

Transit Equity Advisory Committee
Zoom Meeting
Tuesday, August 8, 2023
4:30-6:30 p.m.

Attendees: April, Tristan Isaac, Jona, John MacArthur, John, Lindsey, Jan, Sara Ford, Annadiana Johnson, Karol Orozco, Amparo Agosto, Karina A., Hao N, Clay Thompson, John Gardner, Tia York, Kathy Way, Abby Griffith,

Updates

- **Pride Celebration:** We had a fantastic time celebrating Pride at last month's Pride Northwest parade. Seeing so many people come together in support of our LGBTQIA+ community.
- **TriMet's New Destination:** TriMet has a new destination in Downtown Portland: One Main Place.

The move to One Main Place reflects TriMet's commitment to Downtown Portland and its revitalization efforts. The research team evaluated 27 potential locations before selecting One Main Place. The building met various criteria, including proximity to transit, seismic resilience, and a vibrant neighborhood.

- **Improved Bus Service on 82nd Avenue:** We're laying the groundwork for improved bus service on 82nd Avenue, thanks to a \$630,000 grant from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The grant, secured by the Oregon Congressional Delegation, aims to enhance safety and access on 82nd Avenue. We are also exploring the expansion of TriMet FX™ to 82nd Avenue and the potential use of zero-emissions buses.
- **Disability Pride Month Celebration:** TriMet celebrated Disability Pride Month with a special bus wrapped in artwork called "The Golden Rule," designed by Ludovic Ulf in partnership with TriMet's Accessible Transit Program & LIFT paratransit service and the Committee on Accessible Transportation. This unique bus will be in service for at least one year.

- Fare Assistance for Low-Income Individuals: TriMet is offering fare assistance to low-income individuals who are seniors, have disabilities, or are veterans. Grants of up to \$20,000 will be provided to qualified nonprofit community-based organizations.
- Job Opportunities: TriMet is offering a \$2,500 hiring bonus for mechanic-type positions in the Maintenance Division, along with various other benefits. Additionally, TriMet is still hiring new drivers. Check out available opportunities at trimet.org/careers.

Fall Service Change FY24

Exciting Changes: Based on community support, we're thrilled to continue implementing the Forward Together Revised Service Concept. This concept focuses on ridership and improving connections to jobs and services, particularly for individuals with low and limited incomes.

Service Changes: Changes will begin on **August 27, 2023**, affecting the following bus lines and transit centers:

- Bus Lines: FX-2, 8, 15, 17, 19, 32, 35, 36, 39, 43, 44, 51, 54, 55, 56, 61, 64, 65, 66, 68, 70, 75, 77, 78, 94, 99.
- Transit Centers: Barbur Transit Center, Hollywood Transit Center, Tigard Transit Center.

For more detailed information about these changes, please visit

<https://trimet.org/betterbus/servicechanges-fy24fall.htm>

Questions from participants:

- Have a tool that registers line changes→ a tool where users can see how the route has changed over time (since the pandemic)
- Improvement in the reliability of line 44 has been significant!
- 4 Lines that go to OHSU have been discontinued→ What other lines will cover that? What mitigation strategies have been implemented? Why did those changes take place?

- What about accessibility? How are those changes affecting people living with a disability? Does somebody walk and review the quality of the streets where the new stop will take place?

Fare Subsidy Workgroup

We are developing a Research Request for Proposals (RFP) with three research areas: Fare Subsidy Resources, Subsidized Fare Programs, and Fare-less Systems Models. Proposers will have the option to bid on one, two, or all three of these areas.

Here is the current plan and timeline for the Research RFP:

- June 30 to July 12: Send out initial research focus areas and provide examples of previously received research products for context and feedback. Committee members will review these research areas and language, make suggestions, add questions, additional information, or comments using track changes, and send them back to the TriMet team by July 12.
- July 12: Committee Feedback due. The committee sends all feedback and final ideas to help inform the first draft of the research request for proposal (RFP).
- July 19: The first draft of the RFP will be available for committee review and feedback.
- July 25: Committee members submit RFP feedback.
- After July 25: Committee meeting and review of RFP, with the final meeting date to be determined.
- August 1st: An updated draft of the RFP will be available to TEAC (Transit Equity Advisory Committee) and CAT (Committee on Accessible Transportation) members. Committee members, TEAC, and CAT members will review and discuss the final RFP by August 8th.
- August 14: The RFP will be released by or before August 14. The committee will promote and share the open RFP with potential research partners.
- September 15: RFP responses will be collected by September 15, and the RFP review committee will identify the selected proposals.