



Minutes

Meeting:	TriMet Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting	Date:	March 24, 2021
		Time:	9:00 a.m.
Board Members Present:	Lori Irish Bauman Keith Edwards Ozzie Gonzalez LaVerne Lewis Linda Simmons Kathy Wai Bruce Warner	Board Members Absent:	none

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 Warner called the business meeting to order at 9:43 am.

1. Committee Reports

Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT) - Director Bauman provided a summary of the March 17th meeting. She said Pat Williams, director of Security & Emergency Management provided an update on implementing the Reimagining Public Safety Initiative. He also shared data analysis that has identified five bus lines that experience the most assaults and disruptions. As a result, security presence increased on these lines. John Garner, executive director of Transit Equity, Inclusion and Community Affairs continued the discussion about the Reimagining Public Safety initiative, noting that the next 24 months will be focused on technology, communications, system presence and infrastructure. Finally, Director Bauman said the Lift staff gave report to CAT on operations, showing improved on-time performance of Lift service.

Finance and Audit Committee (F&A) – Director Simmons provided an update of the March 24, 2021, Proposed budget update. She said the committee reviewed the FY21 budget appropriations resolution which will come before the board in April for approval. The committee also received an update on the labor negotiations process. She also informed the board that TriMet staff has received a Government Finance Officers Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. It was received in July 2020 based on the reformat of the budget document. Director Simmons commented that the new format is more user-friendly and provides a comprehensive online view of TriMet’s budget.

Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) Director Wai provided an update from the February 24th MPAC Meeting. The committee received a presentation on Metro’s economy recovery strategy, a plan which is renewed every five years. She noted that Metro is working closely with Greater Portland Inc. to develop a targeted strategy to help small businesses that have been hit hard by Covid-19. She briefly discussed Metro’s plans for advancing economic mobility for the region, including families and children. The committee also discussed regional emergency transportation routes. She noted there is an active stakeholder engagement process currently underway. Director Wai highlighted that community based organization who service black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) are eligible for multi-year funding from Metro for capacity building grants. She noted the application deadline is March 31st and encouraged others to spread the word about this opportunity to any organization who may benefit.

Transit Equity & Access Advisory Committee (TEAC) – Director Gonzalez provided an update of the March TEAC meeting. Ozzie update on GM recruitment. Planned timeline and phases or process. Agreed to provide recruitment updates at each meeting. Staff provided updates on cleaning measures during Covid. Carl Green presented the draft Title VI review for service changes. Director Gonzalez noted that TEAC members shared updates from their respective agencies before the conclusion of the meeting. He added that the next meeting is scheduled for April 13th and will include a new member from the Urban League of Portland.

GM Search Committee – Director Bauman provided a brief overview of the GM Search Committee activities. Executive Director of Public Affairs, J.C. Vannatta presented a summary of the community outreach efforts, upcoming listening sessions and timeline. Director Bauman introduced Gregg Moser, the executive recruiter that TriMet has retained for the search process. Mr. Moser shared a summary of the conversations he has had with stakeholders in the process and how it has informed the job description to be approved this month. The directors engaged in a robust discussion about the process and the importance of finding the right candidate who will uphold TriMet’s core values and be an active member of the community.

2. General Manager Report

Covid-19 Update

Mr. Desue provided an update on COVID-19 at TriMet. He said the agency is closely watching to see how the Portland metro area begins to come out of a year of lockdowns and restrictions. The three counties TriMet serves are now in the medium risk category for COVID, and statewide, case counts have dropped dramatically. TriMet continues to follow all COVID-19 safety protocols and is working with the Oregon Health Authority to be ready to help coordinate vaccinations once transit employees are eligible to get vaccinated.

