

Santa Clara Transit Center Fact Sheet

Background

- Lane Transit District (LTD) currently operates a transit station on River Road and River Avenue, which began operation in 1982.
- Current conditions at this station required that LTD consider a different location. Several challenges influenced LTD's decision to relocate:
 - Buses have been challenged entering or leaving the current River Road station.
 - The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has plans for an on-ramp widening project on Beltline, which will impact the River Road station.
 - The infrastructure at the current River Road station is outdated.
- LTD acquired the bank-owned property located in Santa Clara on River Road between Hunsaker and Green Lane in 2015 for \$3.3 million.
- LTD will develop part of the property into the new transit station, with the remaining parcels to be developed at a later date.
- The site, which is approximately 8 acres, was originally the local Santa Clara grange and then later became Santa Clara elementary school.
- LTD's Santa Clara property is part of the Refinement Plan for the River Road Santa Clara area and a key area for [Envision Eugene](#).
- LTD plans to break ground on a new transit station in the fall of 2019, with the station becoming operational early 2021.

Car Camping

- LTD was approached by car camping advocates from a local homeless advocacy group, who asked that LTD consider temporary car camping on the District's vacant property.
- LTD brought the idea of car camping to the local neighborhood organization, the [Santa Clara Community Organization](#) (SCCO) for consideration. Significant community discussion occurred in early April 2018:
 - A SCCO-hosted meeting held April 5 was attended by approximately 175 people. Staff from LTD, St. Vincent de Paul and the City of Eugene were in attendance to

provide information about car camping and to answer questions from the public. Over the next week, LTD received additional comments through email, phone calls and on LTD's Facebook page.

- While there was some support of car camping on LTD's site, the majority were opposed to the idea. After considering all community input, LTD decided to not allow car camping on the property.
 - Several media stories were published, along with this story from the [Register Guard](#).
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- Car camping, which is managed by St. Vincent de Paul, provides safe and legal places for unhoused people to sleep in their vehicles, tents, trailers or Conestoga huts.
 - The car camping program is a collaboration between [St. Vincent de Paul](#) and the [City of Eugene](#) and has been established for nearly 20 years.