

HB2017 Transit Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: July 26, 2024

Attendees:

Julie Wilcke Pilmer — Ride Connection

Heidi Muller — City of Canby

Aron Carlson

Mike Strauch — South Clackamas Transit District

Sara Wright — City of Portland

Rich Eisenhauer — PBOT

Eve Nilenders — Multnomah County

John Whitman — Ride Connection

Jarvez Hall — Co-Chair

Clackamas County Commissioner Paul Savas

Dyami Valentine — Washington County

Miranda Seekins

Mary Lou Ritter — Member, Accessible Transit Funds Advisory Committee

JP Gonzalez — TriMet

Andi Howell — Director, Sandy Area Metro

Dan Bower — Portland Streetcar Inc

Michael Dohn — TriMet

Jamie Surface — TriMet

Justin Trubiani — TriMet

Charlie Clark — TriMet

Jennifer Cooper — Regional Transit Coordinator, ODOT Region 1

Tom Mills — TriMet

Deanna Palm

April Bertelsen — Portland Bureau of Transportation

John Isaacs

Brandon Brezic

Andrew Aebi

Duncan Hwang

Kelsey Lewis

Teresa Christopherson

Adam Argo

Mariana Valenzuela — Centro Cultural

Dwight Brashear — Wilsonville SMART

David Bouchard — TriMet

Sarah Iannarone — the Street Trust

Karen Buehrig — Clackamas County

Vikki Payne — Multnomah County District 3

Joanne O'Connell — Multnomah County

Clint Culpepper

Reza Farhoodi

Public Comment:

The meeting opened with an invitation for public comment. There were no public comments made, and public comment was subsequently closed.

STIF Timeline Check-in:

Tom Mills provided an update on the STIF timeline process. He informed the committee that the TriMet Board Review has been delayed to August due to scheduling issues. He assured that numbers for the STIF plan proposal would be ready by the next meeting.

Budget Outline Discussion:

Tom Mills began with an overview of the TriMet proposal for the FY26-27 STIF plan, which includes:

- Service expansion and preservation
- Procurement of Lift vehicles

- Low-income fare and student fare programs
- STIF human services program

Commissioner Paul Savas inquired about metrics used for frequency and coverage of services, and Tom clarified the need for additional analysis, promising further details at the next meeting.

TriMet Service Expansion Presentation:

Tom Mills presented a detailed map and explanation of the Forward Together 1.0 revised service concept, which reallocates services post-pandemic to areas of higher demand outside of downtown Portland.

Commissioner Paul Savas asked for metrics on service frequency, and Tom Mills agreed to return with an analysis of revenue miles and maps for increased service coverage.

April Bertelsen suggested including an equity overlay on service maps, which Tom Mills noted for the next meeting.

Fare Subsidy Program:

Tom Mills and Jamie Surface discussed the success of the student fare program and the Access Transit programs. Jamie Surface reported nearly 250,000 trips taken by students from participating school districts, with projections of 300,000 trips by the year's end.

Lift Vehicle Procurement:

Tom Mills and Charlie Clark discussed the challenges surrounding the procurement of Lift vehicles. Charlie Clark detailed the current shortage of zero-emission vehicles capable of meeting the service requirements and provided updates on funding efforts to replace aging vehicles in the Lift fleet.

Regional Coordination and Portland Streetcar Discussion:

Tom Mills explained the Regional Coordination program, which supports first and last-mile connections as well as inter-district service. Discussions included adjusting funding models to make the allocation of funds more sustainable and predictable.

Concerns were raised by Dan Bower and April Bertelsen regarding the funding process for Portland Streetcar. Both advocated for adopting a percentage-based allocation similar to

Regional Coordination programs. It was agreed that the discussion would continue in the Streetcar Planning Group.

Fare Program Participation:

Jamie Surface provided an update on school district participation in the high school student fare program, noting ongoing conversations with West Linn-Wilsonville and Oregon City schools.

Committee Requests and Follow-Up:

- Commissioner Paul Savas requested further analysis of service frequency and revenue miles by county, which Tom Mills agreed to provide at the next meeting.
- Andrew Aebi requested that a TriMet finance representative provide an overview of medium to long-term financial projections for TriMet service expansion at a future meeting.

Appointment of New ATFAC Member:

Tom Mills informed the committee that Multnomah County's representative on the Accessible Transportation Funds Advisory Committee (ATFAC), Robin Johnson, had left, and a new representative, Raquel Barajas, was nominated by Multnomah County.

Motion to nominate Raquel Barajas: Motion made by Julie Wilcke Pilmer, seconded by Mariana Valenzuela.

The motion passed with all members in favor, no dissenting votes, and no abstentions.