February 2021 Ridership

Mr. Desue provided a summary of February ridership. TriMet provided more than 2.7 million rides in February. While still substantial, that’s down 63-percent from February of 2020. The snow and ice storm during the middle of last month added on to the decline due to the pandemic. Weekly bus ridership was down about 63-percent. On MAX, weekly ridership was down just over 65-percent. WES declined 79.5-percent over this time last year. WES is running every 45 minutes instead of every 30 minutes due to our service cuts. He added that TriMet expects customers will begin coming back on board as vaccines become available to more people.

Quarterly Performance Report

Mr. Desue introduced Manager of Service Performance and Analysis, Miles Crumley, who presented the Quarterly Performance Report. A copy of the presentation is available on the trimet.org website.

Business Plan Update

Mr. Desue introduced Alan Lehto, director of Asset Management and Business Planning, who presented the final business plan. A copy of the Business Plan can be found on the trimet.org website.

Website Refresh

Mr. Desue introduced Executive Director of Public Affairs JC Vannatta and Manager of Marketing and Rider Communications, Dave Whipple to provide an overview of improvements to the customer experience through changes to TriMet’s website.

3. Consent Agenda

- Meeting Minutes for February 27, 2021
- Resolution Reading Ordinances in Title Only

Action: Director Simmons moved approval of the Consent Agenda as amended. Director Bauman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Resolutions

Resolution 21-03-09 – Approving the General Manager Job Description

President Warner briefly discussed Resolution 21-03-09 approving the General Manager Job Description. He noted that approval of the resolution formally begins the recruitment process. Vice President Bauman noted that the description is the culmination of a lot of discussion and collaboration with stakeholders.

Action: Director Edwards moved approval of Resolution 21-03-09. Director Wai seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 21-03-10 – Approving the Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Budget or Submission to the Multnomah County Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission

President Warner adjourned the Board of Directors meeting and convened a meeting of the TriMet Budget Committee.

Mr. Desue discussed resolution 21-03-10. He said Oregon law requires TriMet to obtain Board approval for the Proposed Budget before it is submitted to the Multnomah County Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission (TSCC) for their review in advance of the public hearing next month. Once analyzed and approved by the TSCC following the public hearing, the Budget is returned to the Board for consideration and approval.

Resolution 21-03-10 outlines TriMet's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, which begins July 1st, 2021 and runs through June 30th, 2022. It's a \$1.64-billion-dollar proposal and includes \$733.7-million-dollars for operations, including \$54-million for OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) and \$126.5-million for debt service, and \$301.2-million for capital and operating projects. Under this budget, TriMet will continue critical capital maintenance projects as well as service improvements based on demand as customers come back. This budget does not include a base fare increase for the ninth straight year.

Action: Director Bauman moved approval of Resolution 21-03-10. Director Simmons seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

President Warner adjourned the Budget Committee meeting and reconvened the meeting of the TriMet Board of Directors.

Resolution 21-03-11 – Authorizing a Modification to the Contract with WSP USA, Inc. for Design Services for the Division Transit Project

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 21-03-11 requesting a contract modification with WSP USA for design services for the Division Transit Project. Construction of the Division Transit Project is well underway, and it is currently estimated at about 40-percent completion, with opening of new, high-capacity bus service between Downtown Portland and Gresham on track to begin in the fall of 2022. The work is complex due in part to the nature of Division Street, which has underground utilities that must be carefully navigated which has led to a number of unforeseen design changes and exceptions. As a result, the project has exhausted the existing design budget faster than anticipated. The project team worked with WSP to develop a budget for the remainder of the project. Resolution 21-03-11 would increase the contract authority by \$1.7-million-dollars, to just under \$12-million-dollars. The design costs are considered fair and reasonable, and they will be covered by the project's available grant-based contingency.

