



Ride CONNECTION

Annual Report 2007



"To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs"

TRANSPORTATION

Glancing Back, Focusing Forward

“The best way to predict the future is to invent it.”—Alan Kay

Dear Ride Connection Friends,

Throughout this annual report, you will find our reflections on the previous year. These reflections of the past are vital to our understanding of where we are headed. This year brought many exciting opportunities for individuals, partner agencies, programs and Ride Connection as a whole. We outgrew our old building and moved into the rapidly developing South Waterfront area. We added staff members, developed new partnerships, began new programs or re-imagined old ones, and through all of this, started to re-think the meaning of “transportation”.



Elaine Wells
Executive Director

There is no doubt that the more than 350,000 rides that we provide annually are the cornerstone of our community transportation programs. But what if we could do more? What if we could help our communities and its members re-envision transportation as not “just” car or bus, all or nothing, but as the whole spectrum of transportation opportunities? What if we could expand our programs to include services for anyone who needs it, not just seniors or people with disabilities? What if we could become **the** transportation resource for everyone---cyclists, pedestrians, transit users, as well as novice and experienced drivers? What if in doing those things we also helped people improve their health and shrink their environmental footprints? These “what ifs” are the future we are inventing. Ride Connection is uniquely poised to become the place where people go for reliable transportation resources. There is no doubt in my mind that the committed staff, volunteers and partner agencies of Ride Connection can and will accomplish our vision, but it will take time, and we can’t do it alone. We need *you*. We need your talents, your time and yes, your resources. Please consider inventing the future with us; if our past is any indication, you’re going to have an amazing ride!

Sincerely,

Elaine Wells

HIGHLIGHT

“To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs”

- ➔ Ride Connection moved to its new facility in the South Waterfront area.
- ➔ Received nine retired LIFT vehicles from TriMet along with a contract to cover the cost of insurance, maintenance, securements and logos. These vehicles were then passed along to both current and new partner agencies.
- ➔ Received delivery of three new minivans and four minibuses for our partner agencies.
- ➔ Accepted 245 new drivers (a 26% increase over FY05-06), bringing our total of drivers and concierges to 630 for the fiscal year.
- ➔ Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) services were re-established in rural Washington County.
- ➔ A new “Floor of Service” model was implemented in urban Washington County. Under this model, volunteer capacity is supplemented with paid driver rides in order to improve efficiency and reduce the number of turndowns. A directory of transportation services by zip code was added to the Ride Connection web site.
- ➔ A total of 458 people were trained in Ride Connection’s required training programs. New curriculum was written for the passenger Assistance class (which is now titled The Best Ride: A Passenger Care and Assistance Workshop). The WorkLink program trained 1,246 low income wage earners and job seekers in Washington County and Multnomah County about all commute transportation options.
- ➔ The RideWise travel training program succeeded in training 93% of participants who entered the program to become independent travelers. The total annualized fixed-route trips taken by these independent travelers was 29,692.

MOVING FORWARD

“To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs”

Historically Ride Connection has been known for providing door-to-door rides to older adults and people with disabilities throughout the Tri-County area. While this continues to be a major part of what we do, we are excited to be moving in a new direction and working to expand our transportation services.

Our goal is to become a single point of information for transportation throughout the region. At the same time we are working with many different organizations to develop and implement new low-cost transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities. These new services then become a part of Ride Connection’s continuum of transportation services.

In an effort to become a one call transportation resource, we have been gathering information on all transportation services in the region. In addition to this information being posted on our website (www.rideconnection.org), our Travel Navigators in the Ride Connection Service Center will be using it as a resource when assisting customers. In addition, during next fiscal year, our Travel Navigators will receive extensive training in over-the-phone trip planning using all transportation available, including fixed route service. If a rider is unfamiliar with fixed route public transportation and nervous about riding alone, they will be referred to our RideWise program for personalized travel training.

RideWise is a collaborative effort between TriMet and Ride Connection to promote the independent travel of older adults and people with disabilities by providing access to information, training and support.

