Westport / Clatskanie		\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$2.50

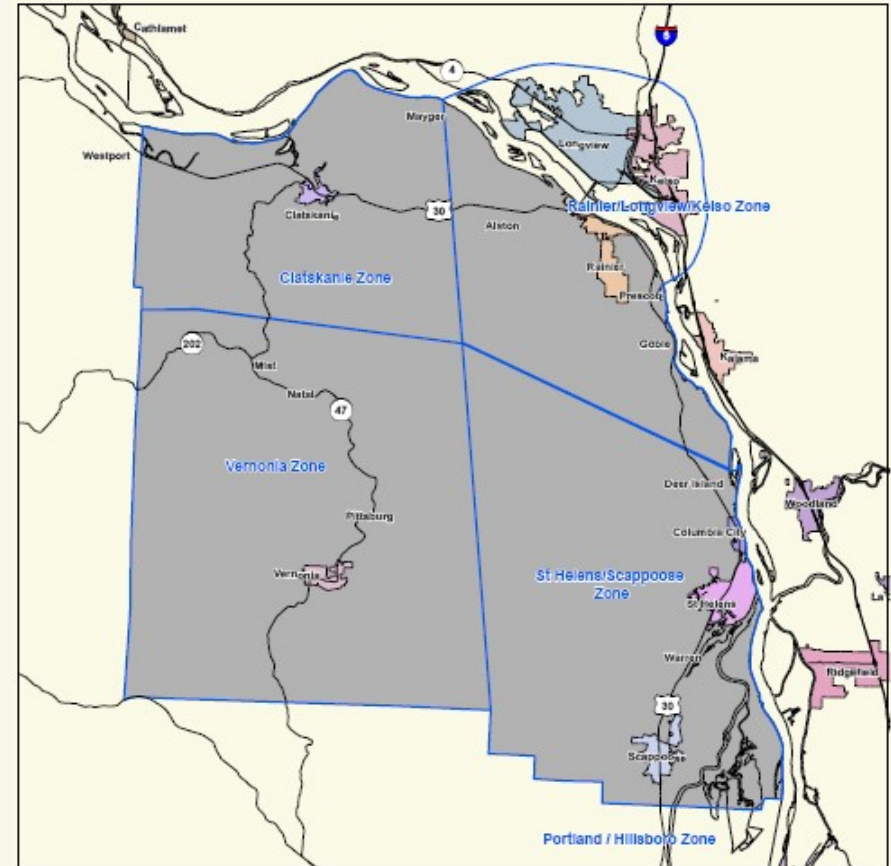
Monthly Passes

Monthly Pass Type	Cost
Two-Zone	\$140.00
Three-Zone	\$210.00
All-Zone	\$280.00



Fare Simplification Proposal

- **Strategy**
 - Zone fares reflect distance traveled
- **Fares**
 - \$2.50 for one zone; add \$2.50 for each additional zone
- **Five Zones**
 - Scappoose/St. Helens, Vernonia, Clatskanie, Ranier/ Longview, Portland/ Hillsboro
- **Dial-a-Ride**
 - Based on time to complete the trip; set at time of booking



Meeting Continues

- **This concludes the formal presentation**
- **Let us know your thoughts on these proposals!**
 - Priorities for service
 - Future funding requirements and source options based on desired level of service
 - Fare structure/simplification

