



Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT)

2022-2023
Work Plan



Committee on Accessible Transportation FY23 Work Plan

Introduction

TriMet staff works with the CAT through the CAT Executive Committee to develop an annual Work Plan for the Committee's program year (July through June). The Plan includes priority issues and program areas identified by TriMet's General Manager, with CAT and staff input. The Work Plan sets priorities and guides agendas and the overall work of the staff and CAT throughout the year.

Work Plan Content

The Work Plan is organized in five sections. Each section covers a specific TriMet program area and includes topics and objectives for CAT review and recommendation, as listed below.

CAT's work also often extends to other interested community or government bodies, for input on issues of accessibility for the wider community. Those specific initiatives are not included in this TriMet-centered work plan. Partner organizations have historically included the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT), the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), the Interstate Bridge Replacement Project (IBR), and others.

Section 1- Fixed Route Services

- Awareness and sensitivity to the functional and access needs of older adults and people experiencing disability.
 - Operator training
- Stop announcements (Interior, Exterior, Requested)
- Automated Stop Announcements (ASA)
- Space management and use of priority seating
- Securement
- Safety & Security
- Pass-ups
- Demonstrated use of fixed route by older adults and people experiencing disability
- Other policies and practices related to accessibility

Section 2 – Engineering, Construction and Planning & Facilities

- Bus Rapid Transit Project (BRT)
- Transit Oriented Development
- Platforms, Shelters, and Stations
- Light rail and commuter rail vehicle designs

- Signage (internal, external, stops, wraps, etc.)
- Fixed route bus design
- The use and maintenance of elevators at stops, stations and transit oriented development
- TriMet Pedestrian Plan/Bus stop Inventory, ADA Enhancements
- Access & safety issues

Section 3 - LIFT Program

- Monitor LIFT service quality
- Utilization of resources and improved performance
- Support customers' informed choice of travel options and encourage choice of fixed route when appropriate
- Use LIFT eligibility process to match travel needs and services
- Plans and procedures for LIFT service and customer information during emergencies, inclement weather and pandemic response
- Impact of Service Reductions and Expansions (and outreach supporting each of these efforts)
- LIFT staff and operator training
- LIFT Vehicle Design & Amenities

Section 4 - Services and Financial Plans

- State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) and Funding (STIF) and annual Service Plan
- Ongoing E-fare Implementation and Improvements
- Annual operating and capital budget (review and recommendations)
- LIFT and Honored Citizen Fares
 - Fare Subsidies/Grants

Section 5 – Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan for the Tri-County Area (CHSTP)

- ADA eligibility reciprocity
 - Surrounding Transit Districts
- Full coordination of ADA eligibility for LIFT paratransit service with Travel Training component
- Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (STFAC)

The CAT Actions and Recommendations Status Report is used to track the CAT's recommendations on a monthly basis and is included as an Attachment in the monthly CAT Business Meeting packet.

Pending issues to be addressed by the CAT are tracked by staff and reviewed at each Executive Committee meeting. The list is included in the

Executive Committee meeting minutes.

The objectives, content and scope, CAT’s role, and subcommittee role for each Section of the Work Plan are presented, following.

Work Plan Background

Section 1.0 – Fixed Route Services	
Objectives	Work with Transportation Operations leadership to address accessibility issues related to fixed route service in the areas of performance, equipment, and procedures. Improve programs and performance in serving customers who are older adults and/or customers with disabilities.
Content and Scope	<p>Identify needs and address improvements in specific areas of bus and MAX service and performance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness and sensitivity to the needs of customers who are older adults and/or people experiencing disability (operator training) • Stop announcements (Interior, Exterior, Requested) • Automated Stop Announcements (ASA) • Space management and use of priority seating • Securement Systems and policies • Safety & Security • Marketing & PIO – ensure accessibility of customer information (web, phone, etc.) • Other policies and practices related to accessibility <p>Identify pending issues for resolution in 2022-23.</p>
CAT’s Role	Work with staff to develop effective programs and services that address customer needs and use resources effectively.
Subcommittee Involvement	To be determined based on the project and issues. Ad Hoc committees and/or Business Meeting
Expected Timeframe	Ongoing through the year

Section 2.0 –Construction, Engineering & Service Planning & Facilities

Objectives	Work with project staff to address plans and features related to the accessibility of services, facilities, and equipment.
Content and Scope	<p>Projects for consideration would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better Red • Division Transit Project • Service Reductions & Expansions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bus stop spacing and location • Other access & safety issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Platforms & Shelters (and associated bus stop landing pads) ▪ Curb Cuts/Ramps ▪ Signage (including Braille, tactile maps, and Transit Tracker access) ▪ Bus Wraps ▪ Fixed route bus design (interior and exterior) ▪ Light rail and commuter rail vehicle designs
CAT's Role	Identify CAT's issues and questions. Review, comment, and make recommendations.
Subcommittee Involvement	To be determined based on the project and issues. Ad Hoc committees and/or Business Meeting
Expected Timeframe	Timing to be determined by the process and flow of activity for each respective project.

Section 3.0 – LIFT Program

Objectives	Monitor performance on LIFT service standards in alignment with service goals and support effective use of resources within the transit system. Inform and support LIFT customers in the best use of LIFT service and choices for accessible mobility options.
Content and Scope	<p>Staff will work with the CAT to monitor performance based on LIFT service standards and practices. Customer education and further development of the LIFT eligibility process will be focus areas. Efforts will be directed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitor LIFT service quality• Identify ways to better utilize existing resources and improve service performance• Educate LIFT customers and raise their awareness in each of the four identified focus areas• Support customers' informed choice of travel options and encourage choice of fixed route when it can work• Use the LIFT eligibility process to better match travel needs and services• Plans and procedures for LIFT service and customer information during snow/ice emergencies.• LIFT staff and operator training
CAT's Role	CAT will monitor performance through staff reports and provide feedback and input on programs and practices from customer's perspective.
Committee Involvement	To be determined based on the project and issues. Ad Hoc committees and/or Business Meeting
Expected Timeframe	Ongoing throughout the year, specific reports and projects will be considered as the work goes forward.

Section 4.0 – Services and Financial Plans

Objectives	Provide input to TriMet executive staff on needs and priorities in relation to services and system accessibility, and use of resources.
Content and Scope	Includes accessibility-related aspects of service and financial plans, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF)• Annual Service Plan• Annual operating and capital budget• LIFT and Honored Citizen Fares
CAT's Role	Identify CAT's priority areas, review and comment.
Committee Involvement	To be determined based on the project and issues. Ad Hoc committees and/or Business Meeting
Expected Timeframe	Budget and Service Plan input during Jan./Feb. 2023

Section 5.0 – Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan for the Tri-County Area (CHSTP)

Objectives	<p>The Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (STFAC) is responsible for the development and follow-through of the CHSTP and its included components. All CAT members (except the TriMet Board representative) are eligible for appointment to the Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee as defined in the CAT Handbook.</p> <p>CAT's objective is to provide input on the strategies of the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan for the Tri-County Area as assigned to TriMet with CAT involvement.</p>
Content and Scope	<p>Items identified for development that may include the CAT's involvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADA eligibility reciprocity (neighboring transit districts) • Peer to peer program • Full coordination of ADA eligibility for LIFT paratransit service with Travel Training
CAT's Role	<p>The STFAC develops and approves the CHSTP. CAT works with TriMet staff to develop concepts for implementation.</p>
Committee Involvement	<p>CAT members are eligible for STFAC involvement.</p>
Expected Timeframe	<p>TBD</p>