In addition to our RideWise travel training program, Ride Connection’s continuum of services has expanded to include Rider’s Clubs, a retired TriMet LIFT vehicle program, a shared vehicle program, ride referral and information services, and our traditional door-to-door service.

This is an ongoing process. We continue to work with organizations and community members in an effort to gather information on existing services and to develop and implement new and innovative transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities.

RIDEWISE

"To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs"

RideWise staff travel trainers provided travel instruction to 123 individuals with 111 of them becoming successful, independent travelers. Contracted Orientation & Mobility Specialists through the Oregon Commission for the Blind trained an additional 10 individuals bringing the total to 121 independent travelers which is a 58% increase from one year prior.



RideWise also supported an additional 865 individuals by providing group travel training on 57 separate outings. The participants on these group outings include students from local area transition programs as well as older adults from senior centers and retirement communities.

Seven additional volunteer Ride Ambassadors joined the program this year bringing the total number of volunteers assisting individuals with independent mobility to 13. Volunteer Ride Ambassadors contributed 442 hours last year.



The RideWise volunteer Ride Ambassadors also supported 6 groups of older adults through the Rider's Club concept. These groups, active throughout the year, went on 24 transit adventures involving 244 participants.

Support of our local high school transition programs continued this year. Our PASS program supported 65

teachers in 3 local school districts to assist 485 students in independent mobility.

CONNECTIONS

"To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs"

Last year Ride Connection worked with over 30 providers to schedule over 352,000 rides for more than 10,000 people! Ride Connection is about connecting with agencies around our community to ensure that people get to where they need to go. Last year four new agencies joined forces with Ride Connection to provide needed rides in the Tri-County area:

Michael's Place is a nonprofit agency dedicated to providing opportunities for people with special needs to work and play with miniature horses. Participants build skills to take care of and handle horses, and are given the opportunity to exhibit them at horse shows! These skills help build self-esteem, confidence, socialization, and acceptance, and create the opportunity to be a productive individual recognized for accomplishments. So far, their vehicle has helped them take trips to local businesses such as feed and farm stores as well as to Hagg Lake for fishing, and a trip to a pumpkin patch.

PASS (Parents for Alternative Solutions) is a grassroots nonprofit organization founded by parents of adults with developmental disabilities to provide recreational, social, learning and respite services in the Portland metro area. Their Ride Connection retired TriMet LIFT vehicle has helped people get out and about to local recreation spots such as Sauvie Island, Mt. Tabor Park, Multnomah Falls, and the movies.

