

Date: March 26, 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Sam Desue, Jr.

Subject: **RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-09 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT MODIFICATION WITH PORTLAND OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER, DBA ROSEMARY ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL**

1. Purpose of Item

This Resolution requests that the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) authorize the General Manager or his designee to execute a Contract Modification (Modification) with Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center (POIC), dba Rosemary Anderson High School, to provide Community Safety Worker program services.

2. Type of Agenda Item

- Initial Contract
- Contract Modification
- Other

3. Type of Contract Procurement

- Low Bid / Invitation to Bid (ITB)
- Request for Proposals (RFP) (inc. CM/GC)
- Request for Qualifications (RFQ) (Personal Services)
- Other: Sole Source

4. Reason for Board Action

Board authorization is required for all contracts obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$1,000,000.

5. Type of Action

- Resolution
- Ordinance 1st Reading
- Ordinance 2nd Reading
- Other

6. Background

For over 55 years, POIC has been a beacon for communities of color, particularly for members of the African American community. POIC was originally founded to provide culturally-specific workforce training and career placement services to counter discriminatory practices keeping people of color unemployed, underemployed, and unable to access wealth building opportunities.

Viewing education as a critical component of a community's success, POIC expanded in 1983 by founding Rosemary Anderson High School, an accredited alternative high school, and added an accredited middle school in 2018. In the early 2000s, POIC introduced its community violence intervention and prevention programs, and they have continued to grow since then. Today, POIC employs nearly 40 violence intervention and prevention professionals.

As discussed during a presentation by POIC at the February 2025 Board meeting, POIC provides comprehensive, community-based, culturally-specific services to Portland's disadvantaged and underserved communities in the areas of education, employment and training, family and health, and community safety. As an aspect of its community safety services, POIC provides support to families and individuals harmed by community violence by attempting to intervene, prevent, and interrupt violence.

POIC's Community Safety Worker (CSW) program is a part of this service. The CSW program is a comprehensive, two-year program developed and conducted in collaboration with Portland State University (PSU), designed to equip participants with specialized skills and knowledge in trauma-informed care and community safety practices. While CSW program participants are passionate and possess valuable lived experience, according to POIC, they often lack the training needed to progress and excel in their roles.

The CSW program is similar to an apprenticeship in which POIC community outreach workers attend courses at PSU while continuing their work in the community. This combination of academic and practical training is designed to prepare them to support and improve our community. Through the CSW program, POIC seeks solutions to the pervasive violence continuing in the community by stopping the cycles of violence in the following ways:

1. Community Safety Workers, who are credible messengers who have experienced community violence themselves, gain access to high quality, professionalized career training and job opportunities.
2. Community Safety Workers prevent violence from occurring by building personal relationships and sharing resources with those who appear most at risk for experiencing or committing acts of violence.
3. Community Safety Workers provide intensive support and assistance to victims and perpetrators of violence during and immediately following an incident, in an effort to prevent retaliatory and/or continued violence.

TriMet and POIC have had a partnership for six years for at-risk youth outreach. Initially, TriMet had a contract with the City of Portland, which, in turn, provided a grant to POIC for the outreach. Last year, TriMet executed a contract directly with POIC in the amount of \$650,000, which will expire in April 2025.

Some program accomplishments include an increased focus on youth violence prevention on the system, street-level outreach in gang-affected areas, and Community Safety Worker attendance at youth-related games and events where TriMet sees high ridership.

Through this Modification, TriMet and POIC wish to extend the contract for two additional one-year terms, for the total contract amount of \$1,950,000. This would allow TriMet to engage four Community Safety Workers and one (1) Program Supervisor each year to support TriMet's community safety efforts. The outreach performed for TriMet will align with the existing job duties of POIC Community Safety Workers while advancing TriMet's safety and security efforts.

These CSW workers will:

- Engage with riders and community members to create a safe and welcoming environment.
- Connect riders to community-based resources as needed, including service referrals.
- Provide basic staples and emergency supplies to community members as needed.
- Intervene and provide support to individuals in crisis.

POIC's strategic partnership with TriMet will focus the activities of CSW workers on public transit lines near local high schools with a history of community violence. POIC staff with lived experience will be assigned to monitor key sections of the MAX light rail system, as well as bus lines and stops near McDaniel, Parkrose, Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Franklin high schools. CSW monitoring will be concentrated during critical times, such as after-school events and dismissal hours.

POIC's CSW program has been shown to increase efficiency and effectiveness of outreach work in support of vulnerable individuals, while providing a visible presence that helps deter criminal activity. The CSW program aligns with TriMet's focus on providing a positive experience for all TriMet riders and staff, and the Modification proposed by this Resolution will advance that priority.

7. Description of Procurement Process

A Sole Source procurement process was used to select the contractor. POIC is an Oregon non-profit corporation focused on workforce development and other community-based activities.

8. Diversity

POIC has 194 employees, of whom 72% are minorities and 44% are female. POIC will self-perform all of the services provided under this Modification.

9. Financial/Budget Impact

The current contract amount is \$650,000 and expires in April 2025. Extending the contract for two (2) additional 1-year terms will cost the total amount of \$1,950,000, through FY2026 and FY2027. Contract funds for the first year of the Modification are included in the proposed FY2026 budget for the Safety & Security Division.

10. Impact if Not Approved

If not approved, TriMet will not be able to provide the services outlined above.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-09

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-09 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING A
CONTRACT MODIFICATION WITH PORTLAND OPPORTUNITIES
INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER, DBA ROSEMARY ANDERSON HIGH
SCHOOL**

WHEREAS, TriMet has authority under ORS 267.200 to enter into a contract Modification (Modification) with Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center (POIC), dba Rosemary Anderson High School, for Community Safety Workers program services; and

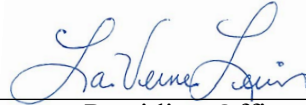
WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 22-05-35, dated May 25, 2022, the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) adopted a Statement of Policies requiring it to authorize all contracts and contract modifications obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the Modification exceeds \$1,000,000;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Contract shall conform with applicable law.
2. That the General Manager or his designee is authorized to execute the Modification in the amount of not more than \$1,950,000, through the Modification's extended termination date of April, 2027.

Dated: March 26, 2025



Presiding Officer

Attest:



Recording Secretary

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:



Legal Department