



Working together to plan for the future

News Release

September 16, 2015

Media Contact: Amy Luft, 208/475-2229

COMPASS Education Series Presents:
Funding Transportation into the Future...
Oregon Launches a User Fee Designed to Replace the Gas Tax

Meridian, ID – Have you heard talk about vehicle miles traveled fees? Do you wonder what they are and what they might mean to you? Do you wonder about privacy and equity?

If so, then join the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) as it welcomes Ms. Colleen Gants, Co-President of PRR, on Thursday, September 24, 2015, to discuss Oregon's new road usage charge program — "OreGO."

Oregon is into the third month of a groundbreaking new way to fund transportation improvements — a system based on vehicle miles traveled rather than a traditional gas tax. Oregon has studied and tested similar pilot programs over the past 12 years and is the first state in the nation to launch a payment system based on miles driven. Colleen Gants, with PRR, has been working with the Oregon Department of Transportation to research public perception, introduce the new system, explain the need, and launch a superior customer experience. She will review successes, challenges, and trends that customers and the OReGO implementation team have experienced thus far.

The presentation is free and open to the public.

- Thursday, September 24, 2015
- COMPASS; 700 NE 2nd Street, Meridian (first floor Board room)
- 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm reception
- 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm presentation and discussion
- **FREE!** Please RSVP to ctorkelson@compassidaho.org or 208/475-2232

Ms. Gants will provide a second presentation titled "Lessons Learned in Oregon's Pioneering Road User Fee Program – OReGO" from 8:30 am to 10:30 am, Friday, September 25, 2015, at the same location. This presentation is also free and open to the public, but will have a more technical focus. Please RSVP as above.

Colleen Gants is PRR's transportation and tolling expert, with more than 25 years of community relations, marketing, and public affairs experience. As Co-President at PRR she leads public involvement and communications for major design-build, tolling, and infrastructure projects on both coasts, integrating with and serving as an extension of her clients.

This presentation is being offered by COMPASS as part of its annual education series. For more information on the past presentations, visit

www.compassidaho.org/comm/publicevents_2015_ed_series.htm.