



**Committee on Accessible Transportation
Business Meeting
Wednesday, February 19th, 2025
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Webex**

Recording:

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Password: GbhXqj7w

CAT Members

Jan Campbell
Annadiana Johnson
Claudia Robertson
Dave Daley
Richard Hunter
Patricia Kepler
Jason Jablow
Sky McLeod
Franklin Ouchida
Stella Moore
T J Anderson
Tre Madden
Katheryn Woods

TriMet

Justin Rossman, Sr. Community Engagement
Charlie Clark, Service Delivery Manager
Janet Von Phul, Admin. Asst. Major Projects
Eileen Collins Turvey, Dir. Accessible Transportation
Jonathan Lewis, General Mgr. Transdev
Mary Hicks, Sr. Admin Asst. ATP
Kittie Kong, Sr. Community Engagement
Bruce Smith, DEI
Raychel Schindelman, Digital Accessibility Spec.
Kaylee Knowles, Web Accessibility
Joe Tobias, Project Mgr. Customer Information Services
Michael Corrente, Sr. Engineering & Constr.
Pat Williams, Dir. Security & Emergency Mgmt.
Nikki Sato, Software Developer

Guests/Public

John Merrick-Russell
Ryan Skelton
Lisa Strader, PBOT ADA
Abby

Minutes

09:00 - **A. Opening Remarks** – Jan Campbell

1. Roundtable Introductions
2. Approval of Agenda –Amendment added to agenda by Justin Rossman, Janet Von Phul will be presenting today instead of Michael Corrente. Jan Campbell asked that inclement weather be added to today’s agenda. Move to approve by Dave Daley with above modifications, seconded by Annadiana Johnson, no abstentions.
3. Approval of January Business Minutes, move to approve by TJ Anderson, seconded by Claudia Robertson, no discussion, all in favor, no abstentions

09:10 - **B. Wayfinding ad hoc update** – Wayfinding Co-Chair Sky McLeod shared that in the meeting they talked with the accessibility team about the website and their backlog and helping to prioritize things they need to work on. The accessibility team talked about maps and how to make them more accessible for screen readers as well as turn by turn directions that were originally meant for operators but could be a useful tool for wayfinding.

09:14 - **C. LIFT subcommittee update** – LIFT Co-Chair TJ Anderson, breakdown of information from the LIFT reports and looking through issues.

09:16 - **D. TriMet Staff Updates – Justin Rossman provided updates**

- Accessible Transportation Fund Advisory Committee. (ATFAC) This topic was brought up for discussion to make sure that all CAT members had the information and that they could become members.
 - Claudia Robertson commented about the funds from ATFAC and how very important it is for CAT to be a part of these meetings and to serve on this committee. You can come and listen just to learn. Look in your CAT handbook at the Services Transportation plan. This plan is being updated and needs input to decide what happens to funds in the next 4 - 5 years. It’s going to be even more important if we have to forego federal funds. The meetings are 2/28 from 10:00am – 2:00pm, April 4th from 10:00 – 2:00pm and April 25th from 10:00 – 2:00pm. These will be zoom meetings.
 - Jan Campbell commented that they really need people with disabilities as well as older adults to join.

- Several CAT members are interested in updates on downstream political information regarding this administrations federal funding. Are there any cuts or accessibility updates to public transportation in Portland.
- Eileen Turvey informed CAT members that the current Executive committee bylaws are referred to as STFAC and should be updated to ATFAC. This might be a good time to get this cleaned up.
- Executive Committee nominations. Justin Rossman shared that two Executive Committee member positions are open. In April we will take selections for anyone that may want to become involved in this leadership committee and then in May’s Business meeting we will have an actual vote. The two positions available are the Chair position and member at large.
- TriMet FY25 – FY29 business plan available on website. <https://trimet.org/businessplan/>
 - Dave Daley felt that it was put out there without having an opportunity to examine any of the accessibility components of the plan.
- 4/1 - Transit Day at the Capital – Justin Rossman shared that Eileen Turvey was able to get permission for a LIFT vehicle to take members of CAT out of the service district to go to Salem for the day. Please let Justin know if you are available for this journey.
 - Jan Campbell pointed out that it’s a great way to meet your legislators. It’s important to get talking points together as a unified voice.
 - Dave Daley shared with CAT that if they are talking to legislative staff you should talk to the Joint Senate Transportation Committee.
 - Eileen Turvey will reach out to Miles Penn Gilley the Director of Government Affairs to see if we formulate some questions as he knows which bills are up this year and to help CAT focus on where we really want to dive in.
- TriMet garage tabling for operators in May - Justin Rossman gave an update about this function. It would be CAT members in coordination

with our TriMet-ABLE Employee Resource Group which supports staff with disabilities and their allies. Set up displays and snacks at the garage and engage operators as they are leaving for the day. Justin will send out a notice to you all with possible dates for these events.

- TriMet's statement on ICE, The statement from TriMet is on our website and was included in the February packets. (Immigration Control & Enforcement) TriMet does not partner with ICE in any capacity.
 - Tre Madden discussed an incident where an immigrant woman passenger was being harassment by Allied Security, even though she had identification.
- Inclement weather update – Eileen Turvey shared that we did call a code red day, February 14th, which means only life sustaining trips for paratransit riders. There were no complaints from customers and we believe that is due to advanced messaging. Fixed route also did well with only a few minor disruptions due to a couple frozen switches, down trees/limbs and hills in the area. TriMet had invested in some chameleon machines that are like wire brushes that clean the rails from ice accumulation which also keeps the rails from flooding and clears debris from the tracks.
- Transit Driver Appreciation Day and TriMet would like to encourage our customers to provide comments about drivers and they will be transferred onto large posters and posted in the garages.
- ATP is looking for a college intern to support a mobile wayfinding platform. Justin Rossman will send out the job description if anyone knows a college Jr/Sr. who may be interested please contact him.

