

July 16, 2024

Lane Transit District Eugene, OR

Re: Testimony for Joint Committee on Transportation

Dear Committee,

Hosea Youth Services operates a day use resource center in Eugene, OR., for homeless and vulnerable young people ages 16-24. We are open five days a week and offer two hearty meals a day, clothing, toiletries, showers, laundry and many other physical services. Ultimately, we are striving to develop relationships, learn stories and provide whatever assistance we can in helping our young guests to get off the streets and to pursue lives of health and purpose.

In 2021, we served 450 different young people. In 2022 we had 500 different guests and in 2023 we had 620 different guests. We average over 40 different guests per day.

From July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, we purchased 4800 single ride bus passes and 120 monthly passes, totaling approximately \$3600. Since we receive a 75% discount, total cost to us would have been \$14,400, which is certainly not an amount we could afford. This service we provide our young guests is vital as they strive to work toward lives of self-sufficiency.

We greatly appreciate the STIF transit funds and the very valuable service it provides our young guests.

Most Sincerely,

Brad Bills
Hosea Youth Services
Executive Director
brad@hoseayouth.org

