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Marshall Coba

CobaCo, LLC Gov't Relations
ACEC Oregon lobbyist

Transportation package update – Coba's Capitol Comments

Agreement on the clean fuels standards between environmental advocates and key republican legislators has cleared the way for final negotiations on the transportation package in Salem. The clean fuels agreement was a major obstacle averted as the environmentalist groups had created a political action committee to fund a campaign referring the transportation package if it passed with a standard they didn't agree with. Now, with the agreement, they can shut down the PAC and return the \$250, 000 in seed funding they had accumulated.

The next and possibly final amendments to HB 2017 will be available tomorrow, Thursday, June 28, late in the afternoon. The more than 325-page document will be available at the Joint Committee website and a possible work session could happen as soon as Saturday but more likely early next week to move the bill to the House floor.

<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Committees/JTPM/Overview>

Now that the amendments have been mostly finalized, the four co-chairs are retreating to their respective caucuses this week to educate and discuss amongst their peers. With enough votes expected from each caucus to pass the bill we can begin to assume that the package will pass and be signed by the Governor.

However, this is not the package we were celebrating earlier in the session. It is expected to be for 6-7 years and raise the gas tax twelve cents over that time with registration and title fee increases as well. Transit agencies will benefit from an employee payroll tax and purchasers of new bike and new cars will pay newly created taxes. Total annual revenue for highways will average \$480 million and not be the game-changing, congestion solution package we had been pushing for the past several years. The final project list will be available soon but Hwy. 217 north and south bound will be built for sure with uncertainty as of this writing for the timing and the certainty for the Rose Quarter intersection and I-205.

With just 12 days left in the session this bill needs to get finalized so the fiscal impact statements can be developed. ODOT staffing needs will be a major source of discussion from now until the '18 session with the staffing package expected to be implemented at that time. ACEC has worked closely with ODOT on needed core competencies including procurement and project management. This portion of the package will be very important to ACEC.

Opposition to the package has dwindled the past couple of weeks and now may be **Rep. Julie Parrish** or an anti-tax organization if anyone at all. AAA, truckers, environmentalists, car dealers and other groups have fallen off the referral concern list as their concerns were mitigated through a reduced package.

**THURS
August 10**

Click [HERE](#) to register.

Click [HERE](#) to see who's already registered.

WHEN
5:00 to 7:00 P.M.

WHERE
Skyline Tavern
8031 NW Skyline Road
Portland, OR 97229



Registration open!

RSVP today for the

9th Annual LDG BBQ

(Leadership Development Group)

Catch up with colleagues in the A/E/C industry while networking and noshing.

No cost to attend.

RSVP by Monday, August 7.

WHAT IS THE LDG and WHY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE?

The goal of the LDG (Leadership Development Group*) is to create opportunities for "Future Leaders" to engage in ACEC and build a foundation for future leadership within individual companies.

*All are welcome to participate, regardless of years of experience or position in firm!

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Photos from Networking Day golf tournament



Above, the GRI/DEA foursome stops by the PNCE Trust's hospitality tent. Pictured clockwise from left front are **Molly Davis** and **Dan Ilyn**, **David Evans and Associates, Inc.**; **Gene Tupper**, GRI; **Mary Green**, PNCE Trust; and **Nick Hatch**, GRI.



Epic Land Solutions, Inc. 



A foursome stops by Epic Land Solutions' tee for a refreshment. Pictured from left are **Rod Bliss, Christine Nickerson and Ben Garcia, Epic Land Solutions**; and golfer **Shannon Williams, WSP USA**.



Golfers pictured above, from left are **Jeff Morin, Willamette Print & Blueprint**; **Judy Hutchison, Northwest Bank**; and **Tim Oliver, Akana**.



Pictured above at Emerio Design's tee from left are **Reed Stauffer, Chartwell Financial Advisory; Rich Darland, PBS; Roy Hankins, Emerio Design; and Leslie Finnigan and Seth Hemelstrand, Universal Field Services.**



GeoEngineers' foursome. Pictured from left are **Gabe Crop and Bill Evonuk, Murraysmith; Tom Wharton, Port of Portland; and Greg Landau, GeoEngineers.**

UPCOMING



SAVE THE DATES!

[ACEC Oregon + Washington Fall Conference](#)

September 14-16, 2017

Sunriver Resort, Central Oregon

Reserve your room today!

Call 800-547-3922 (press 2 for lodging) and mention ACEC OR / WA Fall Conference 2017 when making your reservation. Our room block will be held until August 15, 2017. After that time we cannot guarantee accommodations at Sunriver.

NIGHTLY ROOM RATES

(Plus 9.8% taxes, 15% resort fee per room night and 1.8% state tax.)

- \$199 - Lodge Village Guestroom
- \$269 - Lodge Village Suite
- \$259 - River Lodge Guestroom

[ACEC Washington Upcoming Events](#) – ACEC Oregon members receive the member rate!

- August 11 - [Annual golf tournament](#)
- 2017-18 – [Core competencies for professionals](#) – Registration now open

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- July 20 – [SMPS presents “Boards, Bags and Brews”](#) summer fundraiser & corn hole tournament, benefitting local non-profit Portland Community Toolbank

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

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Upcoming events: http://www.acecoregon.org/calendar_list.asp.

ACEC Oregon is 115 member firms strong representing more than 3,500 employees!

Check out our online directory at http://www.acecoregon.org/AF_MemberDirectory.asp.



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