



## Minutes

---

<b>Meeting:</b>	TriMet Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting	<b>Date:</b>	April 26, 2023
		<b>Time:</b>	9:30 a.m.
<b>Board Members Present:</b>	Keith Edwards Ozzie Gonzalez LaVerne Lewis Linda Simmons Kathy Wai Lori Irish Bauman Thomas Kim	<b>Board Members Absent:</b>	

---

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](https://trimet.org/meetings/board).

President Simmons called the business meeting to order at 11:11 am.

### 1. Committee Reports

**Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT)** – Director Edwards provided an overview of discussion items that took place at the March 15, 2023 CAT meeting. Items on the agenda included the fare increase proposal, addressing elevator issues with a pilot program, upcoming committee field trips and discussing feedback and concerns in regards to addressing accessibility challenges as well as LIFT experience and accessibility.

**Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC)** – Director Kim shared highlights from the March 22, 2023 MPAC meeting. The agenda consisted of a presentation on the Supporting Housing Services Program and Affordable Housing Bond Program, discussing the upcoming 2024 Urban Growth Management decision to consider if there is a need for expansion of the region’s Urban Growth Boundary and Metro shared the new vision for the Expo Center.

**Transit Equity Advisory Committee (TEAC)** – Director Wai provided an overview of the April 11, 2023 TEAC meeting. Items on the agenda included celebrating the new affordable housing units at the Fuller Station Apartments, discussing the Cleveland High School crossing, reviewing the fare increase proposal outreach report that was presented to the TriMet board in March as well as the Title VI report outlining mitigation strategies in regards to the fare increase proposal. The committee also discussed HOP card accessibility and future details on launching the new workgroup focused on fares.

**Finance and Audit Committee (F&A)** –Director Bauman provided a summary of the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission hearing that took place April 26, 2023 in place of the regular Finance and Audit Committee meeting. General Manager Desue opened the meeting by reviewing the Fiscal

Year 2023 Budget, asked questions in regards to ridership recovery, the proposed fare increase, mitigation efforts, budget projections, safety and security, operator staffing and capital projects. The meeting concluded with the commissioners voting to sign the certification letter, expressing satisfaction with the TriMet budget. A recording of the TSCC hearing can be found in the meeting archives at [www.trimet.org](http://www.trimet.org).

## **2. General Manager Report**

### **March 2023 Ridership**

Mr. Desue provided an update on ridership for the month of March. He pointed out that March marks three years since the start of the COVID-19 lockdowns that drastically dropped transit ridership here in Portland and around the world. Last month we saw our highest ridership month since March 2020. At just over 5,087,250 rides, it was the second month since the start of the pandemic that we saw more than five million rides. The other month being October 2022, when we provided approximately 5,032,000 trips. Weekly system-wide ridership was up 15.5% over this time last year. For March 2023, TriMet's system-wide weekly ridership has returned to 62% of pre-pandemic levels.

### **Reimagining Public Safety**

Mr. Desue stated that this is an effort that has been underway at TriMet since July 2020. At that time, we redirected \$1.8 million in police contracts and additional funding to explore new, community-informed efforts to broaden our approach to public safety. What has happened since then has been challenging, but remarkable on many levels. Mr. Desue then invited Chief Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Officer, John Gardner, as well as Executive Director of Safety and Security, Andrew Wilson, to provide an update on these efforts and how they are being included in our ongoing safety efforts, training, policies and procedures. A copy of the presentation can be found in the meeting archives at [www.trimet.org](http://www.trimet.org).

### **Quarterly Performance Report**

Mr. Desue invited Manager of Service Performance and Analysis Miles Crumley to provide a snapshot of the overall performance and reliability of our service for Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 of 2022. A copy of the presentation can be found in the meeting archives at [www.trimet.org](http://www.trimet.org).

