

Date: April 27, 2022**To:** Board of Directors**From:** Sam Desue, Jr.**Subject:** **RESOLUTION NO. 22-04-26 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED REDISTRICTING MAP AND PUBLIC OUTREACH REPORT TO OREGON SECRETARY OF STATE****1. Purpose of Item**

This Resolution requests the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) to authorize the General Manager or his designee to submit TriMet's preferred map of new Board member district boundaries and its Public Outreach Report on the redistricting process to the Oregon Secretary of State.

2. Reason for Board Action

Pursuant to Oregon law, TriMet must engage in the redistricting process using 2020 federal census data, and submit revised maps of its Board member districts to the Secretary of State on or before May 16, 2022.

3. Type of Action

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

4. Background

In accordance with ORS 267.090(2), TriMet's original seven Board member districts were established to ensure fair representation of the most populous city in the TriMet District, along with other cities and unincorporated territory in the District, in proportion to their respective populations. After each federal census, ORS 267.090(2) requires the Oregon Secretary of State to use the new census data to review and possibly revise boundaries for the Board member districts of each of Oregon's three mass transit districts, including TriMet.

While the 2020 federal census data generally shows overall population increases throughout the Portland metropolitan area and the TriMet District, population growth in each of the seven TriMet Board member districts has occurred somewhat unequally. New data from the 2020 census shows that 1,655,186 people now live in the TriMet District, which is an increase of 182,855 people from the 2010 federal census. If the seven Board member

districts within the TriMet service area were to be equally divided by population, each district would contain about 236,000 people.

On January 11, 2022, the Oregon Secretary of State promulgated Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 165-008-0150 (Rule) to govern the redistricting process for all Oregon mass transit districts. The Rule requires all mass transit districts to complete maps of their proposed new district boundaries and submit them to the Secretary of State for review on or before May 16, 2022. Therefore, under the Oregon Secretary of State's direction, TriMet now must reassess the boundaries of the seven districts that make up TriMet's service area.

The Secretary of State's redistricting Rule requires TriMet to draw the revised Board member district maps using 2020 federal census data. The map must be drawn so that each district will be contiguous, of equal population, will utilize existing geographic or political boundaries, will not divide communities of common interest, and will be connected by transportation links.

The Secretary of State's Rule also requires that any changes to district boundaries be consistent with the diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility principles outlined in the Secretary of State's mission, vision and values. The Secretary of State's mission, vision and values of diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility are consistent with TriMet's core values of Safety, Inclusivity, Community and Teamwork, and have been followed by TriMet during its redistricting process.

The redistricting Rule also requires all mass transit districts to engage in a public outreach process, in order to ensure that redistricting is guided by principles of diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility. To that end, TriMet launched a web page addressing the project; made a detailed public presentation to the Board at its March meeting, during which various district map options were displayed; and made presentations to its Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT) and the Transit Equity Advisory Committee (TEAC). TriMet also conducted two virtual open houses with ASL interpreters -- one on April 5, from 5-6 PM, in Spanish, and the other on April 6, from 5 to 6 PM, in English. TriMet received public comments on its various redistricting maps from the general public through its website.

TriMet has developed three maps that comply with the redistricting requirements, including adjusting current Board member district borders to roughly balance the populations of all seven districts. For each map, the overall distribution of racial and ethnic levels in each proposed Board member district remain largely unchanged.

Map Scenario #1, attached hereto, shows the simplest changes, with only two border modifications. Map #1 would move a portion of the area of district 2 to district 5, and move a portion of the area of district 5 to district 6. In the Map #1 scenario, district 1 would have the largest population at 240,900, and district 6 would have the smallest at 231,552. This would result in a maximum difference in district populations of 9,348 people.

Map Scenario #2, attached hereto, contains three border changes that affect five districts, but these changes result in a more equal division of district populations. In the Map #2 scenario, district 2 would have the largest population at 240,600, and district 4 would have the smallest population at 232,347. This would result in a maximum difference in district populations of 8,253 people.