09:50 - **E. Safety & Security bimonthly update** – Pat Williams oversees the Emergency Management team and everything went well during the recent inclement weather. No injuries were reported.

Transitioned to a conversation about ICE not having a heavy footprint in the Portland area. Pat shared that there have been people making dozens of reports about ICE agents on the system, however TriMet has not found any camera footage or anything to support these allegations. But wanted to share that if we see anything to please report it immediately. He did speak with Seattle and Portland offices of ICE regarding impersonating federal ICE agents and it is the same as impersonating a police officer and they would prosecute. We follow up on all complaints. The only staff that would be asking for identification are our customer safety supervisors and that is due to the

challenge of people exhibiting bad behavior on our system and are usually the people who give false names.

Moving on to HOP card access control on elevators with a target date for April upgrades for Hollywood, 60th Ave. and 82nd Ave. There are a total of 32 elevators, but not all are targeted at this time. He thanked the CAT team for being an integral part of this upgrade.

Blue light phones, highly visible intercom system that we have gotten several medical emergency calls on them. Most are installed between Gateway and the Rose Quarter. We are working to install them in a consistent location on the platforms. They are highly visible.

At the security operations center there are currently 7 trained dispatchers working. We are looking to expand that number.

- Franklin Ouchida – the red with the blue light stand out and look like emergency item. He also asked about CAT members visiting the SOC and security office.
- Sky McLeod – asked about an audible signal for finding the blue security light.
- John Merrick-Russell – asked about disabled people using the blue light for other issues.
 - Pat Williams shared that there is no penalty or consequences for pushing the button. There are several cameras around the platform as well as one on the device itself that can give a view of the situation.

10:15 - **F. General Public Comment**

- Ryan Skelton the first thing he wanted to ask about was the STFAC (AFTAC) meetings. Is the public able to come to these meetings. The second comment is that he is also very interested in the disability planning for extreme emergencies. The final comment was about inclement weather and how he is grateful for TriMet transportation being available because it is an issue regarding providers being able to reach their community.
 - Pat Williams's intent is to create a safety plan for people with disabilities or limited mobility issues around security incidents. CAT committee will be involved to help with this safety plan.

- Claudia Robertson shared that the ATFAC meetings are open to the public and a link to those meetings should be on their website.
- John Merrick-Russell asked that CAT share with the legislative staff how important it is that this community has transportation for independence.

10:20 - **G. TriMet Board of Directors Update** – Director Erin Graham (**Cancelled**)

10:25 - **H. Committee Member Feedback & Discussion** - Jan Campbell

- Dave Daley commented on the attachments to the agenda on Fixed Route that line 72 on 82nd street is the number one route for mobility device pass ups. This route has 40% more passups than any other line in the system. We need to increase the capacity for mobility devices on new buses.
- Franklin Ouchida wanted to let Ryan Skelton know that there is public comment at the AFTAC.
- Dave Daley told the group that STIF (Special Transportation Improvement Funds) is the committee at TriMet that allocates the funds that the AFTAC committee gets to parse out to the various users. Last time we had a lot of struggles because of the limitation on funds that were available. It's important that they're paying attention to the needs of the accessible transportation fund.

10:30 - **I. Break**

10:45 - **J. Beaverton and Oregon City Transit Center redesign project** – Janet Von Phul, Administrator with large projects, works with Michael Corrente TriMet Project Engineering & Construction Projects Manager

Went over the presentation of visual pictures/renderings of the new redesign of Beaverton Transit Center and Oregon City Transit Center, as well as the project schedule. Construction shows beginning in October 2025 and is projected to be finished in 2027.

11:10 - K. Comments and questions

- Annadiana Johnson does not see anything on the project redesign drawings that shows public restrooms.
- Dave Daley wants to understand how will people walk and roll around these spaces. The way the buses are shown in the diagram, as parked does not allow for the public to walk safely.
- Franklin Ouchida commented, since we are going to a common pick up and drop off area, it would be helpful to have a design or marking on the ground to show where the bus ramps will be deployed. Also, a universal symbol on the ground to show the customer where the front of the bus is going to stop.
- Claudia Robertson does not see any directional markings North/South for the people to know which direction they are going.
- Patricia Kepler felt that having the Falcon device onsite was very helpful. She also suggested a welcome mat as they are approaching the shelter that changes the sound acoustics to let the blind community know where the bus shelter is so they can get out of the elements. Her last suggestion is the need for wheelchair charging stations.
 - Joe Tobias - Power and network issues with Falcon installation. The Falcon announces the buses in order of the bus lines at that stop.
- Annadiana Johnson– The common pickup area procedures for first position bus stop states they should wait until they pull into position at the pickup pole before they start allowing passengers on the bus.
- Franklin Ouchida feels that the operators need to announce the bus line and what direction you are going especially for people with low vision or people who are blind. They also need to use the microphone.
- Ryan Skelton clarified that North/South signage for common destination (such as towards Hillsboro or towards Gresham). He asked for curb cuts to be included on the next design so we can see if it's going to work, in terms of wheelchair safety.
- Jan Campbell – asked if there was going to be a place for LIFT to park.

11:25 - **L. Upcoming CAT meetings**

- Wayfinding Ad Hoc February 25th at 9:30am
- Executive Committee Planning March 4th at 9:30am
- LIFT Subcommittee March 12th at 9:30am
- Business Meeting March 19th at 9:00am

Upcoming CAT new operator trainings:

- MAX new operator training – February 24th 12:15pm
- Bus New Operator Training – February 27th 11:45am
- LIFT New Operator Training – March 6th 1:00pm

11:30 - **M. Adjourn Business Meeting**