### **Interim Maintenance Executive Director**

Mr. Desue introduced Dan Blair, who has appeared at Board meetings in the past as our Director of Rail Equipment Maintenance. Dan has now stepped up to be our Interim Executive Director of Maintenance Operations. He has been with TriMet since 1993, when he joined us as an apprentice. Dan has been doing an amazing job leading our maintenance teams during the hiring process to replace Roland Hoskins, who departed last month.

## **3. Consent Agenda**

- Approval of Board Meeting Minutes for March 22, 2023
- Approval of a Resolution directing that the reading of all ordinances be by title only.
- Resolution 23-04-14 – Authorizing a Contract Modification with DKS Associates, Inc. for Next Generation Transit Signal Prioritization Services

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

#### 4. Resolutions

##### **Resolution 23-04-15 – Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement with Wilsonville for Withdrawal from the District of Areas within the Wilsonville City Limits**

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 23-04-15. This resolution seeks the Board's authority for an IGA with Wilsonville that will allow an adjustment of the TriMet service district boundary to exclude certain parcels of land located within the Wilsonville city limits. The city withdrew from the TriMet District in 1988, but it continues to be served by WES commuter rail and receives very limited service from our Line 96 bus route. In 1989, Wilsonville began providing its own city-operated transit service, the South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART). However, because Wilsonville extended its city limits northward, it annexed three small parcels in north Wilsonville that are still part of the TriMet district and also where SMART provides transit service. Wilsonville would like these areas to be withdrawn from TriMet and incorporated into its city-owned SMART system. However, Oregon's statute governing withdrawals from transit districts does not allow a withdrawal petition to be filed for areas within cities with more than 10,000 people, like Wilsonville. The resolution that comes before the Board today takes a step toward resolving that issue with Wilsonville's boundary concern. The resolution requests authorization from the Board for the General Manager to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Wilsonville that would:

- Withdraw the three annexed parcels within the Wilsonville city limits from the TriMet district.
- Provide for Wilsonville's payment to TriMet of \$2.738-million as compensation for estimated lost tax revenues resulting from the withdrawal.
- Require Wilsonville to remove HB 2666 from further consideration by the legislature.

When and if the IGA is agreed upon, TriMet will come back to the Board to submit a voluntary withdrawal ordinance for your consideration. That would be necessary to formalize the withdrawal process for the three areas within the city limits under Oregon law. The ordinance would be contingent on Wilsonville's satisfaction of its obligations under the IGA. The Resolution is revenue-neutral, as the projected loss to TriMet of an estimated \$2.738-million in tax revenue over the next 10 years, would be offset by Wilsonville's one-time payment of that amount to TriMet. At the same time, TriMet and Wilsonville are continuing efforts to negotiate an agreement to some other areas Wilsonville would like to incorporate into the SMART Service District.

**Action:** Director Bauman moved for approval of Resolution 23-04-15. Director Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

##### **Resolution 23-04-16 – Authorizing a Contract with Skanska USA Building, Inc. for Design/Build Services for the Park Avenue Park & Ride Garage Expansion**

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 23-04-16. The Park Avenue Park & Ride is a two-story TriMet parking structure located at the southern end of the MAX Orange Line. It sits adjacent to the Park Ave MAX Station in the Oak Grove area, just south of Milwaukie. From the early days of the Orange Line project, staff anticipated a need for additional floors at the parking structure. Therefore, the garage was completed with just two levels but designed with an eye to allow expansion to four levels in the future. TriMet is now prepared to advance that project, with the use of unspent funds

from the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project. In October 2022, the Board approved a Resolution authorizing an exemption from the low bid procurement process for the contractor. TriMet issued an RFP late last year, and Skanska was determined to be the most qualified of the three proposers for this specialized scope of work. Skanska's proposed price came in 27% below TriMet's approved budget for the Project. The resolution includes a change order of up to about \$1.7 million - or 10%, for a total authorized contract amount of just over \$19.1 million for this Design/Build contract. Should any of those change order funds be needed, they will be drawn from contingency funds remaining from the MAX Orange Line's Federal Full Funding Grant Agreement. Funding for the contract is included in the Engineering, Construction and Planning Division's FY23 budget. Skanska's workforce is 24% female and 17.5% minority. The firm estimates that at least 17% of the work will be performed by DBE-certified contractors, and TriMet will work with Skanska to increase that amount to as much as 30%.