Map Scenario #3, attached hereto, has a number of border changes and affects all districts except district 7. The Map #3 scenario would give district 2 the largest population at 236,846, and district 3 the smallest population at 236,103. This would result in a maximum difference in district populations of just 743 people.

TriMet's preferred revised Board member district map, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is most like Map Scenario #3. Although the scenario shown in Exhibit A makes the most border changes and affects all but one Board member district, it results in the most equal allocation of population to each district. The preferred revised district maps meet the Secretary of State's redistricting Rule requirements of being contiguous, of equal population, utilizing existing geographic or political boundaries, not dividing communities of common interest, and being connected by transportation links.

TriMet's public outreach efforts for its redistricting process are summarized in its Public Outreach Report, attached hereto as Exhibit B. If approved by the Board, both the preferred Board member district map and the Public Outreach Report will be submitted to the Secretary of State on or before May 16, 2022.

5. **Diversity**

TriMet staff carefully evaluated the various impacts on racial and ethnic diversity associated with each of the several options considered for the revised Board member district maps. It was found that, in all proposed redistricting scenarios, each race's percentage of district population changed by less than one percent (1%) compared to the Board member districts established in 2012 (based on the 2010 census data).

6. **Financial/Budget Impact**

The Board member redistricting process is mandated by state law and the funds for this process are included in the approved FY2022 budget for TriMet's Public Affairs Division.

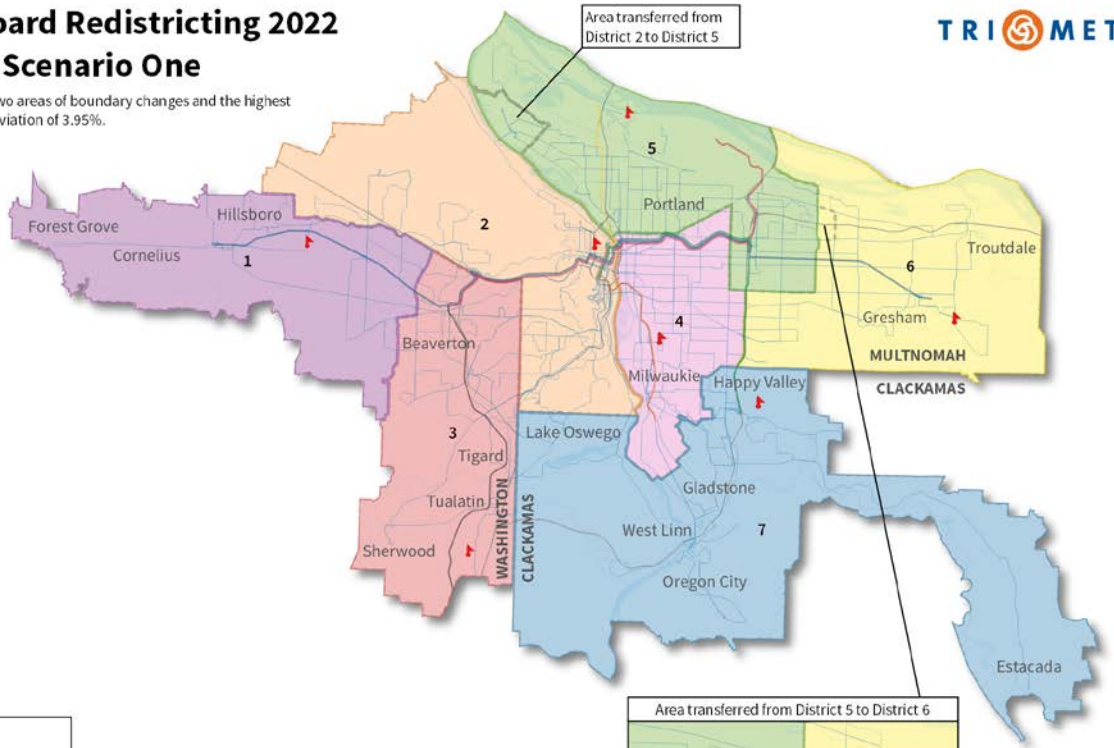
7. **Impact if Not Approved**

Pursuant to Oregon law, TriMet must complete the process of redistricting its Board member districts on or before May 16, 2022. Failure of the Board to adopt this Resolution will jeopardize TriMet's ability to timely forward its proposed revised Board member district map and Public Outreach Report to the Secretary of State for review, risking noncompliance with Oregon law.

