

Date: March 22, 2023

To: Board of Directors

From: Sam Desue, Jr.

Subject: ORDINANCE NO. 373 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) ADOPTING FY2024 SERVICE CHANGES AND REVISING ROUTE DESIGNATIONS (FIRST READING AND PUBLIC HEARING)

1. Purpose of Item

Ordinance No. 373 requests that the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) adopt service changes and revise route designations now shown in TriMet Code Chapter 22, Section 22.05.

2. Type of Agenda Item

- Initial Contract
- Contract Modification
- Other: Ordinance

3. Reason for Board Action

The Board may adopt service changes and revise TriMet Code route designations only by adoption of an Ordinance.

4. Type of Action

- Resolution
- Ordinance 1st Reading and Public Hearing
- Ordinance 2nd Reading
- Other _____

5. Background

Ordinance No. 373 will make bus service changes and revise route designations set forth in TriMet Code Chapter 22, Section 22.05. The proposed FY2024 service changes reflect the start of TriMet’s bus service hours restoration and the beginning of the Forward Together Plan implementation.

A. Proposed Service Changes:

Ordinance No. 373 includes bus service changes for TriMet’s Fiscal Year 2024 (which begins on July 1, 2023). Planning and Policy staff have prioritized the need to restore ridership, provide equitable service, improve service to Marquam Hill, and help students access schools. Other considerations included the available number of vehicle hours and operators, Title VI, and the geographic distribution of service.

Ordinance No. 373 proposes to:

- Upgrade five bus lines to Frequent Service,
- Improve service to low-income communities,
- Increase weekday and weekend service to Marquam Hill (OHSU and VA Hospital),
- Change some routes to help high school students access their schools,
- Increase ridership and efficiency on other routes,
- Restore frequencies on three non-frequent Lines to pre-pandemic levels, and
- Discontinue some low-ridership and low-productivity lines per Forward Together.

The proposed service changes are shown on the attached Exhibit A, and are generally described below:

Line	Service Change	Name Change
14-Hawthorne	Name change only.	14-Hawthorne/Foster
19-Woodstock/Glisan	Upgrade to 30 minute service; operate earlier and later; route over Tilikum Crossing instead of the Ross Island Bridge; discontinue service on SW 1 st Avenue, SW Kelly Avenue, SE Ross Island Way, and the Rex Loop (SE Bybee Boulevard, SE 28 th Avenue, SE Rex Street, and SE 36 th Avenue).	
35-Macadam/Greeley	Upgrade to 30 minute service; operate earlier and later; every other trip uses SW Taylors Ferry Road and SW Terwilliger Boulevard between SW Macadam Boulevard and SW Taylors Ferry Road and SW Terwilliger Boulevard and Highway 43.	
36-South Shore	Discontinue service due to low ridership.	
39-Lewis & Clark	Move route away from Lewis & Clark College to serve the Arnold Creek neighborhood along SW Stephenson Street, SW 35 th Avenue, SW Huber Street, and SW Barbur Boulevard; terminate at Barbur Transit Center; operate high school trips only. Lewis & Clark College to be served by changes to Line 35.	39-Arnold Creek/Hillsdale
43-Taylors Ferry Rd	Route change to Marquam Hill via Tigard Transit Center to SW Commercial Street, SW Main Street, SW Hall Boulevard, SW Locust Street, SW 80 th Avenue, SW Taylors Ferry Road, SW Barbur Boulevard., SW Spring Garden Road and SW Terwilliger Boulevard; discontinue service to Washington Square Transit Center via SW Hall Boulevard and between Barbur Transit Center and SW Spring Garden Road via SW Huber Street and SW Taylors Ferry Road; upgrade to every 30 min.; operate earlier and later; headway is offset with Line 56 to provide Frequent Service between Hillsdale and Marquam Hill.	43-Taylors Ferry/Marquam Hill

