



HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: January 23, 2026

Meeting Location: Virtual (Zoom)

Attendees:

Committee/Sub-Committee Members

Michael Morrow (Committee Chair; Citizen Representative, TriMet District 7)
Jarvez Hall (Committee Co-Chair; TriMet Board District 6; East Metro STEAM Partnership)
Phil Selinger (TriMet Board District 2; at-large west of Willamette)
Lynn Peterson (Metro Council President)
Jason Snider (Washington County Commissioner)
Diana Helm (Clackamas County Commissioner)
Vince Jones-Dixon (Multnomah County Commissioner)
Andrew Aebi (City of Portland; Capital Projects Manager)
April Bertelsen (City of Portland Bureau of Transportation)
Sara Wright (City of Portland; committee alternate)
Andrew Plambeck (Portland Streetcar)
Andy Nelson (Ride Connection)
Eve Nilenders (Multnomah County)
Patricia Keppler (Committee on Accessible Transportation; CAT & ATFAC member)
Brandon Brezic (Central City Concern)
Mary Lou Ritter (Accessible Transportation Funds Advisory Committee)
Mike Strauch (South Clackamas Transportation District)
Heidi Muller (Canby Area Transit; Transit Operations Manager)
Karen Buehrig (Clackamas County DTD)
Dyami Valentine (Washington County Land Use & Transportation)
Diana Kotler (Wilsonville SMART)
Dwight Brashear (Wilsonville SMART)
Ashley Graff (Multnomah County District 4)
Bryn Thomas (Washington County)
Lindsay Huber (The Street Trust)
Jeffrey Kain

TriMet

Tom Mills
Alex Page
Kittie Kong (Community Engagement)
Justin Trubiani
JP Gonzalez
Eileen Collins Turvey
Debbie Gregg
Jeff Rogers
David Bouchard

Visitors

Akemi Norish (Multnomah County)

Minutes:

A. Agenda Item 1

Call to order and agenda: Committee Chair Michael Morrow called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees, and outlined that the meeting would focus on committee orientation, the FY 2026–27 STIF work plan/timeline, and proposed bylaw updates.

Meeting access issues: Staff noted difficulties with Zoom at the start of the meeting. The session had been configured in webinar mode (requiring a meeting ID), which delayed some participants from joining; staff corrected the configuration so attendees could enter and participate.

Meeting logistics: Because the session initially operated in webinar settings, participants were asked to use the Q&A function for questions; staff also addressed intermittent difficulty viewing the slide deck by adjusting screen sharing as needed.

Public comment: No public testimony was offered.

B. Agenda Item 2

Introductions and roll call: Committee members, partner providers, and agency staff introduced themselves and their roles/constituencies. Tom Mills served as the primary TriMet staff facilitator and guided the introductions.

C. Agenda Item 3

STIF/HB 2017 overview: Staff reviewed the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF), established by HB 2017, including the role of the Qualified Entity (TriMet) in developing the regional STIF Plan and coordinating with Public Transportation Service Providers (PTSPs).

Committee role: Staff and members discussed how the committee's recommendations are documented and elevated to the TriMet Board, including considerations related to equity, access, coordination with local plans, and alignment with statewide public transportation goals.

D. Agenda Item 4

Draft FY 2026–27 work plan: Staff presented a draft timeline for developing the FY 2026–27 STIF Plan, noting the schedule is approximately two months earlier than prior cycles to meet state deadlines.

Key milestones described: Planned committee meetings and review points; coordination with PTSPs to review partner proposals; public engagement activities; development of a draft plan for TriMet Board consideration in late summer/early fall 2026; and submittal to ODOT targeted for the second week of January 2027.

Public engagement: Jason Snider emphasized the importance of meaningful public input and recommended that future meetings include structured public comment time and outreach early in the process. Staff confirmed public engagement is a required element of the STIF planning process and will be incorporated into the schedule; staff also noted PTSPs conduct their own engagement and can coordinate through the committee process.

Advisory function and feedback loop: Diana Helm asked how committee feedback is incorporated and how members can ensure their advice is heard. Staff described that committee input is reflected in meeting records and Board materials, and members were encouraged to submit questions and comments between meetings as needed.

Disbursement/eligibility factors: In response to a question about whether listed factors are ranked in priority, staff clarified that the factors are not presented in a ranked order; they function as considerations the committee and Board weigh collectively when evaluating investments.

Service and funding context: Lynn Peterson asked how STIF planning relates to TriMet’s broader budget and service outlook. Staff clarified that TriMet is currently planning for approximately a 10% service reduction due to a financial shortfall and emphasized that STIF funds remain dedicated to transit service and eligible investments, making continued STIF planning necessary even amid broader fiscal constraints.

Service preservation and accessibility: Mary Lou Ritter noted that many providers are in a “maintenance mode” focused on preserving core service and accessibility-focused programs; members affirmed prioritizing stability, access, and reliability while meeting STIF goals.

E. Agenda Item 5

Purpose of bylaw updates: Tom Mills introduced proposed updates to the HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee bylaws following an ODOT compliance review. Staff noted the updates are intended to align the bylaws with ODOT administrative rule requirements and clarify existing committee practices.

Changes summarized: Staff described updates to add required consideration factors, clarify the committee’s role in reviewing PTSP projects and providing recommendations, update eligible-project references/numbering, and clarify decision-making procedures; staff also noted a required representation category that had been omitted in earlier bylaws would be added.

PTSP review process: Members discussed how the committee would review PTSP projects and how that review would be reflected in recommendations to the TriMet Board. Staff stated the intent is to formalize a process the committee has been following and to ensure documentation is consistent and compliant.

PTSP awareness and opportunity to comment: Eve Nilenders asked whether PTSPs had adequate opportunity to review and comment on bylaw changes. Staff acknowledged timing

concerns, noted the changes are largely codifying existing requirements, and committed to circulating the updated language and accepting feedback before the bylaws are finalized for Board consideration.

Process improvements: Members asked that materials (including bylaw language and any decision points) be distributed at least one week in advance when possible. Staff agreed and encouraged members to email questions between meetings.

Agenda Item 6

Adjournment: With no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:14 a.m.