



Minutes

Meeting:	TriMet Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting	Date:	February 22, 2023
		Time:	9:00 a.m.
Board Members Present:	Lori Irish Bauman Keith Edwards Ozzie Gonzalez LaVerne Lewis Thomas Kim Kathy Wai	Board Members Absent:	Linda Simmons

TriMet Board Business meetings and public forum are available via web video stream. You can access the archived meetings and materials at trimet.org/meetings/board.

Vice-President Irish Bauman called the business meeting to order at 9:18 am.

1. Committee Reports

Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT) – Director Edwards provided an overview of discussion items that took place at the February 15, 2023 CAT meeting. Items on the agenda included staff updates, a LIFT Service Report, Fixed Route Service Report, an overview of the TriMet Business Plan and an update on the Better Red Project MAX Service Impacts.

Finance and Audit Committee – Director Bauman provided a summary of the February 22, 2023 Finance and Audit Committee meeting. The sole item on the agenda was an overview of TriMet’s Investment Policy. The Board will review and approve changes to the policy at the March Board meeting.

Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) – Director Kim provided a summary of the January 25, 2023 MPAC meeting. Items on the agenda included an update on their High Capacity Transit (HCT) Strategy and a summary of Metro’s Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan

Transit Equity Advisory Committee (TEAC) – Director Wai provided an overview of the January TEAC meeting. Items on the agenda included agency updates, an overview of the Hollywoodhub Project; a presentation on the TriMet Business Plan, and an overview of the Fare Increase Proposal Timeline.

General Manager Report

January 2023 Ridership

Mr. Desue provided an update on ridership. He said TriMet provided 4.58 million trips in January which is an increase of more than 20% over this time last year. However, ridership for January was still more than 41% below where it was in January 2020. The year-to-year increase in weekly ridership appears to be driven largely by ridership on weekdays. It increased more than 8% faster than weekend ridership over the same time period last year. Peak weekday ridership has increased by about a third over last year; however, weekday peaks are still about half of what they were before the pandemic.

Fare Increase Proposal Timeline

Mr. Desue provided updates and reminders around the fare increase proposal. After the Board directed TriMet staff to draft a fare increase proposal, the agency began a robust outreach and engagement period in December, including an online survey to gather feedback on the proposal. That survey closes Saturday, February 25. In addition to the survey, TriMet staff gathered feedback about the proposal during open houses that we held in January and the first part of February, both virtually and at locations across the service district. Individuals and groups also have been invited to share comments through public testimony at Board meetings, as well as through our Customer Service channels. During this time, TriMet is also performing a Title VI analysis on the proposal and its potential impacts on equitable access to our transit service. TriMet staff will come to the March Board meeting with reports on the Title VI analysis and our outreach, and will provide the comments and sentiments we've received from riders and members of the public. An ordinance on the fare increase proposal will be prepared for a first reading at the April 26th Board meeting. At that meeting, there will be a separate public hearing to give members of the public a last chance to share their feedback. The second reading and vote on the ordinance will occur at the May 24th Board meeting. If approved, the fare increase would take effect on January 1, 2024. This information, as well as a link to the survey are posted at trimet.org/fare-proposal.

Safety and Security Update

Mr. Desue provided an update on efforts to expand security staffing as the agency works to provide transit service for our community that is reliable and safe. He said TriMet is moving rapidly to increase the security personnel on the system – both TriMet staff and contract security. TriMet has nearly doubled staffing on its Customer Safety Supervisor, Safety Response and Transit Security teams in 2022 and plans to continue increasing those teams. Since the January meeting, nearly 20 more people have been added and Transit Security Officers are now up to 128. While the plan initially had been to increase to 160 this year, the agency is expecting to surpass that. Customer Safety Officers have grown in the past month from 42 to 48. TriMet continues to engage with state and local lawmakers to address the societal issues at the root of the security challenges in the community and on our transit system.

Federal Funding Awards

Mr. Desue publicly thanked TriMet's advocates in the U.S. Congress who recently secured important funding for agency initiatives. He said Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici recently joined him at the Beaverton operations facility to formally deliver \$5 million in funding to expand electric bus charging equipment there. The funds come from the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, approved in December. As TriMet expands our electric bus fleet in the future as we transition to a zero-emissions bus fleet by 2040, charging equipment will be vital. Also among funding in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, Congressman Earl Blumenauer secured \$5 million in funding for both improvements to our NE 82nd Avenue MAX Station and the region's Willamette Shore Trolley infrastructure. Former Representative Kurt Schrader also secured \$5 million in funding for future upgrades to our Oregon City Transit Center. Mr. Desue said he appreciates the congressional delegation and their commitment to helping improve transit service for our community.

