

ACTION 9:

Campus Mobility Hub

Construct a campus mobility hub to serve intercity transit services and improve the attractiveness and visibility of transit as a means to get to and from Corvallis.

Opportunity

Well-built and well-signed transit stops serve the dual purpose of making transit more appealing while also advertising the services provided there. Improving signage, waiting and loading areas, shelters, and consolidating multiple service pick-up locations across campus into one hub can make it easier and more attractive for riders to use transit.

Current State

OSU is currently served by a number of regional transit services. The Linn Benton Loop, for example, runs between Albany and Corvallis, providing a critical connection for students who are dual enrolled at Linn Benton Community College and OSU or who live in Albany. Other services include a PDX airport shuttle, the Coast to Valley Express bus between Newport and the Albany Amtrak Station, the Philomath Connection, and several other intercity transit services. Today stops for these services are sited in different locations across campus, in many cases with little or no signage, lighting, or shelters to welcome riders (Figure 14).

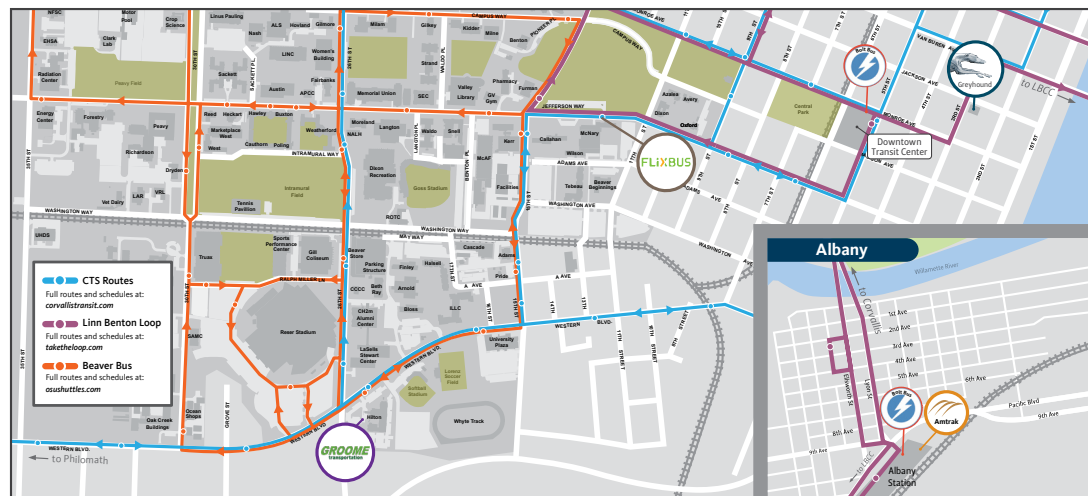


Figure 14: Currently, intercity bus service is spread across campus, with most services stopping in places with no signage, shelters, or seating.

Discussion

Laying Out the Welcome Mat

The construction of a mobility hub on the OSU campus would consolidate and improve access to transit services that allow students and employees to travel car free. Students without a car rely on multiple intercity bus services to get home over breaks, to get to campus from nearby Albany and Philomath, to take courses at the Linn Benton Community College, and to reach the Amtrak station. A consolidated hub for intercity transit with passenger amenities such as shelters, benches, bike parking and rider information will greatly improve the rider experience and the visibility of regional transit. Providing a well-lit and visible design sends a welcoming message to potential riders, including prospective students who frequently make their decision about whether or not to bring a personal vehicle during their campus tour and new student orientation.

The OSU Transportation Plan includes a recommendation for a mobility hub near the intersection of Jefferson Way and SW 15th Street. In 2019, an OSU civil engineering course tasked with designing a regional transit hub on the Corvallis campus recommended repurposing the parking lot south of Jefferson Way adjoining McNary Residence Hall for this purpose (Figure 15). Preliminary design work has already begun to determine the capacity of the lot to accommodate transit vehicles and site amenities such as shelters, benches and bike parking.



Figure 15: Rendering of transit hub at McNary Dining Hall designed by OSU Civil Engineering students.

<p>Lead OSU Transportation Services</p>	<p>Cost \$\$\$</p>
<p>Partners OSU Capital Planning & Development Benton County Transit City of Albany City of Corvallis Linn Benton Loop Governing Board private shuttle operators</p>	<p>Timeline Medium</p>
<p>Complementary Actions: Commute Incentives (Action 3)</p>	