



Memorandum Date: September 1, 2023

Order Date: September 19, 2023

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

PRESENTED BY: Sasha Vartanian, Transportation Planning Supervisor

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: ORDER/In The Matter Of Confirming The Appointment Of One New Transportation Advisory Committee Member

I. MOTION

Move to adopt the Board Order confirming the appointment of Ken Kohl to the Transportation Advisory Committee.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

The Board is being asked to appoint one new member to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TrAC). The appointment is for an At-Large representative.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

In March, 2023, an At-Large member of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TrAC) resigned from the Committee. A recruitment effort was launched in March of 2023 and the opening was advertised. Additionally, a recruitment effort to identify a new North Eugene representative for Chair Farr's District; and a West Eugene representative for Commissioner Ceniga's District is ongoing until representatives are identified.

Two applications were submitted for the At-Large member during the open recruitment period. Staff, as well as the TrAC Chair and Vice Chair, held virtual interviews on July 27 and July 28 with each applicant to make an informed recommendation for filling the At-Large seat. The applicant pool was rich in experience, and it was difficult to make a recommendation for just one vacant seat.

Applicant Steve Jackson, a resident of Florence, is a retired bus operator and light rail operator from Valley Transportation Authority of Santa Clara County, California. Applicant, Ken Kohl ultimately stood out due to his breadth of experience as a civil engineer and project manager for the Oregon Department of Transportation; as well as his commitment to volunteerism, including his service on the budget committee of the Springfield School District. Per his application, “I believe that my unique qualifications and experience can assist the County in making decisions related to the transportation system that are cost effective and benefit all the citizens of the County.”

B. Policy Issues

None.

C. Board Goals

Appointment of one vacant TrAC position supports Lane County’s Strategic Plan, “Robust Infrastructure” Strategic Priority, and the three supporting Strategic Initiatives, including: Safe Transportation; Facility Maintenance & Management; and New Facility Development. Additional membership of the TrAC will help to meet this priority by supporting the Board and staff with timely and helpful recommendations regarding Lane County’s transportation system.

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

None.

E. Health Implications

None.

F. Analysis

Lane Manual 3.595 notes the following primary responsibility of the TrAC:

“Acts as a forum for public input into the County’s transportation system and serves as a liaison group in representing transportation concerns of the community to the Board and representing Board decisions to the community.”

The adopted bylaws note that TrAC membership consists of five members membership consists of five members appointed by individual Commissioners and two at-large members appointed by the Board.

Adoption of the recommended Board Order (attached) will help bring the TrAC closer to full membership.

G. Alternatives/Options

1. Approve Board Order appointing Ken Kohl to the Transportation Advisory Committee.

2. Direct staff to revise Board Order to identify a different appointee.
3. Do not adopt Board Order and provide staff with further direction.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the attached Board Order appointing Ken Kohl to the Transportation Advisory Committee.

V. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION

Upon approval of the Board Order, Ken Kohl will begin his term on Transportation Advisory Committee on September 27, 2023 and end on December 31, 2027.

VI. FOLLOW-UP

None.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

Order and Exhibits:

Application from Ken Kohl (*page 3 which contains personal information has been removed*) — Exhibit “A”

Application From Steve Jackson (*page 3 which contains personal information has been removed*) — Exhibit “B”

Contact Person: Sasha Vartanian, Ext. 6598

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO: 23-09-19-05

In The Matter Of Confirming The Appointment
Of One New Transportation Advisory
Committee Member

WHEREAS, the Member-at-Large Transportation Advisory Committee representative; has resigned; and

WHEREAS, Lane Manual 3.506 (2)(e) provides for appointments to non-mandated advisory committees by the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the necessary procedures of Lane Manual 3.506 (2) have been complied with; and

WHEREAS, applicant Ken Kohl meets the minimum requirements for appointment as an At-Large representative on the Transportation Advisory Committee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County **ORDERS** that the public record reflect that the following individual has been appointed to the Transportation Advisory Committee for the term indicated:

<u>Appointee</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Term Begins</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Ken Kohl	At-Large	September 27, 2023	December 31, 2027

ADOPTED this 19th day of September, 2023.

Pat Farr, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners



Lane County CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICATION

Page 1 of 4

APPLICANT'S NAME AND CITY: Ken Kohl, Springfield		DATE: 4/28/2023
NAME OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Transportation Advisory Committee		PLEASE CHECK ONE: ☒ New Applicant ☐ Reappointment

- 1. Give a brief description of the experience or training that qualifies you for membership on this advisory committee (If you wish, you may attach a resume or other pertinent material).**

Over 30 years experience as a registered civil engineer. The last 19 years of my career I was a project manager for the Oregon Department of Transportation, for which I managed a wide variety of capital improvement projects.

- 2. Why do you want to become a member of this committee, and what specific contributions do you hope to make?**

I value public service and feel that citizen participation is key to a functioning government. I believe that my unique qualifications and experience can assist the County in making decisions related to the transportation system that are cost effective and benefit all the citizens of the County.

- 3. List the community concerns related to this committee that you would like to see addressed if you are appointed.**

Traffic safety and improving the infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists.

