



**Committee on Accessible Transportation
Business Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, September 16th, 2026
9:00 am – 11:30 am**

Recording:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/JzrH02LUsax-mZIs4jslQWit4DZL00lCg_IVi0AvVhfvDYm1nEz4jJSCLLJ4vd.tKf4xO6DSelZ_aXU

CAT Member's Present:

- TJ Anderson
- Jan Campbell
- Dave Daley
- Ulysses Garcia
- Richard Hunter
- Annadiana Johnson
- Patricia Kepler
- Gary Marschke
- Sky McLeod
- Franklin Ouchida
- Abdelrahman Osman
- Madeline Temple
- Kyenne Williams
- Natalia Moloney (Alternate)
- Eli Yoder (Alternate)

Agenda

09:00 - A. Opening Remarks – CAT Chair

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of July Business Minutes

**09:15 - B. Safety & Security update – Marissa Clarke, Assistant Manager,
Security Logistics & Outreach**

oBudget reductions were seen primarily in the reduction of

contracted Safety Response Team positions. To help offset reduced staffing, TriMet is increasing its use of technology, including Blue Light emergency phones, systemwide cameras, and the 24-hour Security Operations Center (SOC). The SOC's 16 dispatchers monitor cameras, respond to Blue Light calls, and coordinate resources throughout the system.

o TriMet's CCTV program also supports the broader community.

Camera footage assisted with more than 1,000 criminal investigations last year unrelated to TriMet incidents.

o CAT members remain welcome to participate in security field visits and ride-alongs to grow their understanding of TriMet's various security efforts and functions.

o Security staff will also be supporting the ADA Pass-Up Mitigation Project when the flex space pilot is rolled out. Customer Safety Supervisors will assist with rider education during the upcoming flex-space pilot, helping preserve securement areas for riders with mobility devices while directing strollers, carts, wagons, and luggage to the newly designated flex space on a select group of buses in service on the line 72.

09:30 - **C. General Public Comment**

09:35 - **D. Executive Committee FY27 priority planning session highlights**

- o Monthly Business Meeting time changing to 9:30a – 12:00p starting in the October Business Meeting
- o Mentors have been assigned to new members
 - Kyenne and Patricia
 - Quintin and Jan
 - Gary and Richard
 - Natalia and Franklin
 - Eli and Annadiana

- o Updates to Subcommittee Co-Chair role (Agendas, notes, and reporting out)
- o Friends of CAT
- o Hybrid meetings to be coordinated for the December and April Business Meetings. Contact Justin if you plan to attend either or both.
- o CAT handbook and workplan will be sent out soon electronically, and paper copies for those that have asked.
- o Jan, Patricia and Annadiana will be representing CAT at the Oregon Transit Association Annual Conference in Seaside this November
- o Identified an Executive Committee leadership pathway:
 - Members at Large – going into Vice Chair role
 - Vice Chair going into the Chair role
 - Chair leaving and moving into an Immediate Past Chair role.

09:50 - **E. Fixed Route Subcommittee update** – Fixed Route Co-Chair

- o The 82nd Avenue project team presented several accessibility improvements informed by CAT recommendations, including:
 - Falcon audible wayfinding devices at stops along the corridor;
 - Directional tactile wayfinding strips; and
 - Braille information at each stop.

These improvements are being developed with input from the Oregon Commission for the Blind and Portland State University's Orientation and Mobility Program. CAT continues to advocate for consistent use of blue octagonal poles at non-FX stops and consistent alternative wayfinding treatments at FX stops. TriMet's Wayfinding Committee will consider the recommendations in October.
- o **ADA pass-ups continue to rise**, with an approximately 20% year-over-year increase. TriMet's mitigation efforts include:
 - An updated policy for serving passengers with mobility devices,
 - Enhanced operator training, and
 - A flex-space pilot for wagons, carts, luggage or strollers.

The pilot would remove one pair of seats near the rear door to create space for strollers, carts, wagons, and luggage, helping keep priority seating and securement areas available for riders with mobility devices, and establishing more "family-friendly" transit services.