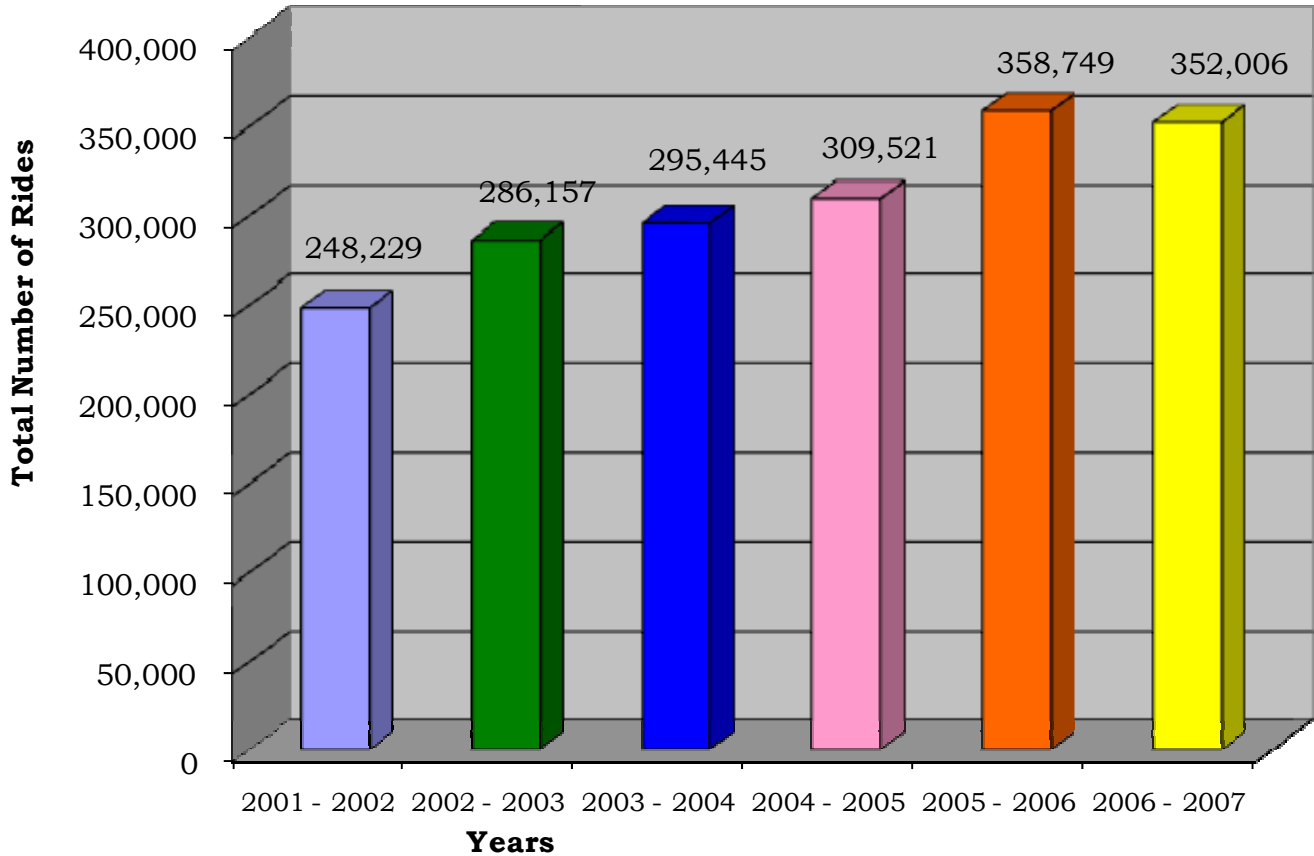
Emmanuel Temple Church in North Portland, is a church dedicated to transforming the lives of Portland individuals. So far their two Ride Connection retired TriMet LIFT vehicles have enabled them to bring people to senior outings, church functions and special events.

Chestnut Lane Assisted Living provides personal services and assisted care for Deaf and Deaf-Blind Individuals, supporting independence and privacy while serving the unique needs of the residents. Their new vehicle has taken residents to places such as the Macaw Bird Sanctuary, the Jantzen Beach Mall, and the senior center for recreational activities.

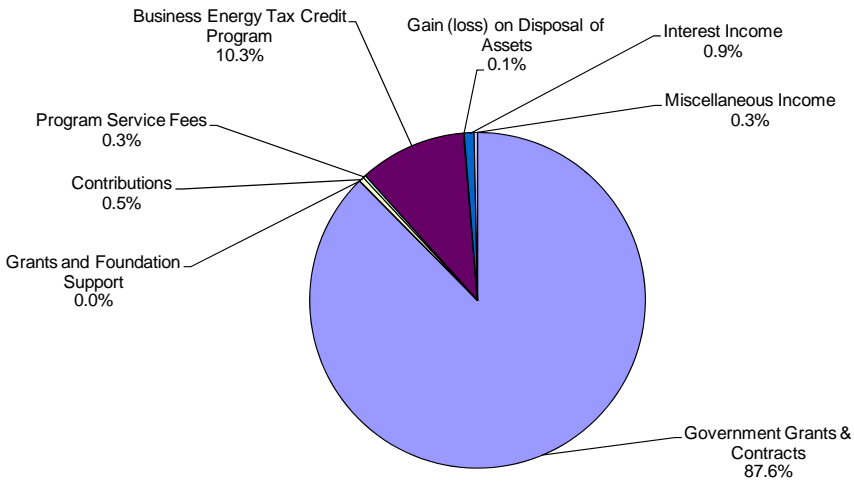
FINANCIAL

"To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs"