Transit Driver Appreciation Day

Mr. Desue reminded everyone about Transit Driver Appreciation Day. Transit Driver Appreciation Day provides an opportunity and a reminder for us all to give thanks for the work they do and service they provide. Transit Driver Appreciation Day falls on Saturday, March 18, but this year TriMet will be celebrating on Friday, March 17, when more of our operators are working. He asked everyone to come out on March 17 to show support for our operators. There will be activities planned throughout the day, out in the community and internally at our operating facilities.

3. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Board Meeting Minutes for January 25, 2023
- Resolution 23-02-04 -- Authorizing a Contract Modification with Rinu Incorporated, DBA Reitmeyer, for On-call Ordinary Repair, Maintenance, and/or Minor Alteration of HVAC Services

Action: Director Edwards moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Director Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

4. Resolutions

Resolution 23-02-05 – Authorizing a Contract Modification with Raimore Construction, LLC for Construction Manager/General Contractor Services for the Hollywood Transit Center Infrastructure Project

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 23-02-05. He said this modification would add about \$3.9 million to the contract with Raimore Construction for the Hollywood Transit Center Infrastructure Project. This part of the project focuses on early construction work, which is necessary to procure and install a new traction power substation and a temporary stair structure at the transit center. TriMet is seeking authorization for this work early for several reasons including 1.) Long lead times associated with the items that are required, and 2) The critical need for a temporary stair structure to be in place before the existing structure can be demolished. He said this type of layered or buildable approach, is typical with CMGC contracts. Staff anticipates the request for another modification to add the balance of the construction work this fall. The agreed-upon cost for the substation and temporary stairway is roughly \$3.5 million, for a revised contract authority of just over \$4 million. The original CMGC contract was obtained through a request for proposals. The modification amount is included in the Engineering, Construction, and Planning division's FY23 Budget. Regarding diversity, the firm currently lists its staff total at 64 employees, 81% who identify as minority and 17% female. Raimore plans to use certified contractors for 73% of the work, which includes work self-performed by Raimore, as well as subcontractors.

Action: Director Gonzalez moved approval of Resolution 23-02-05. Director Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 23-02-06 – Authorizing a Contract with EC Electric for Phase 2 Battery Electric Bus Charging Stations at the Powell Garage

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 23-02-06. This resolution would provide for an expansion of electric bus charging infrastructure at our Powell Operations Facility. It would double capacity from 12 to 24 chargers, which could support and charge 24 of the GILLIG electric buses that were part of TriMet's first bulk e-bus purchase last April. Those buses will start arriving in the fall. The approved modification will allow TriMet to exercise the EC Electric contract option for procurement and installation of the additional equipment at the same rate as the initial chargers. This includes charging dispensers, power converters, system warranty, spare parts, testing, service and maintenance plans, among other components. It would constitute "Phase 2" of electrification expansion at Powell. The contract was initially procured as a Request for Proposals, and the request for the modification is \$2.1 million – the same amount as the original term or Phase 1. The amount is included in the FY23 Maintenance – Operations operating budget.

Action: Director Edwards moved approval of Resolution 23-02-06. Director Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 23-02-07 – Authorizing a Contract with Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates Inc for Better Bus Program Design Services

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 23-02-07. He said the “Better Bus Program” is the new name for the “Enhanced Transit Corridor” concepts program. This program represents a partnership between TriMet and Metro that began in 2017. Due to its success, Metro has allocated an additional \$5 million for the project under the new name. The Better Bus program has three primary goals:

- 1. Increase ridership by improving transit reliability, speed and capacity
- 2. Identify, design and build projects where improvements are most needed and can be utilized quickly.
- 3. Develop projects that will be ready for construction once funding is identified.

The resolution will authorize TriMet to engage Nelson/Nygaard to advance the Better Bus program. The contractor was selected through a competitive request for qualifications. This resolution requests authorization of a contract not to exceed \$4.2 million. The amount is included in the Engineering & Construction budget for FY23. Nelson/Nygaard has 152 employees, of whom 31.5% represent minorities and more than 49% are female or non-binary. They plan to use certified firms to perform 22% of the work.

Action: Director Gonzalez moved approval of Resolution 23-02-07. Director Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 23-02-08 – Authorizing Amendment No 14 to the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Portland for Streetcar Operations

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 23-02-08 – Authorizing Amendment No 14 to the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Portland for Streetcar Operations. TriMet and the city have worked together to operate Portland Streetcar since 2001. Even though the city owns the streetcar, TriMet shares funding, personnel and other services for day-to-day operations as part of the Streetcar Operating Agreement. Under the agreement, TriMet pays the city a designated amount relating to operations, each fiscal year. This is Amendment Number 14. For the 2024 Fiscal Year, this resolution authorizes a payment of \$10.8 million for Streetcar operations. The amount is included in the Transportation Division’s FY 2024 budget.

Action: Director Edwards moved approval of Resolution 23-02-08. Director Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Other Business & Adjournment

Hearing no further business, President Simmons adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberley Angove, recording secretary