



Minutes

Meeting:	TriMet Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting	Date:	June 26, 2024
Board Members Present:	Keith Edwards Tyler Frisbee Ozzie Gonzalez Robert Kellogg Thomas Kim LaVerne Lewis Kathy Wai	Board Members Absent:	

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.

President Gonzalez called the business meeting to order at 9:26am.

1. Committee Reports

Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT) – Director Edwards provided a summary of the June 13 Annual CAT Luncheon. The luncheon celebrated the collaboration and achievements of CAT and TriMet in improving the accessibility of TriMet Systems, Services, Communication and Policies. At the luncheon, CAT awarded its first Community Advocate award to Cleveland High School Junior Andrew Kobus. It was also announced that CAT Chair Jan Campbell is one of 8 international recipients of the American Society of Landscape Architects honorary membership for her work with TriMet to build accessibility into our planning and construction efforts. Additionally, it was announced that when the new Transit Mobility Center opens this fall, it will be commemoratively named after Jan, in honor and recognition of her 40 years of dedicated service to TriMet and the community of older adults and people with disabilities that she represents. The next CAT meeting will be held Wednesday, July 17.

Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) – Director Kim provided a summary of the May 22 MPAC meeting. At the meeting, the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission discussed their annual Oregon Housing Needs Analysis. Metro staff also sought MPAC feedback on the Small Site Industrial Readiness Toolkit to meet the growing and unmet demand for small industrial spaces. Lastly, Metro staff summarized City Urban Growth Boundary Expansion Proposals received within the current UGB expansion assessment cycle. City of Sherwood staff presented the “Sherwood West Concept Plan” and discussed how that plan will address the needs of their community. A draft 2024 Urban Growth Report will be released later this month to serve as the basis for MPAC’s forthcoming UGB recommendation to Metro Council in the fall. The next MPAC meeting takes place tonight, June 26.

Transit Equity Advisory Committee (TEAC) – Director Frisbee provided a recap of the June 11 TEAC meeting. At the meeting, the committee elected its first ever Chair, Jonath Colon of Centro Cultural de Washington County. Community Engagement shared TriMet updates including Service Change updates, TDAD, APTA, Green fleet, Hollywood Transit Center, Diverse Bus Wraps, Youth Summer Pass Program, and Hiring efforts. Introduced Civil Rights Equity Programs Manager, Ethan Snyder. Community partners presented and shared updates from their own organizations of work and news. Some highlights shared were promoting reduced fares, support for the Summer Youth Pass program, and a small committee from CAT assisting in training operators. Jamie Surface attended the meeting and provided an update from the Fare Subsidy Workgroup on research progress and response rate from agencies. Kate Lyman also attended the meeting and provided an update on Forward Together 2.0. Jonathan Plowman also provided a presentation on the FX System Plan. The next TEAC meeting takes place Tuesday, September 1.

Finance and Audit Committee (F&A) – Vice President Lewis provided a summary of this morning’s F&A meeting. Representatives from Eide Bailly attended this morning’s meeting and presented on the FY24 audit cope and provided a summary of its progress. The audit will conclude in September and they will provide the TriMet Board with a final presentation in October. Nancy Young-Oliver announced at the meeting that the TriMet District plans to participate in the Government Financial Officer Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program. Lastly, Nate Holton provided an update on the Working Wage Agreement with tentative agreements with the ATU. A vote is scheduled to take place this Saturday, June 29.

2. General Manager Report

May Ridership

Mr. Desue provided a review of May ridership statistics. TriMet provided 5.7 million rides in May. That breaks down to about 1.3 million rides each week. Monthly ridership for May was up nearly 8.5% from May of 2023. We saw year-over-year increases across all modes: bus, MAX and WES, as well as increases in weekday, weekend and peak ridership data.

Code Enforcement Increase

Mr. Desue provided an update on increasing code enforcement. On Monday, TriMet and Chief Safety Officer Andrew Wilson let riders and the public know that we will be increasing our enforcement of our ‘rules for riding’ as outlined in the TriMet Code. This is part of our ongoing efforts to improve the customer experience by making our transit system cleaner, safer and more accessible. Beginning July 1, our Customer Safety Supervisors will be increasing fare inspections and along with our contract security teams, they will also be renewing our focus on other rules for riding. That includes giving seats in the priority areas to older adults and people with disabilities as well as not blocking doors and aisles with large items, such as large bags of bottles and cans. This creates an equity issue as it blocks access for those with mobility issues and is unsafe for anyone trying to move through a vehicle. No bags or items that may leak and no open containers of food and drink that can spill and make a mess. These are not new rules. Rather, by enforcing TriMet’s existing regulations on conduct as stated in the code, we can create a safe, clean and inviting environment for everyone who rides. That’s how public transportation should be, and that’s what TriMet is doing, for our employees and people who rely on our services to connect with opportunities and participate in all our region has to offer.

