



**Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT)**

**Business Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

WebEx/Virtual Meeting

**CAT Members Present:**

Jan Campbell  
Leon Chavarria  
AJ Earl  
Annadiana Johnson  
Diana Keever  
Patricia Kepler  
Adam Kriss  
Barry Lundberg  
Kris Meagher  
Mike Sandell  
Ryan Skelton  
Claudia Robertson  
Cassie Wilson

**Absent:**

Dave Daley – Regrets  
Director Keith Edwards

**Public:**

Kathryn Woods  
Lisa Strader (PBOT)  
Jeffrey Anderson  
Aidan

**TriMet Staff & Contractors:**

Eileen Collins  
Charlie Clark  
Matthew Kintz  
Lexi Field  
David Bouchard – TriMet  
Joseph Camper – TriMet  
Mary Hill – TriMet  
Luke Norman – TriMet  
Nick Anderson - Transdev  
Jeremy Hurley – Transdev  
Trish Tezer – Transdev  
Leiite Lemalu – Transdev  
Josh Opper – Transdev  
Steve Hext – Broadway Cab  
Sam Erickson – Parametrix  
Matthew Flodin – Parametrix

CAT Chair Jan Campbell Called the business meeting to order at 9:03am.

## **A. Opening Remarks**

Jan Campbell asked that participants raise their hand for comments and stated that public comments are set at two minutes.

### **1. Approval Of Agenda**

Barry Lundberg made a motion to approve the agenda, Ryan Skelton seconded that motion.

#### Objections/Abstentions:

Claudia Robertson – mentioned that the January 2023 minutes weren't on the agenda for review. Annadiana Johnson said she didn't get the changes submitted and she will get them sent to Eileen. Those will be on the agenda for next month's meeting.

The motion was passed.

### **2. Approval of Minutes**

Kris Meagher motioned to approve February 2023 meeting minutes, Patricia Kepler seconded that motion.

#### Objections/Abstentions:

Claudia Robertson – wants to have a discussion at the April executive committee meeting about the minutes, stating the February minutes were light. Jan Campbell asked if she's willing to approve those minutes as written currently; Claudia responded yes.

The motion was passed.

### **3. Announcements from Chair**

#### **a. Active Transportation Conference Attendance**

Jan Campbell introduced the upcoming Active Transportation Summit at the Oregon Convention Center which is running April 23-26, 2023 (Sunday-Wednesday). It has both in-person and online attendance availability. Eileen Collins is working with TriMet and John Gardner to pay the

registration fee for members of CAT who are interested in attending. There will be a track on accessibility and safety during the conference.

Eileen Collins asked that anyone interested in the conference can get in contact with her so she can coordinate registration. She will send committee members an email with a link and information.

Link to conference:

<https://www.thestreettrust.org/programs/events/oregon-active-transportation-summit/>

Jan Campbell and Annadiana Johnson mentioned that they will be presenting there as well.

#### **b. CAT letter to the TriMet Board regarding Proposed Fare Increase**

Jan Campbell asked where the process is at currently. Eileen responded that if the committee approves the letter, the plan is then to have someone from the executive committee go to the next board meeting to read it.

The next TriMet Board of Directors Meeting is Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9am-12:30pm at the University of Oregon, White Stag building. It's currently unknown where the next one will be held after.

#### Comments/Concerns:

**Cassie Wilson** – noted that she is planning on independently giving testimony at the board meeting and saw that TriMet removed the virtual option for public comment. Adam Kriss seconded her concern; he was watching the last board meeting on YouTube and wasn't able to make comment virtually that way. Eileen Collins will look into the issue.

**Claudia Robertson** – mentioned that the last paragraph has a small typographical error. Eileen Collins responded that she will adjust it.

**Eileen Collins** – asked if the committee wanted her to add the other CAT members to the end of the letter or just leave it as the executive committee. Jan Campbell said everyone's name should be on it since it went through the full CAT committee.

**Barry Lundberg** – wondered if it was appropriate that the letter is on TriMet letterhead and asked if there was CAT specific letterhead that it could be printed on. Eileen Collins said yes and she will make that change.

Motion:

Claudia Robertson motioned to approve the letter with the changes, Annadiana Johnson seconded.

Objections/Abstentions:

Leon Chavarria – said he isn't sure about the letter.

The motion was passed.

Jan Campbell offered to read the letter at the board meeting, the committee agreed.

#### **4. Approval of CAT Nominating Committee Recommendations**

Annadiana Johnson listed off the order of the nominees as follows:

- i. Jan Campbell
- ii. Dave Daley
- iii. Patricia Kepler
- iv. Kris Meagher
- v. Tre Madden
- vi. AJ Earl

The nominating committee made up of Annadiana Johnson, Cassie Wilson, and Adam Kriss met with eight people for the six open positions. The nominations will be sent to the General Manager for approval as well as taken to the President of the Board.