- 4. Briefly describe your present or past involvement in relevant community groups. (Having no previous involvement will not disqualify you for appointment.)**

I don't have experience as part of a relevant community group. However, I have extensive experience in interacting with relevant community groups in my role as an ODOT project manager. In addition, I've been very active as a volunteer for our schools. I've been on multiple committees for my local school district, including serving over 16 years on the budget committee.

- 5. Lane County is committed to reflecting diverse cultures on its boards/committees and does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, religion, language, ethnicity, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expressions, veteran's status, or political beliefs in employment or in admission, treatment, or participation in its programs, services, and activities. If selected, how would you contribute to this effort?**

I recognize that I have had certain privileges and opportunities that have not been afforded to all of our citizens. I'd like to see that we provide many more opportunities to those that have been under represented.



Lane County CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICATION

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6. Are you currently serving on any Advisory Boards or Committees? If so, which ones?

Not for Lane County, but I am currently on the Springfield Public Schools Budget Committee.

7. Are you employed by, have any business, contractual arrangements or family connections with programs having contractual agreements with the County or that might be within the purview of the committee on which you are seeking appointment? (If there is a change in your circumstances, please advise the staff for the committee within 30 days.)

☒ No ☐

8. How did you learn about this vacancy? ☐ Newspaper ☐ Word of mouth ☒ Other:

9. In which County Commissioner District do you reside? Please check one:

☐ Unsure

☐ West Lane County

☐ Springfield

☐ South Eugene

☐ North Eugene

☒ East Lane County

The Board of Commissioners has adopted the following policy on reappointments:*

- a. Members of County advisory groups will serve a maximum of two consecutive terms when term lengths are three or more years in length.*
- b. The deadline for incumbent applications will be the same as the deadline for new applications.*

** Unless waived by the Board.*



**Lane County
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APPLICATION**

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Lane County does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, religion, language, ethnicity, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expressions, veteran's status, or political beliefs.

Signature of Applicant Ken Kohl Date: 4/28/2023

Except as noted above, all information provided as part of this application is a public record subject to disclosure.

**Please Return to: Lane County Administration
Public Service Building
125 East 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401**

NOTE: If you are not selected at this time, your application will be kept on file for 12 months from the date it was received and will be reconsidered as vacancies occur.



Lane County CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICATION

Page 1 of 4

APPLICANT'S NAME AND CITY: Steve Jackson		DATE: 04/24/2023
NAME OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Transportation (TRAC)		PLEASE CHECK ONE: ☒ New Applicant ☐ Reappointment

1. Give a brief description of the experience or training that qualifies you for membership on this advisory committee (If you wish, you may attach a resume or other pertinent material).

I retired last year after 26 years from the Valley Transportation Authority of Santa Clara Co. CA. Originally hired as a bus operator in 1995, I moved up to a Light Rail Operator, then trainer of new Operators. I then went to the position of Public Officer, Fare Inspector and finally ended up as a Light Rail Dispatcher. I have extensive experience in training, understanding transportation

2. Why do you want to become a member of this committee, and what specific contributions do you hope to make?

I enjoy giving back to my community (city/county) and did so where I came from and would like to do the same now that I retired to Florence, Oregon.

3. List the community concerns related to this committee that you would like to see addressed if you are appointed.

Transit service to Florence and Eugene Airport since local to me. But I wonder about service to other outer, small cities outside the Eugene/Springfield area and if their needs are being met accordingly. I would like to learn much more regarding road/bridge projects and overall efficiency of future plans and making the best recommendations based on intelligent discussion, consensus

4. Briefly describe your present or past involvement in relevant community groups. (Having no previous involvement will not disqualify you for appointment.)

Chairman of the Valley Transportation Authority Employee Advisory Committee. In this position at my company I was responsible for leading implementation of safety changes, company efficiencies, personnel morale boosting and grievance investigation.

5. Lane County is committed to reflecting diverse cultures on its boards/committees and does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, religion, language, ethnicity, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expressions, veteran's status, or political beliefs in employment or in admission, treatment, or participation in its programs, services, and activities. If selected, how would you contribute to this effort?

I come from a transit agency that was known to be the most diverse agency or company in Silicon Valley. I managed countless different personalities, races, and all other differences in the employees I worked with. In the 10 years of being a Public Officer, Fare Inspector where I was responsible for enforcing fare policy aboard the light rail system, I caught over 100 wanted felons



**Lane County
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APPLICATION**

Page 2 of 4

6. Are you currently serving on any Advisory Boards or Committees? If so, which ones?

NO

7. Are you employed by, have any business, contractual arrangements or family connections with programs having contractual agreements with the County or that might be within the purview of the committee on which you are seeking appointment? (If there is a change in your circumstances, please advise the staff for the committee within 30 days.)

☒ No ☐

8. How did you learn about this vacancy? ☐ Newspaper ☐ Word of mouth ☒ Other:

9. In which County Commissioner District do you reside? Please check one:

☐ Unsure

☒ West Lane County

☐ Springfield

☐ South Eugene

☐ North Eugene

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**Lane County
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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Signature of Applicant Steve Jackson Date: 04/24/2023

Except as noted above, all information provided as part of this application is a public record subject to disclosure.

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Eugene, OR 97401**

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