Clean Team Update

Mr. Desue provided a summary of ongoing efforts to keep the system clean. I mentioned our efforts to “spruce up” the transit system. It’s been several weeks since we were last provided an update on our “Clean

Team”. The team has really dug in over the last six months or so to address cleanliness. If you have been out on the system – on trains, buses and using stops and stations – seeing is believing, and we are hearing from riders who are seeing a difference. Mr. Desue then introduced Jeremy Rehfeldt, Director of Facilities Maintenance, to provide a status report on this effort along with a video highlighting the work of the Clean Team. The video can be viewed as part of the June 26, 2024 meeting recording on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@trimet.

Juneteenth and Rose Festival Participation

Mr. Desue provided a summary of TriMet’s participation in both celebrating Juneteenth and the Rose Festival. TriMet is an important part of our community and that’s evident during parade season. Some of our eye-catching buses and employees joined community celebrations this month. Most recently on June 15th, members of our Black African American Employee Resource Group teamed up with ATU Local 757 members and other TriMet employees and marched in the annual Juneteenth Parade. I wasn’t able to be there, but I want to thank Director Lewis for marching side-by-side with ATU President Shirley Block and so many of our employees who came out to commemorate “Freedom Day.” We had about 70 people marching with our group in Northeast Portland. Our special Rosa Parks bus rolled in the parade. TriMet also took part in Rose Festival celebrations. Our “AsPire” Employee Resource Group was prominent in the Starlight parade. They marched alongside our 2024 Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander celebration bus. The artwork on this one is absolutely spectacular. And finally, one of our zero-emissions buses was the first electric bus to ever roll in the Grand Floral Parade. The 40-foot zero-emissions bus was decked out in flowers and seeds and bore the message, “Green Dreams are made of this.” We were happy to see riders joining us for the Rose Festival parade days. Ridership was about 20% both of those days, as compared to a typical Saturday night.

MAX Operator Saves Life

Mr. Desue introduced and recognized a MAX operator to speak about a recent safety incident on the system. Dave Chastain is one of the MAX operators who helps deliver safe and reliable service to our riders, every time he’s at the controls. He will tell you that one thing he enjoys about his job is that no two days are alike. We hope that May 21st, 2024 was definitely one of kind. That’s the day his actions saved a man near the MAX near Providence Park. I am so pleased to have Dave here with us this morning, so that we can share our appreciation for him and his work. We also have Manager of Rail Operations, Errol Meadows, here. Mr. Desue then asked Mr. Meadows to share with us a bit about Dave and to set the scene. Mr. Desue also asked that Mr. Chastain share his thoughts and actions when he realized something wasn’t right. Their story can be viewed as part of the June 26, 2024 meeting recording on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@trimet.

3. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Board Meeting Minutes for May 22, 2024
- Resolution 24-06-34 – Authorizing a Modification of Temporary Services Contracts for Information Technology

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

4. Resolutions

Resolution 24-06-35 – Authorizing a Contract with KPFF, Inc. (KPFF) for Design Services for the 82nd Avenue Transit Project

General Manager Desue discussed Resolution 24-06-35. The 82nd Avenue corridor is a regional priority for safety and transit improvements. Mr. Desue introduced TriMet Manager of Small Starts Projects, Michael Kiser, and 82nd Avenue Transit Project Manager Jesse Stemmler, to provide a closer look at the project. A copy of the presentation can be found in the meeting archives at www.trimet.org. Mr. Desue continued to provide details of Resolution 24-06-35. This resolution authorizes the award of the design contract for the 82nd Avenue Project to KPFF, Inc., a well-qualified and experienced regional civil and structural engineering firm. TriMet is required by Oregon law and the Federal Brooks Act to utilize a Qualifications-Based Selection when selecting architects and engineers for design contracts. In such a procurement, TriMet first must select the most qualified firm, then negotiate a fair and reasonable price. After selection of KPFF as the design contractor, TriMet negotiated the price of \$17.5 million as a fair and reasonable price for the services. Funds for project development are committed in the Engineering and Construction Division's FY2025 budget.. KPFF's total employee count is more than 1,200 and its workforce is 33.3% minority and 34.3% female. KPFF anticipates using DBE-certified firms for 25% of the work.

