

Date: April 27, 2022

To: Board of Directors

From: Sam Desue, Jr.

Subject: RESOLUTION NO. 22-04-26 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED REDISTRICTING MAP AND PUBLIC OUTREACH REPORT TO OREGON SECRETARY OF STATE

1. **Purpose of Item**

This Resolution requests the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) to authorize the General Manager or his designee to submit TriMet’s preferred map of new Board member district boundaries and its Public Outreach Report on the redistricting process to the Oregon Secretary of State.

2. **Reason for Board Action**

Pursuant to Oregon law, TriMet must engage in the redistricting process using 2020 federal census data, and submit revised maps of its Board member districts to the Secretary of State on or before May 16, 2022.

3. **Type of Action**

- Resolution
- Ordinance 1st Reading
- Ordinance 2nd Reading
- Other _____

4. **Background**

In accordance with ORS 267.090(2), TriMet’s original seven Board member districts were established to ensure fair representation of the most populous city in the TriMet District, along with other cities and unincorporated territory in the District, in proportion to their respective populations. After each federal census, ORS 267.090(2) requires the Oregon Secretary of State to use the new census data to review and possibly revise boundaries for the Board member districts of each of Oregon’s three mass transit districts, including TriMet.

While the 2020 federal census data generally shows overall population increases throughout the Portland metropolitan area and the TriMet District, population growth in each of the seven TriMet Board member districts has occurred somewhat unequally. New data from the 2020 census shows that 1,655,186 people now live in the TriMet District, which is an increase of 182,855 people from the 2010 federal census. If the seven Board member

districts within the TriMet service area were to be equally divided by population, each district would contain about 236,000 people.

On January 11, 2022, the Oregon Secretary of State promulgated Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 165-008-0150 (Rule) to govern the redistricting process for all Oregon mass transit districts. The Rule requires all mass transit districts to complete maps of their proposed new district boundaries and submit them to the Secretary of State for review on or before May 16, 2022. Therefore, under the Oregon Secretary of State's direction, TriMet now must reassess the boundaries of the seven districts that make up TriMet's service area.

The Secretary of State's redistricting Rule requires TriMet to draw the revised Board member district maps using 2020 federal census data. The map must be drawn so that each district will be contiguous, of equal population, will utilize existing geographic or political boundaries, will not divide communities of common interest, and will be connected by transportation links.

The Secretary of State's Rule also requires that any changes to district boundaries be consistent with the diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility principles outlined in the Secretary of State's mission, vision and values. The Secretary of State's mission, vision and values of diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility are consistent with TriMet's core values of Safety, Inclusivity, Community and Teamwork, and have been followed by TriMet during its redistricting process.

The redistricting Rule also requires all mass transit districts to engage in a public outreach process, in order to ensure that redistricting is guided by principles of diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility. To that end, TriMet launched a web page addressing the project; made a detailed public presentation to the Board at its March meeting, during which various district map options were displayed; and made presentations to its Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT) and the Transit Equity Advisory Committee (TEAC). TriMet also conducted two virtual open houses with ASL interpreters -- one on April 5, from 5-6 PM, in Spanish, and the other on April 6, from 5 to 6 PM, in English. TriMet received public comments on its various redistricting maps from the general public through its website.

TriMet has developed three maps that comply with the redistricting requirements, including adjusting current Board member district borders to roughly balance the populations of all seven districts. For each map, the overall distribution of racial and ethnic levels in each proposed Board member district remain largely unchanged.

Map Scenario #1, attached hereto, shows the simplest changes, with only two border modifications. Map #1 would move a portion of the area of district 2 to district 5, and move a portion of the area of district 5 to district 6. In the Map #1 scenario, district 1 would have the largest population at 240,900, and district 6 would have the smallest at 231,552. This would result in a maximum difference in district populations of 9,348 people.

Map Scenario #2, attached hereto, contains three border changes that affect five districts, but these changes result in a more equal division of district populations. In the Map #2 scenario, district 2 would have the largest population at 240,600, and district 4 would have the smallest population at 232,347. This would result in a maximum difference in district populations of 8,253 people.