Annadiana Johnson motions to approve the nominee recommendations, Diana Keever seconded. There were no objections or abstentions.

The motion was passed.

**B. Staff Updates**

Eileen Collins and present staff/attendees had nothing critical to share today.

**C. General Public Comment**

Jan Campbell opened the discussion for public comment.

**Kathryn Woods** - would like the committee to go over the ice and snow issue from the recent storm that disrupted service. She mentioned she's heard various horror stories from both riders that were stuck on busses for long periods of time as well as operators who shared their experiences with her. She's interested in looking at the LIFT Code Red policies and the stories of what happened during that time. She would like the statistics of that period to be differentiated from the rest.

Jan Campbell responded that those concerns can be further brought up at the LIFT Sub-Committee meeting.

**D. CAT Committee Issues**

**Cassie Wilson** – said she was looking at TriMet's proposed upcoming budget and was disappointed to see the assumption of fare increase included, and it makes the community input seem like a moot point.

**Mike Sandell** – echoed Kathryn Wood's comment regarding Code Red policies, and he personally was not well informed of how his trips would change. He had to call LIFT himself to find out. Thinks there could have been more communication.

**Patricia Kepler** – said her primary concern is with web booking and noticed it doesn't allow users to include the name of the building they are going to, referenced specific Portland Community College addresses. Eileen Collins and Charlie Clark responded that they will follow-up with Patricia and any other interested CAT members about specific updates desired for web booking. Jan Campbell said she'll bring these issues to the executive committee.

**Annadiana Johnson** – said better communication/outreach/education for fixed route service delays, disruptions, closures in inclement weather, etc. would be great.

**E. TriMet Board of Directors Update - Director Keith Edwards**

This section did not commence. Director Keith Edwards was not in attendance at the meeting.

**F. Break**

Jan Campbell called the meeting to a break around 9:48 am to reconvene at 10:05 am.

**G. TriMet Stop Accessibility Standards Project – Introduction – Luke**

Meeting was called back to order at 10:05 am and opened with the presentation. Luke Norman introduced himself and the project in working with Parametrix to help TriMet better understand what are stop accessibility standards to identify and determine how to track information to give guidance on where to start. He then turned the presentation over to Sam Erickson from Parametrix to go through the slides.

Comments/Concerns:

**Ryan Skelton** – noted in regards to the accessible path, it's been a main concern for people with mobility devices that such paths are not wide enough for have other obstructions/barriers near or at the bus stop itself. He said it would be helpful to have some clarity regarding what types of remediation strategies are available in such a complex environment.

Sam Erickson responded that as far as remediation available in this project they are to bring a stop up to ADA standards and the answer will look different for grade issues, property issues, etc. All of those considerations will be take in for discussion.

**Claudia Robertson** – said she was interested in the timeline on this. About four years ago, there was an opportunity to do a bus stop accessibility

grant, and she started making a list of the stops that were just grass (along the 71, now 73) where there's no sidewalks, no landing pads, etc. Claudia asked if we're talking about twenty years out to do this project, and if the project is only going to look at stops where you can put a landing pad. She asked if the harder ones are going to be the farthest out on the scope, and is there any hope in this committee's lifetime to see change?

Sam Erikson responded we will be back to talk to the committee about this more in future meetings. She said there are barriers outside the purview of TriMet and it will take getting processes and relationships with local jurisdictions in place for solutions. They're hoping for a quicker turnaround but there's a lot of detail to be worked out.

**Annadiana Johnson** – asked in regards to stops with problems, who she should send her list to. Anna mentioned that for seven years she's been bringing up a stop (across from WinCo at 17<sup>th</sup> and Baseline) that is frequently used but inaccessible to people with mobility devices. It needs to be moved or rebuilt as otherwise mobility device users need to go way out of their way to get to and from the WinCo. She stated that Metro and the State of Oregon are looking at safe routes now and talking about grants, and would like the project to talk with them.

Eileen Collins responded that she can start a spreadsheet and provide Parametrix access to it, and that she's happy to gather that information. She said it would be helpful if people sent pictures along with the locations and categorize them appropriately.

**Barry Lundberg** – said he was wondering if this project is going to develop standards/guidelines for amenities such as when a shelter should be added, when a bench should be added, better lighting, etc. Sam Erickson responded that those are outside the scope of this project, but is a part of the work that is upcoming for TriMet in updating the bus stop guidelines.

**Mike Sandell** – mentioned he would like to hear if there currently exists or will exist a set of standards/guidelines for when there is long-term construction that necessitates a move of a stop. Sam Erickson responded that part of the scope of this project is to look at processes for who is

responsible for what, and while long-term construction isn't currently a part of the list she agrees it is something that should be addressed.

