

# Cascades East Transit

Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council



COIC



May 2025 Update  
Bob Townsend, Transit Director

# CET Update May 2025

- CET Initiatives
- Fares
- Logo/Mission
- Legislative Update



# 2025 Initiatives Overview

**June 2:** Weekday extended hours in Bend, 6:00 am – 7:30 pm

**July:** Transit Pass Introduction

**July 14:** Launch of Route 8 in northeast Bend, Potentially Airport Direct Route Launch, Reviewing Deschutes River Woods

**Sept 1:** Transit Pass requirement

**October 1:** Fare Implementation (Targeting Board Approval in August)



# CET Fare Policy

## Solicitation and Consideration of Public Comment

- CET will post proposed changes to fares or service on the CET webpage a minimum 30 days before formal COIC Board Approval is requested and include opportunities for electronic feedback.
- CET will present the proposed changes to fares or service at the Regional Public Transit Advisory Committee Meeting (RPTAC) and solicit feedback from the committee and public members in attendance.
- CET will use other public meetings to share proposals and seek feedback. These meetings may include City Council Meetings, County Commission Meetings, Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Committee Meetings, and other relevant public meetings.
- Information will also be shared on buses with instructions on where feedback can be received.
- CET will utilize appropriate press outlets to provide broader awareness as well as instructions on providing feedback.





# CET Fare Policy

## Public Hearing (Target August 7<sup>th</sup>)

- A public hearing will be held at a Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council Board Meeting or Regional Public Transit Advisory Committee prior to the implementation of fare increases, and/or any major service reductions as defined in this policy.
- Notice of the hearing time and place shall be given by publication in local newspaper(s) at least 10 days in advance of the public hearing. The notice shall generally describe the nature of the proposed action, shall state the public comments will be accepted prior to and at the hearing, shall provide an address for the submission of comments prior to the hearing, and shall describe the means of obtaining additional information about the proposed actions.
- The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with all applicable public meeting laws, regulations, and COIC procedures.



# CET Fare Background

Fare Type	CET (Draft Proposed)	Rogue Valley	Cherriots	Tri-Met	Lane
Per Trip	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.60	\$ 2.80	\$ 1.75
Max Daily Rate	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 3.25	\$ 5.60	\$ 3.50
Monthly Pass	\$ 60.00	\$ 56.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 50.00
Annual Pass	\$ 500.00	N/A	\$ 540.00	N/A	N/A
Reduced Fare	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
Reduction Qualifications	See CET-10 Supplemental	62 Years and Older Passengers 10-17 Medicare Cardholders Disabled Veterans FTA Disability	Medicare Card Holders Seniors 60 and Older FTA Disability	OHA/Medicaid Free & Reduced Lunch HUD Housing Choice Voucher WIC Home Energy Assistance Income	Medicare Veterans FTA Disability
Dial a Ride	\$ 4.00	4.00	\$ 3.20	\$ 2.80	\$ 3.50
Dial a Ride Month	N/A	N/A	\$ 90.00	N/A	N/A
Last Fare Changes	No Current Fares	2020	2023	2024	2021
Alternate Funding	None	Property Tax	Property Tax	District Payroll Tax	District Payroll Tax

# CET Draft Fare Guidelines

## Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Governed Routes

Route	One-Way Trip	Max Daily Rate	Monthly Pass	Annual Pass
Bend Fixed*	\$ 2.00	\$ 6.00	\$60.00	\$500.00
Community Connector*	\$ 2.00	\$ 6.00	\$60.00	\$500.00
Redmond Flex Routes*	\$ 2.00	\$ 6.00	\$60.00	\$500.00
Rural Routes (Shuttles)*	\$ 2.00	\$ 6.00	\$60.00	\$500.00
Bend Dial a Ride	\$ 4.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Redmond Dial a Ride	\$ 4.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rural Dial a Ride	\$ 4.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bend-Redmond Airport	\$ 15.00	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*Eligible for Reduced Fare Program, Children 5 & Under Ride free if accompanied by adult, all operate under the same umbrella for max rate, monthly pass, and annual pass.

## Recreational Routes

Route	One-Way Trip	Round Trip	Season Pass
Bachelor	\$ 7.00	\$ 12.00	\$299
Lava Butte (Up & Down)	\$ 5.00	N/A	N/A
Ride the River (All Day)	\$ 5.00	N/A	N/A
Transit to Trails	\$ 10.00	N/A	N/A



# CET Draft Fare Guidelines

## Individual Fare Reductions

- Persons Aged 60 and older
- Medicare Cardholders
- Persons who receive Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Benefits as long as they continue to receive these benefits.
- Disabled Veterans
- Students
- People who meet the FTA definition of people with disabilities “*Means any individual who, by reason of illness, injury, age, and congenital malfunction, or other permanent or temporary disability (including any individual who is a wheelchair user or has semi-ambulatory capabilities), are unable, without special facilities or special planning or design to utilize mass transportation and services as effective as persons who are not so affected.*”
- Low Income





# CET Draft Fare Guidelines

## Group Fare Reductions

- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (CTWS) Tribal Members
- Private Non-Profit Agencies
  - 501-3-c and/or 501-19-c, or approved equivalent verification
  - Annual Contract/Agreement with COIC/CET Required
- Employers, Institutions, or Schools with more than 10 monthly or annual pass purchases.
  - Annual Contract/Agreement with COIC/CET Required



# CET Logo Update



# 2025 Transit Legislative Updates - QE

**184.752 Definitions.** *As used in ORS 184.752 to 184.766:*

*(1) “Public transportation service provider” includes a qualified entity and a city, county, special district, intergovernmental entity or any other political subdivision or municipal or public corporation that provides public transportation services and is not otherwise described in subsection (2) of this section.*

*(2) “Qualified entity” means the following:*

*(a) Counties in which no part of a mass transit district or transportation district exists;*

*(b) Mass transit districts organized under ORS 267.010 to 267.394;*

*(c) Transportation districts organized under ORS 267.510 to 267.650; and*

*(d) Federally recognized Indian tribes. [2017 c.750 §122m]*

***(e) Counties and/or Federally recognized Indian Tribes can designate a Public Transportation Service Provider as the designated QE.***



# 2025 Transit Legislative Updates - QE

- **ODOT STIF Rules Advisory Committee**

- Working on rule changes that minimize administrative oversight being performed multiple times

- **HB2795 – Changes STIF Program and definition of qualified entity**

- The bill's current language does not benefit CET or the tri-county area as currently written
- Deschutes County has provided letters to legislators to change language reflecting QE legislation matching Central Oregon needs

- **COIC Board Letter requesting legislation to change QE language**

*“We are proposing adding language to the existing Transportation Bill, or any other relevant bill that would modify the definition of QE to allow the option for counties, which are the current designated QE’s to designate a Public Transportation Service Provider as the designated QE for their county.”*





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# QUESTIONS?