Map Scenario #3, attached hereto, has a number of border changes and affects all districts except district 7. The Map #3 scenario would give district 2 the largest population at 236,846, and district 3 the smallest population at 236,103. This would result in a maximum difference in district populations of just 743 people.

TriMet's preferred revised Board member district map, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is most like Map Scenario #3. Although the scenario shown in Exhibit A makes the most border changes and affects all but one Board member district, it results in the most equal allocation of population to each district. The preferred revised district maps meet the Secretary of State's redistricting Rule requirements of being contiguous, of equal population, utilizing existing geographic or political boundaries, not dividing communities of common interest, and being connected by transportation links.

TriMet's public outreach efforts for its redistricting process are summarized in its Public Outreach Report, attached hereto as Exhibit B. If approved by the Board, both the preferred Board member district map and the Public Outreach Report will be submitted to the Secretary of State on or before May 16, 2022.

5. **Diversity**

TriMet staff carefully evaluated the various impacts on racial and ethnic diversity associated with each of the several options considered for the revised Board member district maps. It was found that, in all proposed redistricting scenarios, each race's percentage of district population changed by less than one percent (1%) compared to the Board member districts established in 2012 (based on the 2010 census data).

6. **Financial/Budget Impact**

The Board member redistricting process is mandated by state law and the funds for this process are included in the approved FY2022 budget for TriMet's Public Affairs Division.

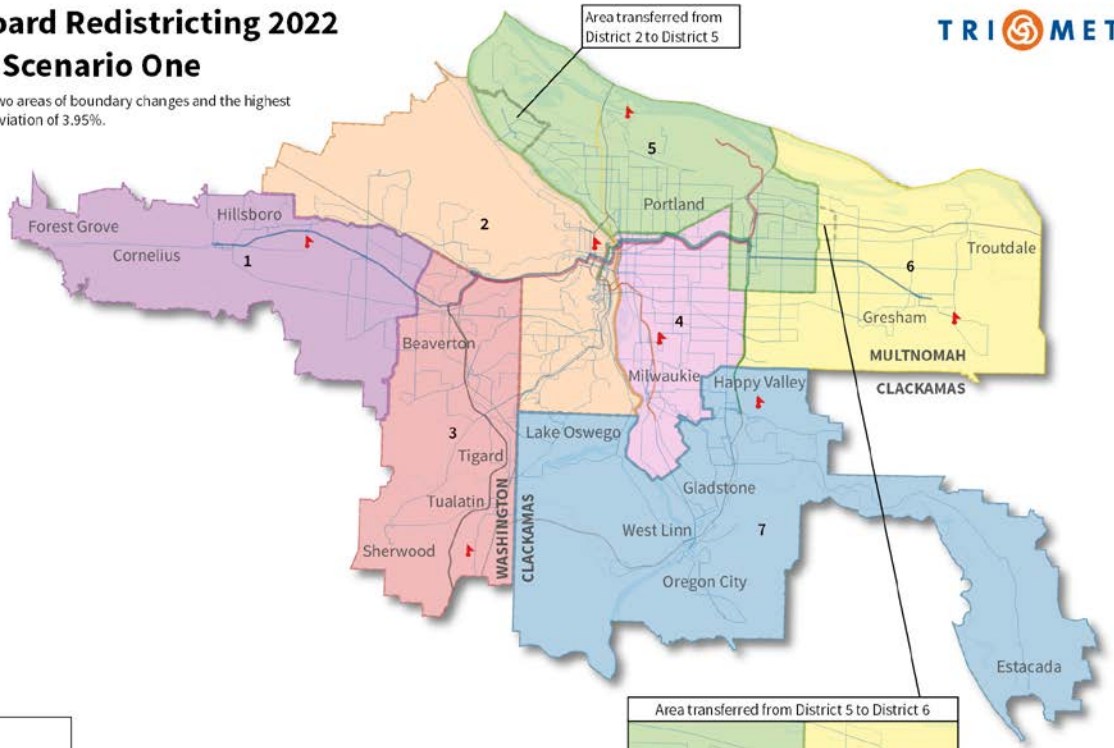
7. **Impact if Not Approved**

Pursuant to Oregon law, TriMet must complete the process of redistricting its Board member districts on or before May 16, 2022. Failure of the Board to adopt this Resolution will jeopardize TriMet's ability to timely forward its proposed revised Board member district map and Public Outreach Report to the Secretary of State for review, risking noncompliance with Oregon law.