MAP Scenario #1

TriMet Board Redistricting 2022 Scenario One

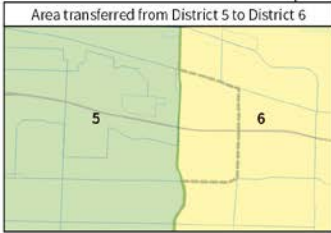
Scenario One has two areas of boundary changes and the highest total population deviation of 3.95%.



Legend

- TriMet Board Members
- Current TriMet Board District Boundary
- MAX
- WES Commuter Rail
- Bus Lines
- Freeways

5 miles



Data Sources: Metro RLIS, TriMet, U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Create Date: 02/22/2022

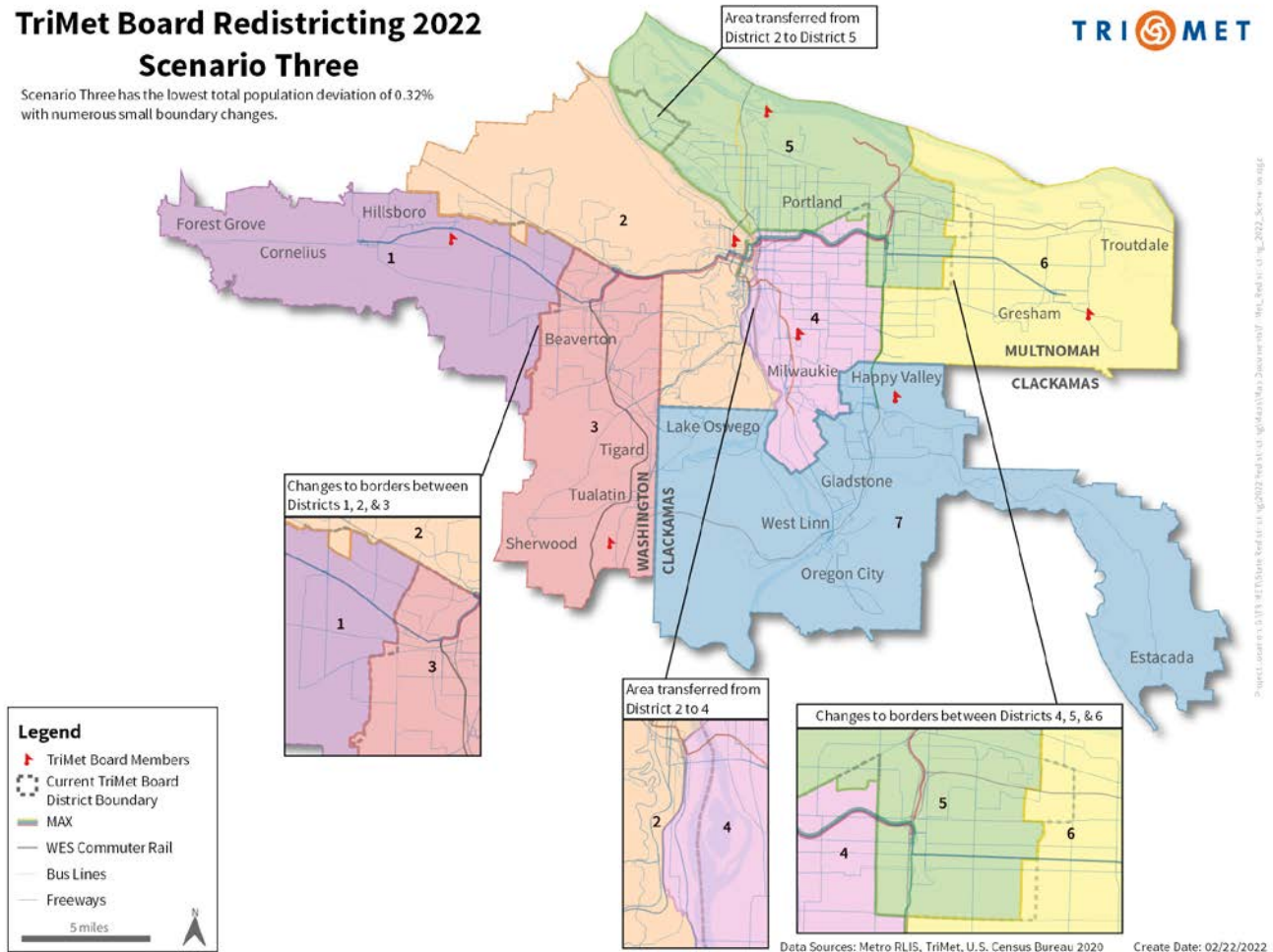
Project Location: C:\VTR_MIT\Districts\Redistricting\2022\Final\Map_2022_Scenario_One.aprx

