

Salem Area Mass Transit District  
Board of Directors

~ **SPECIAL MEETING**~

Monday, April 24, 2017  
5:05 PM – 5:55 PM

Courthouse Square – Senator Hearing Room  
555 Court Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** President Bob Krebs; Directors Kathy Lincoln, Colleen Busch, John Hammill, and  
**Board** Marcia Kelley **ABSENT:** Directors Jerry Thompson and Steve Evans

**Staff** Allan Pollock, General Manager; David Trimble, Chief Operating Officer; Steve  
Dickey, Director of Transportation Development; Paula Dixon, Director of  
Administration; Patricia Feeny, Director of Communication; and Linda Galeazzi,  
Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

**Guests** Mike Jaffe, Program Director for Transportation, Mid-Willamette Valley Council of  
Governments (MWVCOG); Dale Penn, SAMTD Legislative Advocate, CFM Strategic  
Communications; and Russ Beaton, SAMTD Budget Committee

**1. CALL TO ORDER** **5:05 PM**  
President Krebs called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

**2. LEGISLATIVE CONCEPT PROPOSED FOR MPO TAXING DISTRICTS AS PART OF STATE  
TRANSPORTATION BILL**

**Staff Report:** Pages 1-5 of the agenda

**Presenter:** Mike Jaffe, Program Director, MWVCOG

Board members received a briefing on a legislative concept (LC) introduced by Senator Boquist. The LC has not yet been submitted as a bill to be considered by the legislators. Senator Boquist proposes that a new excise tax on new vehicles sold in Oregon would go into a State Infrastructure Fund. A 1% excise tax raises \$73 million per year. Funds would be used for congestion and modernization projects in the Portland Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) area and other parts of the state.

Senator Boquist also supports the establishment of state-designated MPO area taxing districts. Enough revenue could be produced by adding a fuel tax and/or vehicle registration so that the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the MPOs could share in the cost of major congestion relief transportation projects. A description of Senator Boquist's proposed concept is described on pages 1-2 in the special meeting agenda, and in the April 25, 2017 SKATS Policy Committee Meeting Agenda under agenda item *G. Potential Revenue Districts for MPO Areas* (by Mike Jaffe).

The LC is of particular interest to the Salem Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS). The MPO policy boards from Portland Metro and Central Lane support the MPO taxing district proposal and the cost sharing paradigm. They have asked for support from the Oregon Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPOC). The SKATS policy committee meets on April 25 to discuss their concerns, and approval or disapproval of this proposed concept prior to the April 26 OMPOC meeting where there will be further discussion.

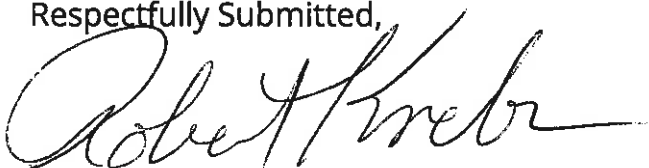
President Krebs provided the Board with a copy of positions for the Board to consider (herein entered into the minutes as Attachment A).

**Direction:** The Board provided feedback to President Krebs who is the District's SKATS and MPO representative. Board members were neutral on the MPO taxing district LC as long as it did not compete with the District's available funding sources. The new vehicle excise tax proposed is designated for roads and highways and is not available for transit funding. Board members oppose giving the MPOs authority to use property taxes as a revenue source. They support a dedicated statewide funding source for transit to be included in the transportation funding bill. An employee payroll tax proposed by the legislature at a one-tenth of one percent tax rate would support all transit agencies statewide. This tax would be about \$1.60 a month for a minimum wage employee working 40 hours a week.

### 3. SPECIAL MEETING ADJOURNED

5:55 PM

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Krebs, President  
SAMTD Board of Directors