09:55 - **F. LIFT Subcommittee update** – LIFT Co-Chair

- TriMet is developing a voluntary mobility-device identification program. Registered devices would receive an identification tag—similar to a luggage tag—to help TriMet reunite riders with their mobility devices if they become separated in an emergency. Staff are developing the procedures needed to implement the program.
- TriMet LIFT team also introduced two new customer-education resources:
- **LIFT & Learn:** A monthly learning session held on the first Wednesday of each month for LIFT riders, caregivers, and others who support them.
- **upLIFTed Newsletter:** A customer newsletter providing timely information about LIFT services, programs, and mobility options.

These resources will offer practical guidance on tools and services such as LIFT's partnership with Instacart, fixed-route travel opportunities, travel training and the LIFT+ partnership with Uber.

10:00 - **G. 82nd ave Community Advisory Committee (CAC) update** – Franklin Ouchida

- o 82nd CAC and Policy & Budget have not had any recent meetings. The CAC decided not to fill the 3 open seats. There is still discussion around whether to add blue octagonal poles to the 82nd stations. 90% project funding is in. There will be a community open house today from 5p – 7p.

10:05 - **H. TriMet Staff Updates** –

- Reminder to take the Government and Ethics Class or let Justin know if you have.
- Eileen provided an update on the Mobility Transformed Paratransit Conference that she is leading the planning for. The national, paratransit-focused conference will bring together

transit agencies, riders, policymakers, researchers, and industry partners to identify actionable strategies for responding to growing demand, improving the customer experience, strengthening accessibility leadership, and building more innovative and financially sustainable paratransit systems.

10:15 - **I. TriMet Board of Directors Update** – Justin Rossman to provide update

10:20 - **J. Committee Member Feedback & Discussion**

- Anna offered up that that Washington County committee on Racial Justice has 5 seats open
- Madeline Temple let the committee know that she would be moving out of state and needing to end her CAT term early

10:30 - **K. Break**

10:45 - **L. CAT FY27 budget letters update and FY28 budget letter planning**

- o Annually, CAT establishes its budget priorities by identifying the accessibility issues with the greatest impact on older adults and people with disabilities, while considering what TriMet can realistically advance within existing resources. These priorities guide the following updates and help focus the Committee's advocacy on practical, high-impact improvements across the system.

The following priorities were shared with department leadership, with CAT support for funding:

- **LIFT Bus Procurement:** CAT requested support for the replacement of 30 revenue vehicles in FY27. That request was funded – largely by federal grants and awards.
- **Facilities Maintenance:** CAT requested support for platform and bus stop cleaning to ensure accessibility of stops and stations. However, budget reductions will extend platform pressure-washing cycles from every 30–45 days to approximately every 60–75 days. Bus-stop cleaning, graffiti removal, vandalism response, and

landscaping will also be reduced, with special callouts generally limited to serious safety hazards.

- **Bus and Rail Vehicle Cleaning:** CAT requested budgetary support for staffing of positions that maintain the cleanliness of bus and rail vehicles. Cleanliness is an accessibility concern because debris, spills, and unsanitary conditions can create safety hazards and barriers that disproportionately affect older adults and riders with disabilities.
- **Bus Maintenance:** Bus-cleaning positions were reduced through the elimination of vacancies. Bus Maintenance does not currently anticipate a decline in cleaning service.
- **Rail Equipment Maintenance:** Rail Equipment Maintenance lost 10% of its service-worker positions, all of which were vacant. The department is assessing the impacts and working to maintain current output with fewer employees.

- **FY2028 Budget Planning**

It was communicated to CAT that TriMet expects FY2028 funding to remain highly constrained, with little capacity for new initiatives. CAT will prioritize high-impact improvements achievable within existing resources—particularly policies, procedures, training, accountability, and coordination—while continuing to document and assess needs requiring future investment.

11:15 - **M. Comments and questions**

- Jan asked that the FY28 budget planning be moved to the October Business meeting

11:29 - **N. Upcoming meetings**

- 10/6 Executive Committee Planning Meeting at 9:30am
- 10/14 Fixed Route Subcommittee at 9:30am
- 10/21 October Business Meeting
- 10/27 Wayfinding Subcommittee

11:30 - **O. Adjourn Business Meeting**

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