



Public Outreach Report On TriMet Redistricting

April 27, 2022

Submitted to

Oregon Secretary of State, Shemia Fagan

By TriMet General Manager Sam Desue, Jr.

MEMORANDUM

To: Oregon Secretary of State Shemia Fagan
From: TriMet General Manager Sam Desue, Jr.
Date: April 27, 2022
Subject: Public Outreach Report on TriMet Redistricting

This narrative Public Outreach Report and its accompanying Appendix (pages 1-5) is directed to the Oregon Secretary of State, pursuant to OAR 165-008-0150. The Report describes the public engagement conducted by TriMet as part of the process of redistricting of TriMet Board member districts, and is intended to comply with OAR 165-008-0150(4).

TriMet initiated its public engagement efforts on the process of redistricting its Board members' districts on February 23, 2022. On that date, TriMet gave a presentation during the virtual meeting of the TriMet Board of Directors. The presentation explained the redistricting process and presented three proposed alternative map scenarios for the new Board member districts. In conjunction with the meeting, TriMet published an informational redistricting web page, trimet.org/board/redistricting, describing its redistricting efforts and presenting the map scenarios. TriMet also issued a news release requesting public comments on the three proposed maps. The news release outlined TriMet's process to collect and review public comments prior to the presentation of staff's recommendation to the TriMet Board at its April 27, 2022 meeting. The news release is posted at news.trimet.org/2022/02/trimet-seeks-public-feedback-on-new-adjustments-to-board-director-districts/. It was also shared on TriMet's news channel on Twitter@trimetnews and the Agency's LinkedIn page, [linkedin/company/trimet](https://www.linkedin.com/company/trimet).

On February 25, 2022, TriMet included the redistricting effort and a link to the redistricting web page in its *TriMet on the Move* newsletter. The *TriMet on the Move* newsletter was sent to more than 3,000 recipients.

On March 3, 2022, TriMet's *Equity on the Move* newsletter also mentioned the agency's redistricting efforts and requested readers to weigh in on the proposed redistricting of TriMet Board member districts. The *Equity on the Move* newsletter reaches 778 recipients who are members of area BIPOC community organizations and service provider networks.

TriMet staff also presented redistricting information and the three proposed alternative district maps to two of its official advisory committees – the

Transit Equity Advisory Committee (TEAC) and the Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT).

On March 8, 2022, staff made its redistricting presentation to TEAC, which is comprised of representatives from Bus Riders Unite, Centro Cultural of Washington County, the CAT, Clackamas Community College, IRCO, JOIN, OPAL, Latino Network, Multnomah Youth Commission, Portland Community College, Portland Street Trust, and Urban League.

On March 16, staff led a separate redistricting discussion with the CAT, whose members consist of seniors and persons with disabilities committed to maintaining access to transit for all.

On March 30, 2022, a TriMet news release invited the public to participate and provide feedback on the redistricting process during two scheduled virtual open houses. The news release is posted at:

news.trimet.org/2022/03/trimet-to-hold-virtual-open-houses-on-new-adjustments-to-board-director-districts/.

It was also shared on TriMet's news channel on Twitter, @trimetnews, and the Agency's LinkedIn page, linkedin/company/trimet.

On March 31, 2022, TriMet included the redistricting open houses and a link to the redistricting web page in its *TriMet on the Move* newsletter. The *TriMet on the Move* newsletter was sent to more than 3,000 recipients.

On March 31, 2022, an updated article regarding open house dates and the process of adjusting the TriMet Board member district boundaries was shared on a TriMet Stakeholder email list containing more than 10,000 addressees.

On April 2, 2022, the Cedar Mills newspaper ran an article on the redistricting process and generated a number of public comments. The Cedar Mills article may be found at:

cedarmillnews.com/article/0422-trimet-seeks-input-on-redistricting-proposal/

On April 5, 2022 a virtual open house discussing the proposed alternative Board member districts and the proposed alternative district maps was conducted in Spanish. This was followed on April 6, 2022 by a similar virtual open house in English. Both of these events were promoted via the aforementioned emails, newsletters and news release. Links to the events were also posted on TriMet's redistricting web page (trimet.org/board/redistricting) and on TriMet's Facebook

page, of which the Agency has some 52,000 followers. Unfortunately, each open house had just one public participant, and no oral comments were received.

In total, ten (10) written comments and phone calls on the three proposed alternative Board member district maps presented to the public were received during TriMet's public engagement process. A summary of TriMet's public engagement process and of the public comments received is included in the April 11, 2022 Appendix that accompanies this Memorandum.

During the Public Forum at the TriMet Board Meeting on April 27, 2022, another opportunity will allow community members to provide feedback on the preferred new Board member district map. At that Board meeting, the TriMet Board of Directors will consider any additional public testimony offered. In addition, the Board will consider the General Manager's Memo to the Board regarding the redistricting Resolution, which contains the Public Outreach Report and its Appendix, the three alternative Board member district maps and the proposed final map of the new Board member districts.

If the Resolution is approved, the Board will forward the new preferred Board member district map and the Public Outreach Report to the Secretary of State.