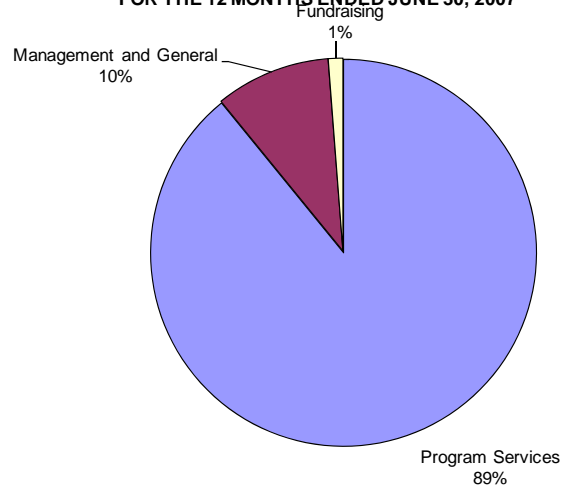
Ridership



**RIDE CONNECTION, INC.
SOURCE OF REVENUE AND SUPPORT
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2007**



**RIDE CONNECTION, INC.
DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENSES
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2007**



FINANCIAL

"To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs"

ASSETS			REVENUE & SUPPORT		
	2007	2006		2007	2006
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 2,606,583	\$476,376	Government grants & Contracts	\$5,475,054	\$2,791,207
Accounts receivable			Grants & Foundation Support	\$ 2,250	\$ 22,500
Grants & contracts receivable	\$ 465,026	\$665,874	Contributions	\$ 28,165	\$ 63,832
Prepaid expenses	\$ 78,355	\$ 61,881	Program Service Fees	\$ 17,819	\$ 11,159
Lease deposit	\$ 34,092	\$ 4,621	Business Energy	\$ 644,427	\$ 295,441
Property & equipment	\$ 1,765,545	\$1,937,800	Tax Credit Program		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 4,949,601	\$3,146,552	Gain (loss) on Disposal of Assets	\$ 4,314	\$ 15,885
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS			Interest Income	\$ 58,949	\$ 11,981
	2007	2006	Miscellaneous Income	\$ 20,273	\$ 25,696
Accounts payable	\$ 267,802	\$406,343	Total Revenue & Support	\$6,251,251	\$3,237,701
Credit cards payable	\$ 92,259	\$ 89,078	EXPENSES		
Accrued vacation	\$ 53,645	\$ 39,618		2007	2006
Total liabilities	\$413,706	\$535,039	Program Service	\$3,856,163	\$3,793,431
Net Assets			Management & General	\$ 417,672	\$ 373,980
Unrestricted			Fundraising	\$ 53,034	\$ 62,834
Available for operations	\$1,192,559	\$ 1,877	Total Expenses	\$4,326,869	\$4,230,245
Property & equipment	\$ 115,320	\$192,504	Increase in Net Assets	\$1,924,382	\$ (992,544)
Temporarily restricted	\$3,228,016	\$2,417,132	Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$2,611,513	\$3,604,057
Total Net Assets	\$4,535,895	\$2,611,513	Net Assets at End of Year	\$4,535,895	\$2,611,513
Total liabilities & Net Assets	\$4,949,601	\$ 3,146,552			

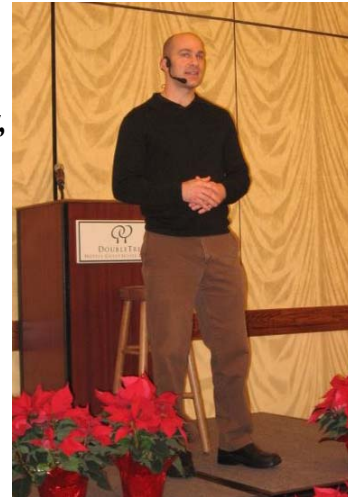
See Notes to financial statements

ANNUAL LUNCHEON: The Magic of Mobility

"To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs"

More than 130 friends, sponsors, volunteers and employees of Ride Connection attended the 2006 Annual Luncheon, held at the DoubleTree Hotel Lloyd Center on Friday, December 1st, 2006. The event was a rousing success.

