

TEAC Meeting Notes
Tuesday, January 10th, 2023
4:30-6:30

Present: Karol Orozco, Amparo Agosto, John Gardner, Annadiana Johnson, Ellie Gluhosky, Marcela Tupayach, Clay Thompson, Luke Norman, Tristan Isaac, April Bertelsen, Tara O'Brien, Ally Holmqvist

TEAC January Updates

- Forward Together Service Concept
- Fare Proposal and Service Changes Open Houses- Schedule [available online](#)
- We are still hiring!
 - a. Hiring Event January 19, 2023, at the DoubleTree Lloyd Center find [Current Openings](#).
- New Transportation Commissioner: Mingus Mapps
- Events on the System
 - a. Gresham MAX attack after service hours
 - b. Women accused of shoving three year old
- Interstate 5 is a parking lot- [Use Congestion Pricing to Reduce Traffic and Pay for Public Transit](#).
- Proposed Fare Increase at a glance
 - a. Riders who reach the current fare cap will experience no charge in the monthly cost to ride to Trimet.

2023–24 Transit Service Changes - The planning staff walked through the **2023-24 Transit Service Changes** and the forecasted implementation timeline which will be dependent on recovery from the ongoing operator shortage.

- Full implementation of Forward Together will take 3–6 years, dependent on our recovery from the ongoing operator shortage. However, we are looking forward to getting started with this year's Annual Service Plan.
- Service Changes by bus lines are [available online](#).
- Changes will begin in September 2023. Line 70 changes are on a faster track with changes taking effect in **May 2023- High priority**
 - Changing the Line 70 route means fewer students who live south of Powell will need to cross it on foot. Dropping students off on SE 21st Avenue instead of SE 26th Avenue is safer because of the lower traffic volume on 21st Ave.
- Feedback is encouraged- Provide feedback to comments@trimet.org, call 503-238-7433 (RIDE), or [online](#) by February 10, 2023
- At the Open Houses, we will have the opportunity to listen to community members, interpreters will be available, and the compiled feedback will be sent to the Service Planning & Policies team, who will provide a report to the Board.
- We encourage participants to attend the TriMet Board of Directors meeting to provide public testimonies.

High Capacity Strategy Update - Metro staff provided information about the **High Capacity Transit Projects Framework**. Metro highlighted the work with community members, organizations, businesses, agency partners, and elected officials about the investment priorities and walked members through the tiering approach and structure.

- **Assessing Readiness**

- What corridors are in greater need?
 - Higher ridership or potential riders
 - Connect centers of activities or essential services
 - Longer transit travel time and delay
 - Walk and roll-able “main street” environment
 - Easy to find and connect to stops & stations
- Factors:
 - Where do people live?
 - Where are most people working?
 - Where are universities and colleges?
 - Where are people riding today?- Current Ridership
 - Where do historically marginalized communities live?

- **Tiering Approach & Structure**

- Regional Priority- Already underway!
- Emerging Regional Priority Corridors- Over the next five years
- Developing Corridors
- Future Corridors
- TEAC members asked questions about the Central City Tunnel and the likelihood of this project improving speed and reliability. Swan Island's connection with East Multnomah County is needed to support access to family wage jobs for low-income communities living in East Multnomah County.
- In the Washington County area, there was an interest in the growing capacity for people using mobility devices to get to Forest Grove. Rapid Transit on Division did not provide enough capacity for people with mobility devices; please consider adding the capacity for more than just a few people on the buses.
- Story map, working with small businesses/employers in the region, outreach with contracted partners; draft report, online survey for feedback.

TriMet Regional Transportation Plan

Staff from TriMet’s Government Affairs team shared information about ***TriMet Regional Transportation Plan*** and Metro’s project readiness assessment.

- Projects on the Regional transit network consist of
 - Constraint priorities
 - Long-term and short term
 - Capital projects- larger than \$2m identified as high areas of need
 - Projects that may or will receive federal funding in the next five years
 - Part of identifying these projects at such an early stage is to call them out to go after funding,

- Members noted support for security improvements and noted this is needed throughout the system. They encourage TriMet to consider adding restrooms to transit centers for commuters. This may improve sanitation, having fewer people going on the elevators and areas around the stations.
- They asked questions on why is this RTP funding not used towards fares to contribute to a fareless system? And asked to Include a slide that outlines how this planning map out the projects and the various funding buckets and their uses (High-level revenue picture) that go into TriMet's Revenue forecast. Members reiterated their interested in getting an overview of the budget/funding

Announcements

- The committee on Accessible Transportation is accepting applications for members.
- The city of Portland is also getting ready to submit its list of recommendations for the regional transit plan, participating in the tolling plan conversation and supporting transit.