48-Cornell	Upgrade to Frequent Service (15 min. service, 7 days/week); small route change to NW Barnes Road between NW Cornell Road and NW Cedar Hills Boulevard. Discontinue service on NW Cornell Road between NW Barnes Road and NW Cedar Hills Boulevard and on NW Cedar Hills Boulevard between NW Cornell Road and NW Barnes Road (swap with Line 62).	
51-Vista	Extend to serve SW Hamilton Street, SW Sunset Boulevard, & SW Bertha Boulevard to Burlingame; discontinue Downtown loop (SW Salmon Street, SW 2 nd Avenue, SW Washington Street, SW 11 th Avenue, SW Morrison Street, and SW 18 th Avenue); only operate for school trips and during rush hours.	51-Vista/Sunset Blvd
52-Farmington/185 th	Upgrade to Frequent Service (15 min. service, 7 days/week).	
54-Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy	Upgrade to Frequent Service (15 min. service, 7 days/week).	
55-Hamilton	Discontinue service due to low ridership.	
56-Scholls Ferry Rd	Route change to serve Marquam Hill via SW Terwilliger Boulevard; discontinue service on SW Barbur Boulevard, SW Naito Parkway, SW Harrison Street, SW 5 th Avenue, and SW 6 th Avenue; headway is offset with Line 43 to provide Frequent Service between Hillsdale and Marquam Hill.	56-Scholls Ferry/ Marquam Hill
61-Marquam Hill/ Beaverton	Discontinue due to low ridership and duplicative service.	
62-Murray Blvd	Small route change to NW Cornell Road and NW Cedar Hills Boulevard.; discontinue service on NW Barnes Road between NW Cornell Road and NW Cedar Hills Boulevard (swap with Line 48).	
64-Marquam Hill/ Tigard	Discontinue due to low ridership and duplicative service.	
65-Marquam Hill/ Barbur Blvd	Discontinue due to low ridership and duplicative service.	
66-Marquam Hill/ Hollywood	Discontinue due to low ridership and duplicative service.	
68-Marquam Hill/ Collins Circle	Discontinue due to low ridership and duplicative service.	
77-Broadway/Halsey	Upgrade to Frequent Service (15 min. service, 7 days/week); extend some trips to the Troutdale Reynolds Industrial Park (TRIP) via NW Graham Road, NW Sundial Road, & NW Swigert Way.	
87-Airport Way/181 st	Upgrade to Frequent Service (15 min. service, 7 days/week).	

94-Pacific Hwy/ Sherwood	Discontinue service between Tigard Transit Center and Downtown Portland via Barbur Highway 99 West, SW Barbur Boulevard, and SW 5 th Avenue & SW 6 th Avenue; maintain service on Highway 99 West between Tigard Transit Center and Sherwood and upgrade to 20 min. service; operate earlier and later.	94-Tigard/Sherwood
Line 99-Macadam/ McLoughlin	Route change to S. Moody Avenue and S. Bancroft Street to reduce delays and simplify the line. Discontinue service on SW 1 st Avenue, SW Ross Island Way, S. Kelly Avenue, and S. Curry Street.	

B. Service Change Public Process

Because TriMet was conducting the Forward Together Plan process this past year, the FY2024 service changes were included in the Forward Together outreach process during September and October of 2022, and then again in January and February of 2023 as a separate outreach for the FY2024 service changes.

The September and October 2022 outreach process requested public comment on all the service changes in the Forward Together Plan, and staff reached out to the public in multiple ways. To start, staff made information available on trimet.org/forward, and conducted a survey in eight languages via an online language translation tool in English, Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese, Chinese, Ukrainian, Russian, and Somali. The webpage and survey were advertised to the community through social media (Facebook and Twitter) and handouts translated into the same eight languages. The survey was also advertised to TriMet’s Riders Club via email, to customers at transit centers via e-readers at the stops with QR codes, and to employees via *ExpressLine*, the online employee newsletter. The survey received 4,597 responses, of which 124 were completed in a language other than English.

In addition to the online outreach, TriMet staff conducted five in-person open house meetings and two virtual open house meetings. All of the in-person open houses featured some non-English language translation, depending on where they were located. Most comments were submitted through verbal interactions; however 107 written comments were submitted by open house attendees.

The following chart describes the open house locations, languages, and attendance.

Open House	Languages	Attendance
PCC Cascade, North Portland – 10/18/22	English, Spanish	60
Rosewood Initiative, East Portland – 10/19/22	English, Spanish, Nepali, Rohingya, Sango, Burmese	80
Shute Park Library, Hillsboro – 10/20/22	English, Spanish	70
Virtual Open House – 10/22/22	Spanish	40
Fairview City Hall – 10/24/22	Spanish	40
Clackamas Community College Harmony, Milwaukie – 10/26/22	English, Russian, Ukrainian	50
Virtual Open House – 10/27/22	English	60

TriMet staff also partnered with the Slavic Family Center, Playeast (in Fairview), Centro Cultural, and the Somali Family Council to promote the survey and open house meetings through emails, phone calls, newsletters, and face to face interactions. Finally, several local communities promoted the survey and open house meetings on their social media platforms and newsletters.

In January and February 2023, TriMet staff conducted a second outreach specific to the group of service changes in the Forward Together Plan that are proposed to be implemented in FY2024. Included in the outreach effort was a discussion of the proposed fare increase. As was done for the Fall outreach, TriMet launched a webpage, trimet.org/plan, as a central location for obtaining information and providing comments. The webpage also included a language translation tool for viewers who don't speak English. The webpage and open house meetings were also promoted to Riders Club, email subscribers to impacted lines, employers, and community stakeholders. The proposed changes and open houses were also advertised on KATU, KGW, KOIN, Fox News, and published in newspapers such as the *Oregonian*, *Willamette Week*, the *Sellwood Bee* and the *Statesman Journal*. TriMet also promoted the service changes on social media (Facebook and Twitter). Visitors to the webpage submitted 1,471 comments.