Action: Director Gonzalez moved approval of Resolution 21-03-11. Director Wai seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 21-03-12 Authorizing an Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Portland for Streetcar Operations

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 21-03-12. He said TriMet and the City of Portland enjoy a unique relationship with Portland Streetcar. TriMet is responsible for operations and maintenance, the services are provided under the overall direction of the city, not TriMet. The resolution would execute Amendment Number 12 to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Portland for Streetcar operations, authorizing TriMet's share of funding for Portland Streetcar for FY 22. The total amount is approximately \$8.874-million-dollars and was established by the Streetcar Permanent Executive Group, or PEG, and includes TriMet executives and managers, P-BOT Streetcar managers and the Executive Director of Portland Streetcar. It takes into account TriMet's share of costs for funding, personnel and other service for day-to-day operations of the streetcar system and it follows guidance outlined in the Streetcar Master Agreement, which was adopted in 2012.

Action: Director Simmons moved approval of Resolution 21-03-12. Director Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 21-03-13 – Authorizing a Contract with Ortiz and Associates Inc. For Lafayette Pedestrian Bridge Maintenance and Repair Services

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 21-03-13 authorizing a contract for maintenance and repairs to the Lafayette Pedestrian Bridge. The bridge was built as part of the MAX Orange Line project and provides safe access for pedestrians and people using mobility devices to cross above the heavy railroad tracks at Brooklyn Yard. He said the bridge was designed with a lot of glass, security cameras, elevators and other amenities – all with safety in mind. With all of these factors at play, TriMet determined that an outside contractor would be instrumental in the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the bridge. Ortiz and Associates was selected through an Invitation to Bid Process. The contract covers a five-year term and comes in at just over \$1.3-million-dollars. It is task-order based, and the cost is included in the Facilities Maintenance Operating Budget. In regard to diversity, Ortiz's workforce is 66.6-percent minority and 16.6-percent women. The company has identified four DBE firms for subcontracted work. Staff attended the meeting to answer questions from the directors.

President Warner left the meeting and Vice-President Bauman chaired the remainder of the meeting. Director Wai left the meeting at noon. A quorum was still present.

Action: Director Gonzalez moved approval of Resolution 21-03-13. Director Wai seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Resolution 21-03-14 – Authorizing a Contract Modification with North Coast Electric Company to Provide LED Lighting Fixtures and Controls at Various TriMet Facilities.

Mr. Desue discussed Resolution 21-03-14 which requests a modification to the contract with North Coast Electric Company. This is the company that has been providing extensive LED lighting upgrades to TriMet facilities. Those upgrades are in response to a fire inspection last June that found existing lighting fixtures at TriMet facilities were no longer code compliant and beyond their useful life. Mr. Desue noted that this contract is unique in that it was procured with a special process, authorized through the state of Oregon known as a "piggyback procurement." It gave TriMet the opportunity to take advantage of competitively bid unit pricing for the lighting fixtures and controls. This program is administered through Energy Trust of Oregon, and the agency has agreed to extend the incentive program to allow TriMet to complete additional projects at a much lower cost.

The resolution would increase the contract amount for North Coast by just under \$349-thousand-dollars to complete these projects. The cost is included in the Maintenance Division's FY 21 to 22

operating budget. Finally Mr. Desue noted that North Coast's workforce is 13.5-percent minority and 17.4-percent female.

Action: Director Edwards moved approval of Resolution 21-03-14. Director Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

5. Ordinance

Ordinance 363 –

General Counsel Shelley Devine read Ordinance 363 by title only.

Vice President Bauman opened the meeting for public comment.

Public Comment:

Dan McFarling – opposed to Ordinance 363

Heather McCary – Support of Line 63 Route changes.

Vice President Bauman closed the session for public comment.

Tom Mills, director of Mobility, Planning and Policy presented a summary of the service changes in the ordinance. Carl Green, Jr., administrator of Title VI and Equity Programs presented the draft Title VI Report. Following the presentations the directors discussed the concerns of the public that have been expressed in writing in the previous weeks. Director Gonzalez asked the planning team to take another look at the proposed changes to see if these concerns could be addressed.

Ordinance 363 will proceed to the April 24, 2021 meeting for the Second Reading.

6. Other Business & Adjournment

Hearing no further business, President Warner adjourned the meeting at 1:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberley Angove, recording secretary