The theme of this year's luncheon was "The Magic of Mobility". Each day, Ride Connection provides the magic of mobility by providing independence for older adults and people with disabilities allowing them to remain connected to their communities. The need for transportation grows each year, so a successful event is imperative to the success of our organization.



Rick Huddle, story teller, gave a compelling story to our audience reiterating the impact Ride Connection has on the community and the vital services we provide.

A special thanks to all of our sponsors; without their support we would not have the success we've had!

- American Red Cross
- Bank of the Cascades
- DoubleTree Hotel Lloyd Center
- Elite Care/Oatfield Estates
- Emmett Koelsch Coaches
- Fred Meyer
- Julie Kennedy
- Kern and Thompson, LLC
- Legacy Health System
- Claire Potter
- Providence Health System
- Carolyn Rundorff
- Russellville Park
- Schetky Northwest Sales, Inc.
- Smyth & Clark
- Sterling Savings Bank
- TriMet
- Umpqua Bank
- Elaine Wells
- Western Bus Sales, Inc.

D O N O R S

Thank you for your support! We are deeply grateful to the many individuals, businesses and foundations that support Ride Connection. Your generosity and support are critical in helping our mission to *link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs*. In this issue, we are pleased to recognize all cash gifts received between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007. We kindly request you notify us of any corrections to this list by calling us at 503.528.1721.

STEWARD

(\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Bible Students Retirement
Centers
Gresham Station Apartments
Legacy Health Systems
Ken Nitta
Oregon Community
Foundation
Providence ElderPlace
Schetky NW Sales, Inc.

Sterling Savings Bank
Ward Gibbons Souza
Elaine Wells
Western Bus Sales, Inc.

Linda Chudzik
Fern Cohen
Craig Critchley
Betty Crowthers
Velma & Horace Davis

FRIEND

(\$1 - \$499)

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Oregon
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b. happybags
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Beverly Foundation
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Lois Bonner
Amber Bottorff
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Aaron Deas
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Elite Care/Oatfield Estates
Nancy Elliott
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Inc.
Barbara English
Glenna English
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Bessie Epperson
Patricia Evey
Mary Fetsch
Leslie & Eric Foren
Anne & Russell Gant
Leslie Garth

SUPPORT

(\$500 - \$999)

American Red Cross
Bank of the Cascades
Mary Biewener
Fred Meyer
Julie Kennedy & Daniel Theda
Peet's Coffee And Tea
Evelyn Riggs
Russellville Park
Smyth & Clark

D O N O R S

"To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs"

FRIENDS cont.

Shana Garvey	Cindy Larvick	D'Norgia Price
Scott Gates	Karen & John Lee	Julie & Michael Proksch
Angie Gilmore	Gracie Leigh	Valeria Pryor
Joyce Gimbel	Heidi Levan	Rick Rhodes
Mary & Christopher Graham	Life Church	Harvey & Trudy Rice
Bonny Groshong	Roger Martin	RMG International LLC. - Pacific Tire Distrib.
Paul Hacking	Marlys Mayer	Norma Rowe
Renita & Kent Hansen	Marion Smith & Jane McCarrel	Carolyn Rundorff
Joan Heinemann	Michael McCarthy	Herlinda Sanford
Joyce Hockenberry	Elizabeth McDowall	Mary Scheidt
Glenn & Alexis Hoffberger	Ruben & Luz Merino	Ruth & Fred Scheller
Paul Houghton	Charles Morris	William & Hazel Sefler
Crystal Huber	Phyllis Morris	Shannon Selby
Rick Huddle	Suzanne Nelson	Kate Sheofsky
Estle Hummels	Gareth Nevitt	Shilo Inns & Resorts
Wilbur Huntington	Peggy Norman	Louis Simpson
Paul Iarrobino	Irene Oberg	Betty Smith
Richard & Dorothy Jones	Deborah Oester	Norma Smith
Denise Kent	Dale Olsen	Kari Stanley
Kern & Thompson, LLC	Barbara & Dennis Peterson	Sara Steenhuis
Vivian Kidd	Fred & Sylvia Pierce	Audrey Steinhoff
Iris Kimbark	Portland Area Bible Stu- dents	Ardis Stevenson
Alvin Larson	Claire & Darell Potter	Bob Stillings
	Cora Potter	Judy Strand