MAP Scenario #1

TriMet Board Redistricting 2022 Scenario One

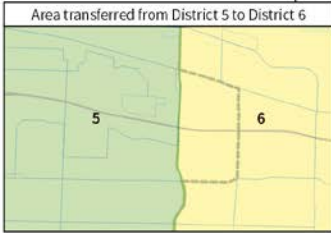
Scenario One has two areas of boundary changes and the highest total population deviation of 3.95%.



Legend

- TriMet Board Members
- Current TriMet Board District Boundary
- MAX
- WES Commuter Rail
- Bus Lines
- Freeways

5 miles



Data Sources: Metro RLIS, TriMet, U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Create Date: 02/22/2022

Project Location: C:\TRIMET\Public\Redistricting\2022\Map\2022\Map\2022_Scenario_One.mxd

MAP Scenario #3

TriMet Board Redistricting 2022 Scenario Three



Scenario Three has the lowest total population deviation of 0.32% with numerous small boundary changes.

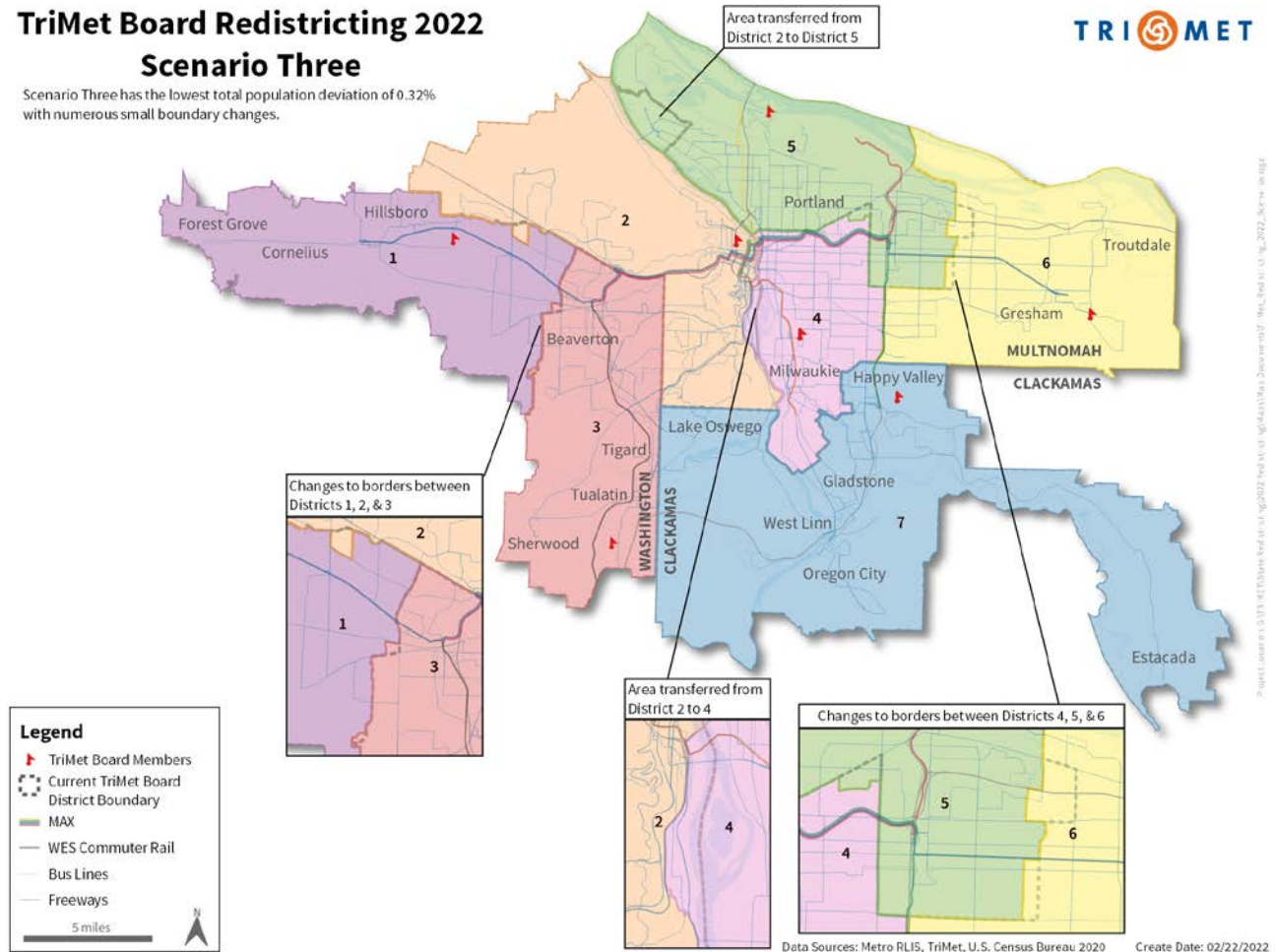


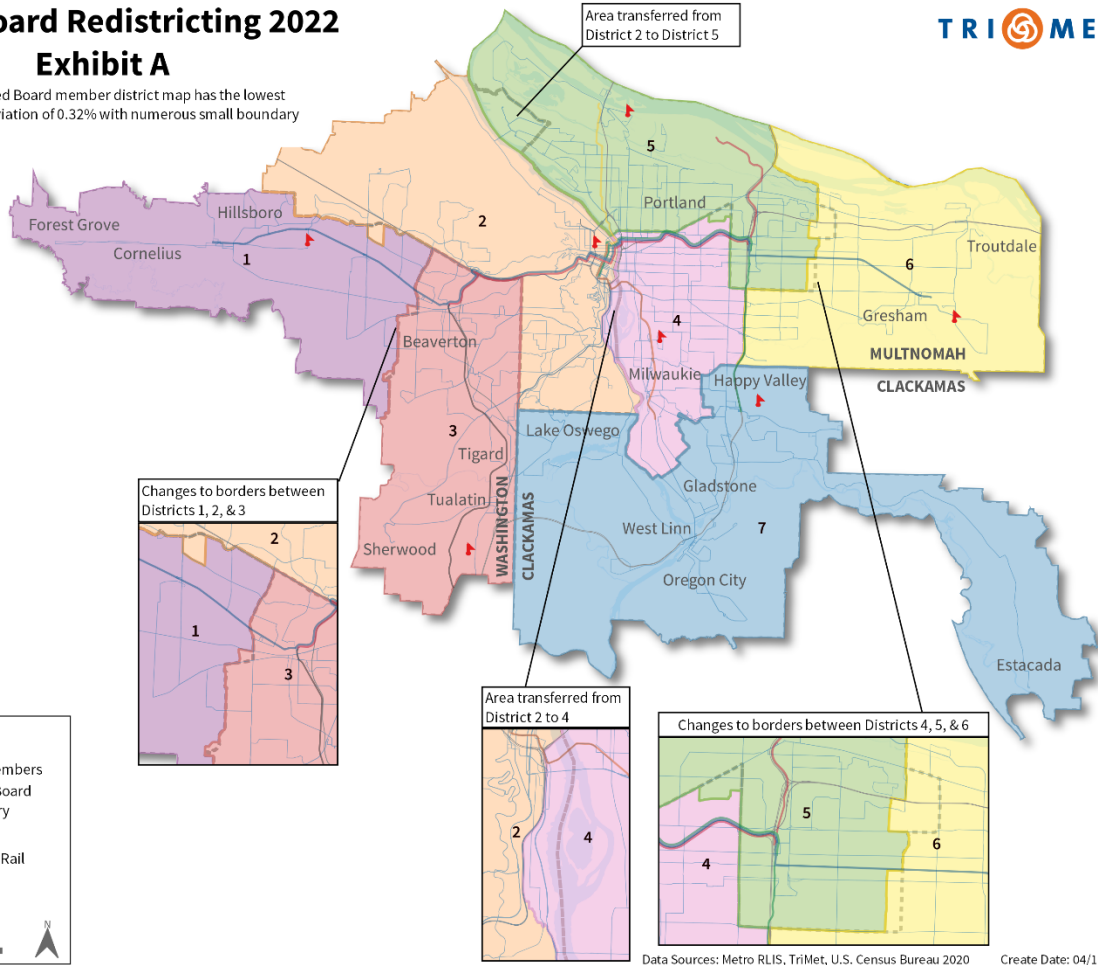
Exhibit A

Preferred Revised Board Member District Map

TriMet Board Redistricting 2022

Exhibit A

This preferred revised Board member district map has the lowest total population deviation of 0.32% with numerous small boundary changes.



Project Location: G:\TRIMET\State Redistricting 2022\Redistricting\Maps\Map Documents\TriMet_Redistricting_2022_ Exhibit_A.aprx

Data Sources: Metro RLIS, TriMet, U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Create Date: 04/11/2022

Exhibit B
Public Outreach Report

RESOLUTION NO. 22-04-26

RESOLUTION NO. 20-04-26 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED REDISTRICTING MAP AND PUBLIC OUTREACH REPORT TO OREGON SECRETARY OF STATE

WHEREAS, the 2020 federal census contains data showing population gains and losses throughout the Portland metropolitan area and the TriMet transit District; and