Action: Director Edwards moved for approval of Resolution 24-06-35. Director Frisbee seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 24-06-36 – Authorizing a Contract with Mass. Electric Construction Company (MEC) for Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) Services for the Pioneer Courthouse Square (PSQ) Type 1 Traction Power Substation (TPSS) Replacement Project

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 24-06-36. This Resolution is in regards to the replacement of the Type 1 Traction Power Substation that is underground at Pioneer Courthouse Square. The Board previously exempted this contract from competitive bidding requirements under Resolution No. 24-01-07. The replacement of this substation is part of a comprehensive upgrade and/or replacement of all the Type 1 Traction Power substations installed during the construction of the first MAX light rail line beginning in 1983. This Project will reconfigure the substation vault under Pioneer Square to improve regular service access for maintenance personnel, improve ventilation for future climate challenges, and allow installation of new and upgraded electrical substation equipment. The Project requires the CM/GC to manage interdependent and multi-disciplinary phases of multiple elements of work while limiting potentially negative impacts to all users of the shared Pioneer Square facility and minimizing disruptions to our transit system. All this is required while maintaining an aggressive schedule to reach substantial completion as soon as practicable. The selected CM/GC must assist with the final completion of design, perform constructability reviews, advise construction staging and phasing and access requirements and contribute to cost certainty all to ensure a successful construction process and minimize the risk of unplanned impacts to our operations. The CM/GC also must coordinate its work with all partners involved including adjacent businesses, TriMet riders and the public. The Resolution requests the Board's approval of Mass. Electric Construction Company as the CM/GC, and approval of the initial amount of just over \$295,000 for pre-construction services for the Project. The amount is included in the Engineering and Construction Division's FY2025 Budget. During pre-construction, TriMet will negotiate a Total Contract Price for the Project and come back to the Board with a separate Resolution authorizing the price and construction work. MEC's total employee count is just over 1,600 and its workforce is 42.8% minority and 10% female.

Action: Director Lewis moved for approval of Resolution 24-06-36. Director Wai seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 24-06-37 – Authorizing a Contract with Tait Communications for Radio System Managed Services

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 24-06-37. TriMet’s Land Mobile Radio System is critically important for public safety and day-to-day transit operations. The System is designed for transit use and includes mobile radios in buses, trains, NRVs, and LIFT vehicles, as well as mobile radios for Supervisors, Transit Police and other security personnel. It also includes nine control and radio sites interconnected by TriMet’s microwave and IT fiber network. The System must be monitored and managed, 24 hours per day, seven days a week. It relies on proprietary equipment and software that can only be maintained by authorized Tait personnel. Mr. Desue then introduced AJ O’Connor, Director of IT Systems, to provide additional details. A copy of the presentation can be found in the meeting archives at www.trimet.org. Mr. Desue added that the current contract with Tait expires this month. The Resolution before you authorizes a new, five-year, sole-source contract with Tait in an amount just over \$2 million. Pricing for the new contract is based on the previous pricing, with increases to account for inflation and additional monitoring services. Funding is included in TriMet’s IT Division Budget for FY2025. Tait employs approximately 60 people, 26 of whom are women or minorities. Also two of its top management roles and six out of its 10-member Regional Leadership Team are women and/or minorities.

Action: Director Edwards moved for approval of Resolution 24-06-37. Director Frisbee seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

President Gonzalez paused the Regular Business Meeting and convened the TriMet Contract Review Board (TCRB) to consider the next resolution.

Resolution 24-06-38 – Authorizing an Exemption from Low Bid Requirements to Allow a Best Value Solicitation for General Site Preparation and Construction of the Main Distribution Facility (MDF) at the Future Columbia Operations Facility

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 24-06-38. TriMet intends to develop our industrial property at Northeast Columbia Boulevard into the Columbia Operations Facility, which will ultimately support and house as many as 252 Zero-Emissions Buses. The proposed solicitation will seek a contractor who can demolish and remove seven existing buildings on the site and construct a Main Distribution Facility at the location. The distribution facility will be the central hub for fiber optics on the property and is essential for IT services. The project will also provide more modest opportunities for excavation, utility decommissioning, hazardous building material abatement, and physical network reconfiguration. The exemption from the ordinary low bid contracting procedure sought with this resolution would allow for a best-value Request for Proposals contract solicitation for work at the Columbia property instead. That change would also create an opportunity for firms certified by Oregon’s Certification Office for Business Inclusion and Diversity, known as COBID, to bid. Enabling a COBID-certified firm to act as the prime contractor on this project would allow that firm to build a relationship with TriMet staff and better understand the administrative requirements of contracting under the CM/GC project delivery approach. The cost of the distribution facility construction and general site preparation activities is estimated at \$3.7 million. Funds to commence the Project are included in the Engineering and Construction Division’s FY2025 Budget.

Action: Director Edwards moved for approval of Resolution 24-06-38. Director Frisbee seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval. President Gonzalez reconvened the TriMet Board of Directors for the remainder of the business meeting.

Hearing no further business, President Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 11:39am.

Respectfully submitted,

Falesha Thrash

Falesha Thrash, Board Administrator and recording secretary