

“How will we get there?” Bend 2030 to Host a Public Forum on Transportation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BEND, Feb. 24, 2015—With an estimated 30,000 more people—and their cars—moving to Bend in the next 10 years, we have to find better ways to get around. Already traffic is jamming up busy intersections for blocks and with little funding for roads, experts predict lines of cars stretching for miles by the year 2030.

Nobody wants congestion, pollution, or road rage, but these concerns may become our reality if we don't plan well. But what *is* our collective transportation vision? Better public transit? More bike paths and sidewalks? Wider roads? And most importantly: How will we pay for it?

Bend 2030 wants your help as we tackle the transportation issue at a **free public forum scheduled for Saturday, April 11, at Ponderosa Elementary School from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** This interactive event is part of **Bend 2030's Livability Series**, which brings our community together to find solutions to our most challenging issues. Seniors, students, bike riders, daily commuters, families and everyone else is invited to join us as we take the future of Bend into our own hands.

“How we respond today to Bend's future needs will have an enormous impact on one of the big reasons people move here in the first place—livability,” said Jim Roberts, Bend 2030 Transportation Forum committee member and Vice-Chair, City of Bend Transportation Safety Advisory Committee. “Traffic impacts our livability every hour of every day. This forum will let our community help shape traffic solutions that provide the livability we want, the convenience we desire and the safety we all need.”

Attendees of the April 11 forum will get a firsthand look at just how much our city is poised to grow in the coming years. They'll hear about the possible solutions to alleviating traffic concerns—is it a gas tax or a transit funding district? And they'll get a say in shaping Bend 2030's recommendations to decision-makers on the right way to move ahead on our transportation issues.

Already Bend 2030 is making sure decision-makers are hearing from the public through it's Transportation Forum Committee, a group made up made of Bend residents, Bend 2030 board members and representatives from various transportation-related organizations. This group is advised on technical matters by city, county, and regional government representatives involved in transportation to help us make sure we have all the information we need to lead this critical conversation.

Registration is required for this free event. Sign up at _____.

Funding for the Bend 2030 Livability Series is provided by the generous support of the Leadership Alliance of Bend 2030, including BendBroadband, Bend Park and Recreation District, Brooks Resources, Central Oregon Community College, the City of Bend, Deschutes Brewery, OSU-Cascades, St. Charles Health System, U.S. Forest Service, and Harcourt The Garner Group/Sunwest Builders/NorthWest Crossing. Funding for the Transportation Forum is also provided by Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council.

For more information about Bend 2030 visit Bend2030.org and [Facebook.com/Bend2030](https://www.facebook.com/Bend2030).

* Source: Deschutes County Coordinated Population Forecast 2000-2025

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