**Mike Sandell** – also said he hopes that in this they would prioritize or equitably think about bus stops with no amenities that are served by busses that don't run frequently. Sam Erickson responded that part of the project will be coming up with these priority areas and it is important for them to pick areas that don't already start with some baseline of accessibility.

**Cassie Wilson** – shared some additional stops with issues she knows of, and asked if it is likely that a lot of stops don't currently meet standards. Sam Erickson responded that they are working with the SAM Database and identifying what is and is not being tracked on this. There will be a bus stop inventory that can better identify these issues.

**Leon Chavarria** – proposed a program where operators would get in mobility devices and wheelchairs to understand and build empathy for the challenges the riders face at some of these stops.

**Mike Sandell** – brought up an example of competing access needs with different measurement standards between federal regulations and TriMet. He mentioned that some stops have the shelter too far away and the driver can't see the customer waiting. Sam Erickson responded that it's a great point and they'll look into talking about when a distance is too far (in contrast to what is too close).

**Barry Lundberg** – wanted to clarify that this project's scope isn't necessarily to come up with specific solutions for each issue but rather just start developing standards/guidelines. Sam Erickson responded that this was correct.

Public Comment:

**Kathryn Woods** – said that it's not just people in wheelchairs who use the ramp, as she has a four-wheel walker and has the same issues with landing pads and accessible paths. She echoed an earlier comment that sometimes it's better to wait in the rain by the pole rather than at the shelter due to the driver not being able to see them. She asked if this is being taken into



consideration. Sam Erickson responded that they are taking into account alternative mobility devices.

**H. Close of March CAT Business Meeting**

Eileen Collins said she will work with Sam Erickson and Luke Norman on scheduling an ad hoc appearance on this topic.

There was no further discussion. Jan Campbell ending the meeting at 11:29 am.

## Comments from Chat:

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 9:03 AM**

I'm eating so can't speak but I'm here <3

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 9:03 AM**

Mike Sandell Cat member

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 9:07 AM**

The new Margo?

**from ADAM to everyone: 9:08 AM**

So guess what I got January, February and March packets all in one day-odd right

**from ADAM to everyone: 9:09 AM**

lets hear it for FedEx lol

**from claudia Robertson to everyone: 9:13 AM**

Where did you see the obituary?

**from Eileen Collins mastel to everyone: 9:13 AM**

Dave sent it to us. I will forward it back to you.

**from Annadiana Johnson she/her to everyone: 9:13 AM**

Dave included a link in the notice he sent us

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 9:15 AM**

Yeah I'd love a copy too Eileen

**from ADAM to everyone: 9:18 AM**

Can you send me the email about Dave's wife and I didn't think she died, I thought she was sick

**from Eileen Collins mastel to everyone: 9:18 AM**

<https://www.thestreettrust.org/programs/events/oregon-active-transportation-summit/>

**from ADAM to everyone: 9:20 AM**

Do we have to attend all 3 days

**from claudia Robertson to everyone: 9:22 AM**

Sending links in the chat is not handy. They disappear when the meeting ends, and copying them leads to mistakes when they are so long.

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 9:32 AM**

"factor in" sounds accurate to me

**from Cassie Wilson she/her to everyone: 9:34 AM**

Yeah it's livestreamed, so you can watch but not participate.

**from ADAM to everyone: 9:34 AM**

Agreed

**from ADAM to everyone: 9:35 AM**

I was able to hear the in person testimony but no virtual plus the public testimony seemed to go really fast

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 9:36 AM**

What's the date/time again?

**from ADAM to everyone: 9:37 AM**

I wonder if we can add all member names to the letter

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 9:38 AM**

Do we have an idea of approximately what time the public comment will be so folks to have to take three and a half hours out of a work day to go down there?

**from Charlie Clark to everyone: 9:39 AM**

@Mike public comment occurs at the beginning of the board meeting, starting at 9 AM.

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 9:41 AM**

Thanks Charlie :)

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 9:42 AM**

Yeah they didn't even tell me about the code red on that Wednesday

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 9:49 AM**

I'm gonna run to the bathroom so I'll stay muted

**from ADAM to everyone: 10:04 AM**

There was some interesting reports on the news about the drivers feeling the training was inadequate to driving in snow

**from Luke Norman to everyone: 10:10 AM**

While Sam is presenting, I'll be available to answer questions in the chat

**from Annadiana Johnson she/her to everyone: 10:11 AM**

please read the slides, we have people on the phone and unsighted people online

**from Annadiana Johnson she/her to everyone: 10:12 AM**

and please describe the images

**from ADAM to everyone: 10:12 AM**

Funny how we never see pictures with either rain, snow or ice

**from ADAM to everyone: 10:13 AM**

makes it seem like Portland is always sunny

**from Kathryn Woods to everyone: 10:13 AM**

just rain would be helpful in this climate'

**from ADAM to everyone: 10:14 AM**

Point taken Kathryn

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 10:15 AM**

Are we gonna hear from the folks from that other study?