**Action:** Director Gonzalez recused himself from the discussion and vote. Director Kim moved for approval of Resolution 23-04-16. Director Wai seconded the motion. The motion passed with six votes in favor and one abstention.

## 5. **Ordinances**

### **Ordinance 372 – Adopting May 2023 Service Changes and Revising Route Designations (Second Reading)**

General Counsel Devine read Ordinance No. 372 by Title Only.

Mr. Desue provided an overview of Ordinance 372. If approved, TriMet is prepared to make these adjustments with our May 2023 service plan. Meaning changes will take effect on Sunday, May 28. The two routes that would see the most significant changes are lines 17 and 70. If approved today, the result will be safer access to Cleveland High School for students using Line 70 buses. In addition, this May service plan includes an upgrade for a portion of Line 17 to Frequent Service with buses arriving every 15 minutes or better most of the day, every day. The Board must adopt service changes and revise TriMet route designation through the ordinance process, which brings us here today.

A roll call vote was conducted by General Counsel Devine.

Director Kim – yes

Director Wai – yes

Director Gonzalez – yes

Director Bauman – yes

Director Edwards – yes

Director Lewis – yes

Director Simmons – yes

Ordinance 372 passed with unanimous approval.

**Ordinance 373 – Adopting FY2024 Annual Service Changes and Revising Route Designations (Second Reading)**

General Counsel Devine read Ordinance No. 373 by Title Only.

Mr. Desue provided an overview of Ordinance 373. Contained within this ordinance is the first big package of service improvements coming out of our Forward Together Service Concept. Forward Together is about increasing ridership and providing better and smarter connections for the people who rely on our transit system, especially those with low and limited incomes. The Forward Together project came together in response to dramatic changes in travel patterns that occurred as a result of the pandemic. It was informed by the community after extensive outreach and engagement. With these service adjustments, we will begin restoring service hours that have been cut over the last three years due first to the COVID-19 pandemic and then to our historic operator shortage. TriMet is eager to begin rolling out these changes, as we have stabilized the staffing shortage. Now, we can start adding back service, as we believe we will have enough operators to consistently support it.

A roll call vote was conducted by General Counsel Devine.

Director Lewis – yes  
Director Edwards – yes  
Director Bauman – yes  
Director Gonzalez – yes  
Director Wai – yes  
Director Kim – yes  
Director Simmons – yes

Ordinance 373 passed with unanimous approval.

**Ordinance 374 – Fare Increase Ordinance (First Reading and Public Hearing)**

General Counsel Devine read Ordinance No. 374 by Title Only.

Mr. Desue provided an overview of Ordinance 374. This ordinance would amend TriMet Code to adopt a fare increase that would take effect on January 1st of next year. If approved, the ordinance would bring the first increase to Adult fare on TriMet in 11 years. We last increased any fares on our system in 2015. The ordinance that you are hearing today comes at the Board’s request. Mr. Desue introduced Executive Director of Finance and Administration, Nancy Young-Oliver, as well as Chief Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Officer John Gardner to provide detail on the ordinance and the equity considerations as well as federal requirements that come with a fare increase. A copy of the presentation can be found in the meeting archives at [www.trimet.org](http://www.trimet.org).

President Simmons opened the forum for public comment.

**Public Comment**

Four members of the community provided comments on Ordinance 374.

President Simmons closed the session for public comment.

The second reading of Ordinance 374 will take place at the May Board meeting.

**6. Other Business & Adjournment**

Hearing no further business, President Simmons adjourned the meeting at 1:01pm

Respectfully submitted,

---

Falesha Thrash, recording secretary