



February 5, 2014

Kathryn A. Logan  
Board Chair  
Employment Relations Board  
Old Garfield School Bldg.  
528 Cottage St. NE, Suite 400  
Salem, OR 97301-3807

**Subject: Request for Mediation, TriMet and ATU Local 757**

Dear Board Chair Logan:

I write pursuant to ORS 243.712(1) to advise the Employment Relations Board that after more than 150 calendar days of good faith negotiations, no contract settlement has been reached between TriMet and ATU Local 757. Consequently, TriMet requests assignment of a mediator to assist the parties toward settlement.

While mediation is being scheduled, TriMet's understanding is that the parties will continue to communicate, exchange proposals and meet, as mutually agreed. Negotiations thus far have been productive, largely positive, and there is forward movement. As a result, TriMet believes the parties remain on a path toward settlement. TriMet and the ATU have reached an understanding on most provisions of the agreement, especially related to work rules, working conditions, and the grievance process. This is an accomplishment compared to the most recent negotiations in which the parties met only twice and reached no agreements during the 150-day period.

However, the parties have been unable to bridge the gap on core issues related to wages, benefits, and the term of the contract. There remains a sharp divide between the parties on how to address TriMet's \$852 million OPEB liability, which is driven primarily by retiree healthcare costs. Consequently, TriMet believes the services of a mediator will prove invaluable in reaching settlement.

TriMet is available for mediation at the conciliator's earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy M. Stedman".

Randy M. Stedman  
Executive Director, Labor Relations & Human Resources

Copy: Bruce Hansen, President, ATU Local 757  
Janet F. Gillman, State Conciliator  
Michelle Van Schaick, Office Administrator