WHEREAS, after each federal census, ORS 267.090(2) requires the Oregon Secretary of State to use federal census data to establish new district boundaries for the Board member districts of each of Oregon's three mass transit districts, including TriMet; and

WHEREAS, under ORS 267.090(2), each Board member district within the TriMet District service area must be as nearly equal in population as possible, based on the latest federal census, and shall be designed to ensure representation of the most populous city, other cities and unincorporated territory in the TriMet District, proportionate to their respective populations; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2022 the Oregon Secretary of State promulgated Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 165-008-0150 to govern the redistricting process for all Oregon mass transit districts, including TriMet, and required all mass transit districts to complete the redistricting process on or before May 16, 2022; and

WHEREAS, under the redistricting process required by OAR 165-008-0150, the newly revised Board member districts must be contiguous, of equal population, utilize existing geographic or political boundaries, not divide communities of common interest, and be connected by transportation links; and

WHEREAS, OAR 165-008-0150 also requires the process of creating the new Board member districts to be consistent with the diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility values of the Secretary of State, as outlined in the agency's mission, vision and values; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of State's mission, vision and values of diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility are consistent with TriMet's core values of Safety, Inclusivity, Community and Teamwork, and have been followed by TriMet during the redistricting process; and

WHEREAS, OAR 165-008-0150 requires each mass transit district, including TriMet, to engage the public in considering revised maps showing proposed new boundaries for Board member districts, and to provide the Secretary of State with a written Public Outreach Report describing the public engagement conducted during the redistricting process; and

WHEREAS, OAR 165-008-0150 requires TriMet to submit a map to the Secretary of State showing the preferred, revised Board member district boundaries, as proposed by the Board after the public engagement process; and

WHEREAS, the final preferred Board member district map, based on the 2020 federal census data and TriMet’s public engagement process, is attached hereto as Exhibit A, and TriMet’s Public Outreach Report is attached hereto as Exhibit B;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That, pursuant to ORS 267.090(2) and OAR 160-008-01500, and based on 2020 federal census data, public comment and principles of diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility, the Board hereby submits to the Oregon Secretary of State the preferred map of revised TriMet Board member districts, attached hereto as Exhibit A, and TriMet’s Public Outreach Report describing its redistricting process, attached hereto as Exhibit B.

Dated: April 27, 2022

Presiding Officer

Attest:

Recording Secretary

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:

Gregory E. Skillman

Legal Department