



**P.O. Box 422 Gresham, OR 97030**

**Date:** August 22, 2018

TriMet Administrative Office  
Attn: HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee  
1800 SW 1st Ave #300,  
Portland, OR 97201

**RE:** Testimony for HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee Regarding Use of RNG Buses in TriMet Fleet

My name is Jarvez Hall and I am the Executive Director of The East Metro Economic Alliance (EMEA). EMEA is a non-profit organization comprised of businesses, chambers of commerce, and public agencies working together on issues vital to economic development in the East Metro region. EMEA serves East Portland, Fairview, Gresham, Troutdale, and Wood Village.

We believe that efficient transportation for people and goods strengthens our economy and supports our quality of life and are therefore looking forward to expanded Transit service in the east metro area. We also believe that programs which enhance community livability, attract and retain businesses and employees, and feel that buses that provide the expanded service should minimize environmental impacts and operate on non-diesel fuels, such as renewable natural gas.

Buses that run on renewable natural gas (RNG) provide significant benefits at substantially lower costs than other eco-friendly technologies. These lower costs allow TriMet to increase the number of buses on the road, routes, and frequency of buses minimizing greenhouse gas (GHG) and particulate matter emissions. These RNG buses:

- Have significantly lower GHG emissions than diesel (up to 125%)
- Have 90% less NOx emissions than diesel buses
- Are half as loud as diesel buses
- Have no range issues for TriMet routes (no need to refill/recharge mid route), even on hilly or longer routes
- Use mature technology, which is available today
- Offers another fuel source to increase resiliency for the fleet in event of a natural disaster (snow, ice, windstorm, etc.)

We urge HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee members to consider and encourage that TriMet procures and operates RNG buses in its expanded service and future bus replacements.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Jarvez Hall, MBA**

**East Metro Economic Alliance Executive Director**

**Email:** [ExecutiveDirector@EastMetro.org](mailto:ExecutiveDirector@EastMetro.org)

**Phone:** [\(503\)912-8898](tel:(503)912-8898)

---

The East Metro Economic Alliance (EMEA) is a non-profit organization comprised of area businesses, chambers of commerce, other non-profit organizations and public agencies working together to shape the future of East Metro through economic advocacy. EMEA builds consensus and promotes action on issues vital to the economic development and livability of the East Metro region including East Portland, Fairview, Gresham, Troutdale, and Wood Village.