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 10:15 AM**

\*from

**from Kathryn Woods to everyone: 10:16 AM**  
will they name the cities they are comparing to?

**from ADAM to everyone: 10:17 AM**  
Hopefully they will talk about that

**from Luke Norman to everyone: 10:19 AM**  
Yes, we will share the name of those cities

**from Kathryn Woods to everyone: 10:20 AM**  
thanks'

**from claudia Robertson to everyone: 10:31 AM**  
As to the Peer Review slide, seems Minneapolis has adopted yellow truncated domes as a path to the bus door. Kudos to them!

**from Luke Norman to everyone: 10:32 AM**  
Yes, this slide shows a TransLink bus stop in Vancouver, Canada

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 10:38 AM**  
I've heard great things about TransLink from blind/partially sighted people as well <3

**from Annadiana Johnson she/her to everyone: 10:39 AM**  
what would the landing pad look like with the ramp extended?

**from Annadiana Johnson she/her to everyone: 10:41 AM**  
in that graphic with the pad and the bus in it...

**from Luke Norman to everyone: 10:41 AM**  
The ramp would cover part of the landing pad to help someone reach the accessible path

**from Luke Norman to everyone: 10:41 AM**  
\*reach

**from Annadiana Johnson she/her to everyone: 10:42 AM**

I was suggesting that the ramp be added to your graphic

**from Luke Norman to everyone: 10:42 AM**

Thank you for the suggestion

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 10:44 AM**

The problem I've seen at a lot of stops is that the shelter is so far away from the pole where the buses actually stop that drivers don't see/don't bother to look for people waiting in the shelter, especially in the dark and rain.

The origin point of the line 6 going from Goose Hollow to Jantzen Beach is a great example of this.

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 10:50 AM**

Have them go around the obstacle course at the trimet lift place on Davis lol

**from ADAM to everyone: 10:53 AM**

You might have spoken about this but from the partner transit systems you have used, what positive and/or negative outcomes have you gained

**from claudia Robertson to everyone: 10:56 AM**

One stop to consider as a great example of no access whatsoever, is on NE 132nd Ave., line #23 eastbound, near side of NE Sacramento.

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 10:57 AM**

Or obscure the sign

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 10:59 AM**

I am!!! I did this once, I can find the number if folks want it

**from ADAM to everyone: 11:02 AM**

The bus stop on the Hawthorne Bridge is a bad location for a bus stop also the bus stop on Columbia/12th has no place to sit

**from ryan to everyone: 11:03 AM**

It is physically dangerous for any person including those with disabilities to access the school of natural medicine by bus because of the lack of crosswalks lack of curb cut and lack of crosswalk lights to safely access the school from the bus I think that this is a stop. Drastically in need of improvement

**from Kathryn Woods to everyone: 11:04 AM**

people other than chair users may use ramp and have similar issues, My mobility device is a 4 wheel walker and i typically use ramp; I wait by the pole like what Mike said in order for the drivers to see me'

**from Kathryn Woods to everyone: 11:06 AM**

during constriction of new stop amenities som,times PBOT Made things very inacce4ssib;e

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 11:08 AM**

Ok so this is the specific "tree on public property blocking public right of way (including bus stops)" message line: (503)823-8733. If it's not a tree, or if it's on private property, this isn't the right number, a better number for that would probably be PBOT's general line: (503)823-5185

**from Annadiana Johnson she/her to everyone: 11:10 AM**

TY Mike. I will have to investigate who in Cornelious I might call to share my specific stop information with them

**from Annadiana Johnson she/her to everyone: 11:17 AM**

I just wanted to say that when she was talking about the categories, she did not tell us WHEN they are on the schedule she has up

**from ADAM to everyone: 11:26 AM**

That seems to be the biggest challenge in that at least from what I have viewed about Portland is that each agency seems to not be willing to work together meaning they keep passing the buck of responsibility

**from ADAM to everyone: 11:28 AM**

It's a shame that it takes lawsuit to get changes

**from Kathryn Woods to everyone: 11:28 AM**

they get A in buck passing it but the need doesn't get met

**from Mike Sandell he/him to everyone: 11:29 AM**

Did we want to read those phone numbers for folks who are blind or otherwise don't have access to the chat?

**from Luke Norman to everyone: 11:29 AM**

Thank you