MAP Scenario #3

TriMet Board Redistricting 2022 Scenario Three



Scenario Three has the lowest total population deviation of 0.32% with numerous small boundary changes.

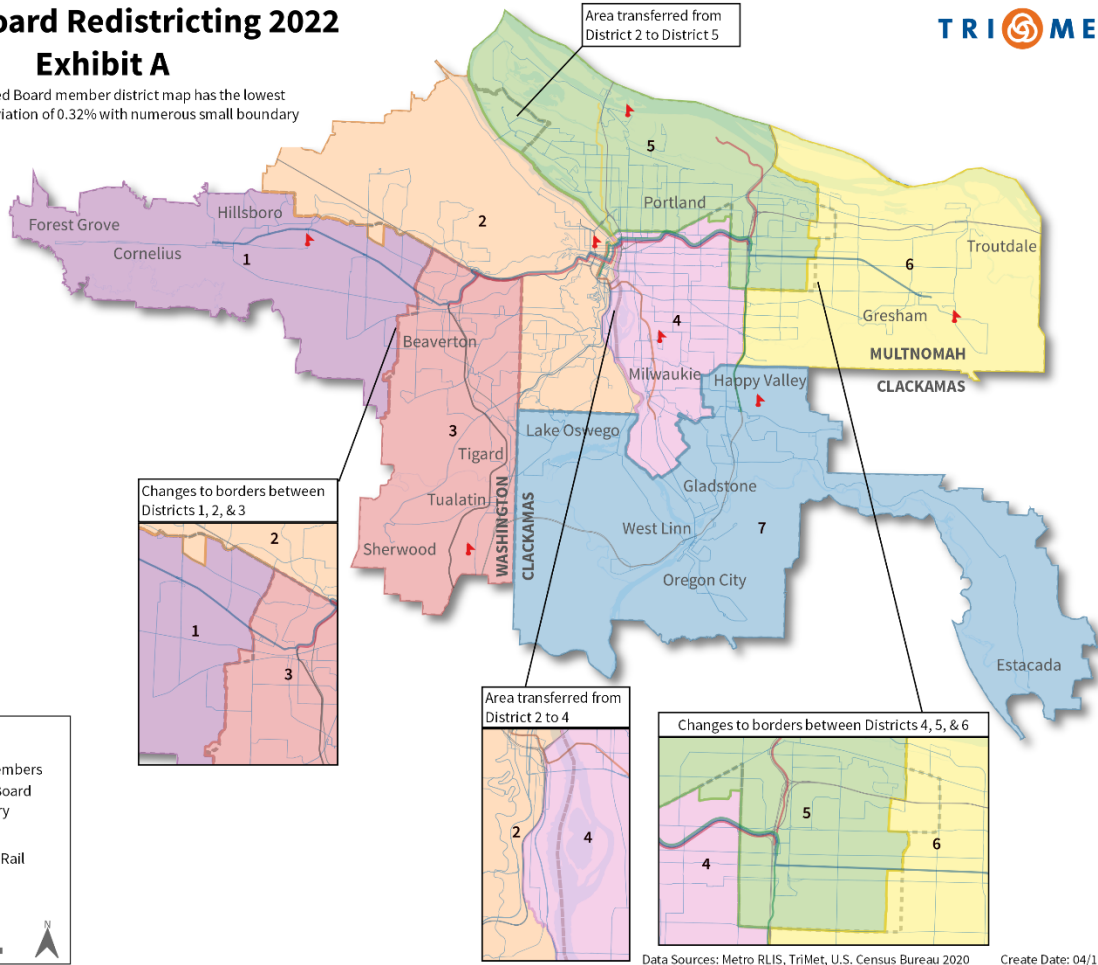


Project Location: D:\TRIMET\Share\Redist\11\vg2022\Map\clackamas\Map2022\Scenario3\Map3_Scenario3_0222_Scenario3.aprx

Exhibit A Preferred Revised Board Member District Map

TriMet Board Redistricting 2022 Exhibit A

This preferred revised Board member district map has the lowest total population deviation of 0.32% with numerous small boundary changes.



Project Location: G:\TRI\MET\State Redistricting\2022 Redistricting\Maps\Map Documents\TriMet_Redistricting_2022_Exhibit_A.aprx

Data Sources: Metro RLIS, TriMet, U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Create Date: 04/11/2022



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.

Public Outreach Report Appendix

April 27, 2022

**Appendix to Redistricting Memorandum
Submitted to
Oregon Secretary of State Shemia Fagan
By TriMet General Manager Sam Desue, Jr.**

Public Outreach and Public Comment Summary

Promotion of Redistricting Process & Solicitation of Public Feedback:

- Redistricting web page
 - trimet.org/board/redistricting
 - Launched February 23
 - English with Google Translate
 - Summary of purpose and proposals
 - Email address for comments
- News releases
 - news.trimet.org/2022/02/trimet-seeks-public-feedback-on-new-adjustments-to-board-director-districts/
 - Sent February 23
 - Requesting comment on proposals
 - Outlining process for collecting feedback