D O N O R S

"To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs"

FRIENDS cont.

Leann Stumpo

Jerrie Sundermeier

Linda & Sam Talluto

Grady & Lana Tarbutton

Marissa & Louis Taylor

Cecilia Thomas

Ron & Donna Thompson

Marty Toney

TriMet

Susan Triplett

Tsuru & Richard Tuenge

Patty Turner

Umpqua Bank

Rosy Vu

Helen Wahl

Ed Wakeman

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Terry Watson

Julie & Dennis Wehling

Ken Weidkamp

Diane Wells

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M. Virginia Westgate

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Norma Kelly-Woollen

Park & Martha Woodworth

Sara Wurfel

Abigail Wyman

Meredith Young

Doranna Yung

In Honor of

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Rick Allen

Justin Berlureau

Ann Berlureau

Barbara Groshong

Ann Stephani

Elaine Wells

Mary Ann Watson

In Memory of

Kippy Archibald

Inessa M. Hamilton-Lee

Diana Croteau

Rick Rhodes

Mary Hawke

Julie Proksch

Robert A. Kennedy

Abby Kennedy

Theresa McDonough

Scott McDonough

Chris Wehling

Julie Wehling

Pearace Woods

Trudy Rice

Robert Addison Yantis

Cora Potter

PROVIDERS

"To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs"

Ride Connection's providers give the gift of mobility in our communities!

- ✦ African-American Chamber of Commerce
- ✦ American Red Cross
- ✦ Canby Adult Center
- ✦ Chestnut Lane
- ✦ David's Harp
- ✦ East County U-Ride
- ✦ Edwards Center, Inc.
- ✦ Emmanuel Temple
- ✦ Estacada Community Center
- ✦ Gladstone Senior Center
- ✦ Gresham Senior Center
- ✦ Hoodland Senior Center
- ✦ Lake Oswego Adult Community Center
- ✦ LifeWorks Northwest
- ✦ MFS Project Linkage
- ✦ Michael's Place
- ✦ Milwaukie Senior Center
- ✦ Molalla Senior Center
- ✦ Neighborhood House
- ✦ Northwest Pilot Project
- ✦ Northwest Portland Ministries
- ✦ Pacificab
- ✦ Parents for Alternate Support Services
- ✦ Pioneer Community Center
- ✦ Port City
- ✦ Portland Impact
- ✦ Providence Elder Place
- ✦ Sandy Senior Center
- ✦ Transportation Reaching People (TRP)
- ✦ Urban League of Portland
- ✦ Wapato Shores Transport

Thank you for your support!

COMMITTEES

"To link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs"

RIDE CONNECTION BOARD

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Leslie Clark- *Vice President*
Rosy T.Vu - *Treasurer*
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Dick Jones
Julie Kennedy
Hank Miggins
Ken Nitta
Stephanie Renzi
Carolyn Rundorff
Andy Szolnoki
Grady Tarbutton
Ron Thompson

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Michael Ford
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Grady Tarbutton

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Patty Brost
Scott Gates
D’Norgia Price

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Carolyn Rundorff- *Chair*
Stephanie Renzi



3030 SW Moody Avenue, Ste. 230

Portland, OR 97201

Ph: (503) 528-1720

Email: ride@rideconnection.org

Web: www.rideconnection.org
