



October 15, 2018

HB 2017 Committee
c/o Deanna Palm, Chair
Diane McKeel, Co-Chair

RE: HB 2017 Advisory Committee Recommendations to TriMet

Dear Co-Chairs and members of the HB 2017 Advisory Committee:

I am not able to attend the meeting on October 16th to discuss a policy frame for submitting the HB 2017 Advisory Committee recommendations to the TriMet Board. I would however, like to share my perspective on the policy direction for your consideration.

I support the committee's recommendations from the last meeting for 1% of the funding for youth passes. I also support a statement to the TriMet Board recommending the use of current allocations for a pilot program region wide to determine demand for the passes and ask TriMet support to expand the program to meet this demand for low income students outside of Portland Public Schools. I cannot support a significant increase in youth passes when many schools and communities in the region do not yet have adequate bus service and we have not documented the demand.

I also support the committee's recommendations to commit funding for electric buses on an ongoing basis. Though the costs are high, a shift to EV buses recognizes the need to address broader state mandates for greenhouse emissions in the region. I would recommend a request to the TriMet Board to seek additional State or Federal funding to mitigate costs of an EV program on TriMet funds and to recognize contribution to these state mandates.

I want to thank the committee for agreeing to the \$3 million for regional coordination projects and ask that the committee be prepared to increase future allocations to meet needs for last mile service and continue reducing service fragmentation.

Finally, as additional funding becomes available, I would like to see TriMet prioritize service for communities where growth has exceeded increases in service, particularly for low income, elderly and disabled populations. I offer our assistance in identifying and prioritizing transit service needs and our support to promote transit use.

October 15, 2018

RE: HB 2017 Advisory Committee Recommendations to TriMet

Page 2 of 2

The HB 2017 Committee worked hard to cover many diverse interests and needs and not surprisingly, not all could be met. It is a good start and the funding allocations can and should be revisited by the committee over time. Seeking additional funding and taking time to learn from experience over the next couple of years as outlined in these comments will inform future discussions of this committee.

Sincerely,



Andrew Singelakis, AICP

Director, Land Use & Transportation

cc: Bernie Bottomly, Executive Director, TriMet
Tom Mills, Manager, Service Planning, TriMet