During the outreach process, TriMet staff held eleven in-person open house meetings and six virtual events. All in-person events featured some non-English language translation depending on where they were located. The following is a list of the open house locations, languages and attendance.

Open House	Languages	Attendance
University of Oregon, Downtown Portland – 1/17/23	English, Spanish	45
Virtual Open House – 1/18/23	English, Spanish	10
St. Philip Neri Catholic Church. SE Portland – 1/18/23	English, Vietnamese	60
Rosewood Initiative, East Portland - 1/19/23	English, Korean, Vietnamese, Chinese, Rohingya, Burmese	52
Virtual Open House – 1/21/23	English	16
Blue Star Events Center, NE Portland – 1.21.23	Somali	60
Clackamas Community College, Harmony, Milwaukie – 1/24/23	English, Ukrainian, Russian	125
Washington Street Conference Center, Hillsboro – 1/25/23	English, Spanish	10
Virtual Open House – 1/28/23	English	14
Virtual Open House – 1/28/23	Spanish	15
Fairview City Hall – 1/26/23	English, Spanish	50
Virtual Open House – 1/30/23	English, Spanish – for Honored Citizens	12
Korean Society of Oregon, SW Portland – 2/1/23	Korean	60
Muslim Education Trust, Tigard – 2/1/23	English, Arabic, Farsi	55

Mekong Bistro, NE Portland – 2/2/23	Chinese	26
Virtual Open House – 2/4/23	English/Spanish	12
Center for Positive Aging, NE Portland – 2/6/23	Korean, Japanese	35

TriMet staff also partnered with eleven multicultural organizations to promote the open house meetings. The organizations included the Asian Pacific Islander Community Coalition of Oregon (APICCO), Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), Center for Positive Aging, Centro Cultural, Immigrant Refugee Community Organization (IRCO), Linguava, Muslim Educational Trust, Playeast, Rosewood Initiative, Slavic Family Center, and Somali American Council of Oregon. These organizations helped to promote the survey and open house meetings through social media, websites, emails, radio, newsletters, and face to face interactions.

C. Title VI Service Equity Analysis

In accordance with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Title VI Circular 4702.IB implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, major service changes must be analyzed to identify potential disproportionate impacts to minority and low-income populations. The major service changes made by Ordinance No. 373 have been subjected to TriMet’s Title VI analysis.

Included in the Board packet is the draft Title VI Service Equity Analysis Report (Title VI Report), which evaluated potential adverse effects and benefits associated with the proposed major service changes. To summarize, the Title VI concerns regarding the proposed service changes outlined in Ordinance No. 373 are minimal.

Of the nine proposed major service reductions, none had potential line-level disparate impacts on minorities, but two had potential line-level disproportionate burdens on people living with low-incomes. However, on a system-level, there were no potential disparate impacts or disproportionate burdens.

Of the ten proposed major service improvements, six had potential line-level disparate impacts on minorities, and one had a potential line-level disproportionate burden on people living with low-incomes. However, on a system-level, there were no potential disparate impacts or disproportionate burdens.

The results and findings of the Title VI Service Equity Analysis Report are being presented to the Board for its consideration at the March 22, 2023 meeting. The final Title VI Report with any supplemental public feedback will be provided to the Board prior to the April 26, 2023 meeting.

6. **Financial/Budget Impact**

The service changes described in Ordinance No. 373 are estimated to cost approximately \$19.3 million per year. This cost is included in the proposed Budget scheduled to be presented to the Board at its March board meeting.

7. **Impact if Not Approved**

A Service Change ordinance requires two readings. Usually in March of each year, the Board has a first reading of the proposed service changes for the upcoming fiscal year. The first reading for FY2024 Service Changes is scheduled for March and the second reading is scheduled for April. This allows sufficient time to adopt and implement the service changes.

ORDINANCE NO. 373

**ORDINANCE NO. 373 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) ADOPTING
FY2024 SERVICE CHANGES AND REVISING ROUTE DESIGNATIONS
(FIRST READING AND PUBLIC HEARING)**

The Board of Directors of the Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon, pursuant to the authority of ORS Chapter 267, having reviewed, considered and approved the Title VI Service Equity Analysis Final Report and considered testimony offered during a public hearing, does hereby ordain and decree the following Ordinance:

Section 1- Adoption of Service Changes

Service Changes are adopted as set forth on the attached Exhibit A, which is incorporated into and made part of this Ordinance. In accordance with TriMet Code Section 22.05, new Schedule Notices consistent with Exhibit A shall be filed for the affected lines.

Section 2- Amendment of TriMet Code Chapter 22

TriMet Code Section 22.05 is amended to show the revised Route Designations set forth in the attached Exhibit A.

Section 3- Effective/Operative Dates

This Ordinance shall take effect thirty days after the date of its Second Reading. Operative dates for specific Service Changes and revised Route Designations have been designated.

Dated: March 22, 2023.

Presiding Officer

Attest:

Recording Secretary

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:



Legal Department

EXHIBIT A TO ORDINANCE NO. 373

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