 - TriMet Board meeting April 27
 - news.trimet.org/2022/03/trimet-to-hold-virtual-open-houses-on-new-adjustments-to-board-director-districts/
 - [Sent March 30](#)
 - [Promoted virtual open houses](#)
 - [Reiterated proposals and feedback process](#)
- Email
 - Stakeholder email regarding open house dates sent to more than 10,000 addresses of riders and others showing interest in TriMet proposals
- Newsletters
 - TriMet on the Move newsletter
 - February 25 edition emailed to more than 3,000 recipients
 - Link to feedback web page
 - Equity on the Move newsletter
 - March 3 edition emailed to more than 770

- recipients
 - Link to feedback web page
 - TriMet on the Move Newsletter
 - March 31 emailed to more than 3,000 recipients
 - Promotion of open houses
- Meetings
 - TriMet Board of Directors
 - February 23
 - Explanation of redistricting process
 - Unveiling of three proposed alternative map scenarios for new Board member districts
 - Transit Equity Advisory Committee (TEAC)
 - March 8
 - Presented proposals for consideration
 - Committee on Accessible Transportation (CAT)
 - March 16
 - Presented proposals for consideration
 - Virtual Open Houses
 - April 5 – held in Spanish
 - Promoted via email, newsletters, news release
 - Event posted on TriMet’s redistricting web page and on TriMet’s Facebook page, which has some 52,000 followers
 - April 6 – held in English
 - Promoted via email, newsletters, news release
 - Event posted on TriMet’s redistricting web page and on TriMet’s Facebook page, which has some 52,000 followers

