MAX Red Line Extension and Reliability Improvements Project

Project Briefing to TriMet Board

March 27, 2019
Outline of Presentation

1. Project Description and Goals
2. Project History
3. Public and Agency Engagement
4. Requested Actions at April Board Meeting
Why This Project?

• Addresses largest systemwide bottleneck that we have on MAX
• Adds substantial new service on West side
• Improves service reliability systemwide
• Leverages up to $100M in federal funds
• Allows MAX service to grow in the future
Project Elements

- Trackwork and operator break facility
- Red Line extended 10 stations
- Double-track at PDX
- Double-track at Gateway
- New light rail vehicles and storage track at Ruby Junction
Project Goals

1. **Extend Red Line** west of Beaverton Transit Center
   - Provide more service to Hillsboro and Beaverton
   - Fulfill community desires for direct connection to Airport

2. Allows MAX system to operate **reliably**
   - Removes system wide scheduling constraint resulting from single track segments
   - Allows TriMet to increase service in the future
FairPlex—Proposed Improvements

- Track, switch work, and signalization to allow use of existing pocket track
- New operator break facility
Gateway - Proposed Double Track

Existing single-track alignment used for outbound (to PDX) movement only

New station platform for Red Line inbound

Existing alignment

New alignment

Current single track section
Gateway Transit Center – Another View
PDX – Proposed Double Track

Existing alignment
New alignment

Existing single track is 3800 ft / 0.7 mi
Ruby Junction

- Provides capacity for up to 8 cars
Project Cost

- Total project cost currently estimated at approximately $200M
- $100M request from FTA Small Starts
- $100M local funding from TriMet bonds (contingent upon milestone activities)
- FY20 Budget Request is for $13.9M to fund Project Development phase
Project Planning History

• Red Line Extension was included in **Westside Service Enhancement Plan (2013)**

• Gateway and Airport double-tracks were identified as part of systemwide modeling of capital improvements (2017)
Agency and Public Involvement

- The **Project Advisory Group** has advised the selection of the Locally Preferred Alternative.
- Broad public outreach process 2017-2018
- Focused outreach with Gateway stakeholders
General Themes of Public Comment

• Support for project and extension to Hillsboro

• Interest in the project’s ability to improve Gateway Transit Center; safe, accessible, comfortable transfers

• Support for improved access to Gateway Green Park

• Also explored AORTA’s suggestion for alternative design
Project Timeline

• Enter Project Development for Small Starts in spring 2019
• 30% design by summer 2019
• NEPA complete by summer 2019
• Grant agreement anticipated 2021
• Begin construction 2021/2022
• Opening in 2023/24
April Board Meeting

• TriMet Board will be asked to consider two resolutions in April:
  
  1) Adopting the Locally Preferred Alternative
  2) Authorizing TriMet to enter into an IGA with the Port of Portland that commits TriMet funding to the project