



June 18, 2009

Salem Keizer Transit Siting Study is Complete: Keizer Locations for Public Review

Salem-Keizer Transit District is hosting a community open house in Keizer on March 3rd. The meeting will be held at the McNary High School Cafeteria, 595 Chemawa Rd, Keizer OR 97303. At this meeting, the final technical analysis of potential sites in Keizer will be made available for review and comment.

This meeting follows several over the past eighteen months. Based on community input and review during that period, two sites ranked high; one at the southeast corner of River and Chemawa Roads (Safeway parking lot) and the other at Chemawa/Bailey Road. The Keizer City Council and Transit District Board have both expressed an interest in the Chemawa/Bailey Road site, although a final decision will not be made until the public weighs in and further design work and analyses are completed. The final decision will be made by the Transit District Board of Directors.

The meeting on March 3rd will also initiate an environmental study. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires such a study before a transit center site decision can be made. The study will consider:

- Impacts to residents and businesses
- Impacts to wildlife, wetlands, rivers and streams
- Impacts to low-income or minority communities

As part of its continuing efforts to enhance mobility in the Salem/Keizer area, the Salem-Keizer Transit District/Cherriots has identified an operating model called the "3C System", focusing on increased circulators, connecting to transit centers, which are served by frequent, high-capacity corridor routes. A critical part of the 3C system is the construction of two new transit centers, one in Keizer in the vicinity of Chemawa Road and River Road N. and a second in South Salem. The Transit District is moving forward with the Keizer location first because of funding made available through a state-funded Connect Oregon II grant.

The public can stay involved by contacting the District's public involvement consultant, Eryn Kehe with JLA Public Involvement or by sending contact information to Stephen Dickey at Salem-Keizer Transit.

For special accommodations please contact the Transit District by March 2, 2009.