Clinton/SE 12th Ave Station
Connecting communities and creating a neighborhood landmark

Design summary
The area immediately surrounding the Clinton/SE 12th Ave Station is industrial and commercial with high traffic volumes and little pedestrian activity. It is transected by the diagonal alignment of the freight rail, which creates an unconventional street network and uniquely shaped blocks. The Hosford-Abernethy residential neighborhood extends to the north (Ladd's Addition) and the east (Clinton), and the Brooklyn neighborhood is south of the station and Powell Boulevard. The new light rail station and related improvements are designed to help connect these neighborhoods, create a safer and more attractive pedestrian/bicycle environment, catalyze surrounding redevelopment opportunities, and strengthen the identity of this eclectic district. The station platform is located east of SE 12th Avenue, adjoining SE Gideon Street.

Distinguishing design elements
The overall light rail project is designed to be responsive to the character and aspirations of surrounding neighborhoods, while maintaining a system-wide identity that creates a user-friendly transit experience. The light rail line will be dynamic in the way the station areas showcase the character of each neighborhood using distinctive landscaping, public art, stormwater planters and other elements. The Clinton/SE 12th Ave Station will honor the industrial heritage of the area and create a central

Expanding transit options is essential to the livability and economic vitality of our growing region, which is expected to add one million new residents and nearly 100,000 new jobs within the project corridor by 2030. The Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project is integral to the region’s strategy to manage growth and build more livable communities. This project is about more than bringing high-capacity transit to under-served communities—it is also about helping communities envision and achieve their aspirations. Combining infrastructure improvements, quality design features and new transit-oriented development along the alignment will connect neighborhoods, encourage walking and cycling, and create engaging public spaces where people want to be.
The area from the Willamette River to Powell Boulevard received significant bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

- **Green gateway:** An infusion of landscaping is transforming the existing rail corridor between SE 12th Avenue and the 17th Avenue access to Powell Boulevard into a neighborhood focal point. The 50 feet between the light rail and freight rail tracks was planted with a double row of conifer and deciduous grove trees to create a green scrim with brilliant fall color. Street trees and landscaped bioswales line the west side of the sidewalk. New street trees and bioswales were added to SE Milwaukie Avenue on the east side between the station platform and SE Powell Boulevard.

- **Public art:** REBAR and Design Studio designed a monumental steel sculpture to mark the entrance to the Clinton Station. Intersection will be constructed of reused freight rail bent into curves that resemble transit maps and system trackways. The concept was inspired by the history of the neighborhood, which has been dramatically shaped by transportation infrastructure. Velosaurus, by Horatio Law, is a series of eight bas-relief concrete panels embedded with bicycle parts arranged to look like the remains of prehistoric dinosaurs. The panels are inset into the retaining walls underneath the SE 17th Avenue overpass of Powell Boulevard. Lynn Basa references the apple orchard that once flourished near this site in her design for the glass mosaic shelter column pattern.

**Improved bicycle and pedestrian access**

Pedestrian and bicycle options have been improved through this area to strengthen connections between surrounding neighborhoods and the river and the Springwater Corridor Trail. A new Powell Boulevard overpass at SE 17th Avenue provides a safe and direct bicycle and pedestrian route over the boulevard. Further, the underpass along the north and south sides of Powell Boulevard have been modified to improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians with new sidewalks, better lighting and a more open feel.

SE Clinton Street is a popular bicycle boulevard from SE 51st to SE 12th Avenue, where cyclists long faced a difficult crossing over the railroad tracks and Milwaukie Boulevard. The station area improvements provide a safer and more direct connection. Cyclists can now use a new signalized crossing at SE 11th and 12th avenues. This crossing connects with a new multi-use path paralleling the light rail tracks between SE
11th and SE 9th avenues and on new bike lanes on Caruthers Street. Further, the three existing freight rail crossings at SE 8th Avenue, 9th Avenue and Division Place have been consolidated into a single, realigned, signalized crossing at SE 8th Avenue. In response to the Inner Powell Boulevard Streetscape Plan, SE Milwaukie Avenue was widened to include bike lanes from SE Powell to Gideon Street, connecting the existing bike network south of Powell Boulevard to the inner southeast network, including the Clinton Street bike boulevard. Covered and uncovered bicycle parking will be provided at the station to support bike-and-ride use.

**Fencing:** Fencing is installed in the station area to provide safety and prevent people from accessing or crossing the light rail trackway or the freight tracks beyond.

**Quiet zones:** A quiet zone is a section of a rail line that contains one or more consecutive public crossings at which locomotive horns are not routinely sounded. Safety measures are required, including traffic signals and crossing gates. The project has made safety improvements to several crossings near the station area necessary to allow for the City of Portland to apply to the Federal Railroad Administration for quiet zone designation. The quiet zone is expected to go into effect by mid-2015.

**Development opportunities**

There are key development and storefront improvement opportunities surrounding the Clinton/SE 12th Ave Station. The NW Natural Gas-owned property adjacent to the alignment between SE 9th and SE 10th avenues and the triangle site framed by SE Gideon Street, SE Milwaukie Avenue and Powell Boulevard are large properties with strong redevelopment/adaptive reuse potential. Additional redevelopment opportunities exist north of the station, including along SE Division Street. Strategies are being developed to implement improvements.

**Stay involved**

Sign up for project email updates at trimet.org/pm or call TriMet Community Affairs at 503-962-2150.

---

**Available in other formats:**

trimet.org, 503-238-7433, TTY 503-238-5811

Para esta información en español, llamar al 503-238-7433.