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Marshall Coba

CobaCo, LLC Gov't Relations

Transportation legislation update – Coba's Capitol Comments

No hearings will be held the week of June 12 by the Joint Transportation Committee to allow, among many issues, an opportunity for members of the Committee to talk amongst themselves to better understand the 300-page HB 2017 and to clarify where they stand on certain issues in the bill. The hearing on June 8 was a minor meltdown as various members were behind on their understanding of the intimate details and how these details interacted with the overall bill. While the time is tight to complete and pass the bill, this week is extremely crucial to allow committee members to better understand, comprehend and ultimately vote AYE on the bill.

Outstanding issues include:

- Electric car charging stations
- Fifty cent addition to each Uber and Lyft ride (to essentially buy a statewide policy on Transportation Network Companies instead of allowing a city by city local ordinance)
- Clean fuel standard changes
- Size of the package as too big for some members
- Impact to weight mile taxes for truckers
- The .75% tax on new and used car purchases to help fund transit
- Payroll tax paid by employees to fund transit
- Other issues of note to some interest group who is working for a better outcome

The next hearing of the Joint Transportation Committee may be Monday, June 19 if the amendments are ready by then. If not, the legislature is working under a one-hour rule so they can meet with simply one-hour public notice of the next committee meeting. This is standard late in the session to move backlogs of bills.

Governor Brown has fully engaged in the discussions and has met with leadership and has made phone calls to key interest group board members as well. Sen. Courtney is pushing hard and the hold-up according to some reports is Speaker Kotek who wants to make sure the tax reform proposal passes first. As of this writing the transportation package has enough votes to pass if it gets out of the Joint Committee while the new tax reform gross receipts tax does not have enough votes to pass both houses.

The session must end by July 10. The next few weeks will be the ultimate pressure cooker for the leaders of the Joint Transportation Committee, legislative leaders and the Governor to see if they get the deal done.



For a complete list of member firms please visit our [ONLINE DIRECTORY](#).

New member spotlight – WELCOME!

Parker, Smith & Feek

Welcome new affiliate member firm Parker, Smith & Feek (www.psfinc.com). Founded in 1937, Parker, Smith & Feek is one of the 100 largest insurance brokerage firms in the nation. Privately owned and headquartered in the Pacific Northwest, the firm has world class resources with global reach. Their primary focus is the protection of their clients' assets. To that end, they offer business insurance solutions across multiple industry sectors. From employee benefits and surety to claims management and workers' compensation, their insurance and risk management knowledge and service expertise are unmatched. Firm representative is **Janae T. Sorenson**, Vice President and Account Executive in the firm's Portland Benefits Department.

UPCOMING

- August 10 – 9th Annual LDG BBQ @ Skyline Tavern **Sponsors needed!** Contact mwebber@acecOregon.org for details .



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- **LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER!** June 20 – [ACEC & SAME “Meet the Chiefs”](#)

Comments? Questions? Please e-mail mwebber@acecOregon.org or adavis@acecOregon.org.

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