



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Public Transit for Banks and North Plains**

Getting to and from Portland just got a whole lot easier for residents of the cities of Banks and North Plains in Washington County. As of September 13, 2009, Tillamook County Transportation District (TCTD) WAVE buses began stopping in Banks and North Plains four times per day, Monday through Saturday, and twice on Sundays.

This expanded service is a result of coordination between Ride Connection, TCTD, and representatives from the two cities. In particular, Ride Connection Service Specialist, Terry Watson, and TCTD General Manager, Matt Mumford, worked tirelessly for the past year to bring intercity service to the cities.

"Terry has done an amazing job to connect all the dots in order to make this happen. Thanks also goes out to Matt Mumford and to Jim Hough, Banks City Manager, David Hatcher, Mayor of North Plains and Don Otterman, North Plains City Manager for their perseverance," said Julie Wilcke, Ride Connection's Chief Operating Officer.

There is no fare as Ride Connection pays TCTD for all rides between Banks and North Plains and connections to/from TriMet in Washington and Multnomah Counties. Riders wishing to travel on Wave buses to/from destinations west of Banks (Tillamook and beyond) are responsible for their own cash fare.

### **Additional Connections for Banks and North Plains riders beginning in spring 2010**

Ride Connection plans to provide additional regular route (no fare) service in early 2010 to compliment the TCTD service times. At this point the preliminary plans are to add early morning and early evening stops (Monday through Friday) in Banks and North Plains connecting with TriMet at the Hillsboro Transit Center. Please contact Terry Watson (503-528-1732) at Ride Connection for more information. A new 14-passenger accessible gas/hybrid assist bus will be assigned to this service. The bus was purchased with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds via ODOT Public Transit.

### **Bus shelters for Banks and North Plains are on the way**

Ride Connection acquired a grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) via ODOT Public Transit to place bus shelters in Banks and North Plains. The shelters should be in place by spring 2010 (at Log Cabin Park in Banks and the North Plains Senior Center).

**For more information**

Please call the Ride Connection Service Center at (503) 226-0700 M-F 7:30 am-6:00 pm or visit our website at: [www.rideconnection.org](http://www.rideconnection.org). For more information about TCTD Wave service please call (800) 815-8283 8:00 am-5:00 pm M-F or visit their web site at [www.tillamookbus.com](http://www.tillamookbus.com).

**Media Contact**

Lydia Corran, Outreach and Development Specialist

503.528.1761

lcorran@rideconnection.org

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*About Ride Connection*

Ride Connection, a private, non-profit organization collaborates with a network of over 30 partners in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties to provide quality transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities. Ride Connection offers essential transportation services and resources ranging from community shuttles, public transit training to door-to-door service, primarily allowing older adults and people with disabilities to remain independent and mobile. Throughout the past year, Ride Connection has provided over 371,000 rides to more than 10,500 individuals.