

Transit Equity Advisory Committee

TriMet staff provided an overview of the TriMet Budget- outlining the budget's various revenue resources at the local level, then moving on to costs, allocations, conditions, and restrictive and unrestrictive funds. Staff noted TriMet is the most prominent transit entity in the region with a contingency of 3%.

TEAC members were eager to ask questions ranging from

- How the fare increase help TriMet
- Performance and budget measures that TriMet and TEAC track as it relates to equity
- How often TriMet review its revenue sources capabilities

Overall, the group was expressed an interest for a more in-depth session to learn more about all the different specific programs, allocations and conditions involved yearly before the budget process begins.

TEAC members then heard from Staff about the Hollywood Elevator Access Pilot Project. The 30-day pilot, will be taking place from June 12 - July 11 at the elevators of the Hollywood Transit Center MAX station

- This is a testing strategy for improving elevator reliability by focusing on access to transit users only.
- There is no cost to access the elevator, but riders will need to tap a valid form of payment on the elevator card reader for the elevator doors to open.
- The pilot focuses on keeping the elevators cleaner and avoiding substances that damage the elevators thus creating unplanned outages for cleaning and repairing. Elevators are frequently broken down due to vandalism, forcing individuals who rely on them to travel to other stations.
- Staff will record data to evaluate its effectiveness and customer experience. The data will be analyzed to determine if and when is implemented system wide.
- Staff will be available during the MAX operation hours to assist folks during the pilot and record feedback on the pilot to include in data sources.

TEAC members expressed concerns over

- **Lack of access to Hop cards-** staff noted the presence of security personnel during MAX operation hours to assist folks who need to access the elevators.
- **Security presence and people feeling harassed or intimidated by their presence -**TriMet does not have the personnel to staff the station during MAX operation hours, which is why the security staff is assisting with this pilot.
- **What type of data is being looked at?** Members wondered if other data is been looked at, Specifically PBOT who has the same issues on their elevators with security and cleanliness.

Additionally, members requested that in addition to the pilot project data, staff look at elevator alternatives; that security officers involved in the pilot not wear uniforms; that restroom facilities be added to the system; and that parallel cost-benefit analyses be conducted for alternatives such as bringing elevator maintenance in-house, increasing cleaning staff, and closing elevators at night when not in use.

Staff noted the Committee on Accessible Transportation is in support of this pilot to help improve the overall accessibility of elevators.

Although TEAC did not have a quorum for a formal vote related to the proposed fare increase, Staff wanted to provide a straw poll for the members in attendance to share their thoughts in either favor or opposition of the proposed fare increase. The majority of TEAC members in attendance were in opposition to the proposed fare increase, with two members abstaining. TEAC member OPAL/BRU also submitted a drafted letter addressed to the Board opposing the fare increase proposal. The letter was shared with all members but not reviewed during the meeting given the full agenda. Members are asked to submit topic requests 5 days before the meeting.

Finally Staff introduced the members of the Fare Subsidy Workgroup. Members are eager to get started on this project and welcomed the decision to continue with this workgroup regardless of the outcome of the Board's vote on the fare increase proposal.

The 11-member group includes people from the following groups

- Climate Solutions
- Committee on Accessible Transportation
- Ecumenical Ministries OPAL/Bus Riders Unite
- Mt. Hood Community College
- Multnomah Youth Commission
- OPAL/Bus Riders Unite
- Portland Bureau of Transportation
- Portland State University
- Under the Blood Ministries