Summary of Public Comment:

Tuesday, April 5

- Zoom - Spanish
- Attendees: 1
- Verbal comments: 0

Wednesday, April 6

- Zoom - English
- Attendees: 1
- Verbal comments: 0

Comments

A total of ten (10) written comments and phone calls were received on the three proposed board maps presented to the public. The Cedar Mills newspaper ran an article on the redistricting process, found at:

<https://cedarmillnews.com/article/0422-trimet-seeks-input-on-redistricting-proposal/>

February 23

- Rita Bauman
- Rita.bauman@gmail.com

“While I'm sure there are complex implications for this process, and that I don't have all the facts, Scenario three looks good to me. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.”

February 23

- Marcia Smith
- Smithmarcia196@gmail.com

“Considering only the requirements listed as those of the Sec. of State, option 3 would be the best option.”

February 24

- Spence Williams
- Crystalsprings503@gmail.com

“I think none of the three scenarios work but there are a lot of good thoughts here. You should look at matching them better with the new Congressional districts. In each case, you trade away Downtown St. Johns which is part of the new 1st Congressional District. I don’t like the boundary between TriMet 4 and 7 plus TriMet 4 and 2 for the same reason, but it’s too wide of a variance.”

April 2

- Christy Bennett
- Christymbennett@gmail.com

“Seeing the draft of new boundaries, I have concerns about how different our area is from the proposed NW and SW downtown Portland needs. The transit needs and deficiencies of people in the Tualatin Valley are quite different to those areas. I would much prefer to see a division that uses the Tualatin Mountains as a divider, rather than the Willamette. Then we can get representation that might be more responsive to our needs. Thank you”

April 4

- Jennifer Alger
- jennalger@gmail.com

“I am emailing due to the proposed redistricting scenarios that are up for consideration currently. Areas in Washington County which are north of Hwy 26 and west of the Cornell Tunnels have been lumped into District 5. These areas require different needs than those in downtown Portland and should not be included in District 5. The Tualatin Mountains should be used as a divider, rather than the Willamette. As a part of unincorporated Washington County and City of Portland, in the 97229 zip code, I feel my representation should be a part of District 2.”

April 5

- Dan Yokota
- Dyokota20@gmail.com

“I live in Beaverton, Oregon (Washington County) and oppose all three of the proposed TriMet Redistricting scenarios. By lumping Washington

County areas in with Northwest and Southwest Portland (downtown), you are ignoring the fact that our transit needs and deficiencies are very different. I would much prefer to see a division that uses the Tualatin Mountains as a divider, rather than the Willamette. Then we can get representation that might be more responsive to our needs. Thank you.”

April 5

- Marah Cluff
- marahcluff@gmail.com

“All 3 scenarios lump the Washington County area North of highway 26 with the downtown areas of Portland. I have a hard time thinking of another situation where two vastly different areas have been discongruously conjoined. Please consider using the Tualatin Mountains as a dividing line.”

April 5

- Kelly Brown
- Man97229@gmail.com

“Our local community newspaper, CEDAR MILL NEWS had a story about tri met plans. They stated our area, 10 miles west of downtown, was to be lumped in with "downtown" for future planning. I live near 143 and Cornell Road. I am NOT "downtown. My transportation needs are radically different. I apologize, I thought the comment link" in the article was specifically for comments about that specific article.”

April 5

- Paul Chastain
- P.c.@gmail.com

“Westside Has different needs than Portland: The Westside needs representation.by then Westside. Downtown Portland has completely different issues and solutions. To quote one of my neighbors. Here is the article. If the neighbors can pass this on to others affected, that would be great! The more the better!

Like the journalist says: By lumping Washington County areas in with northwest and southwest Portland (downtown) you are ignoring the fact that our transit needs and deficiencies are VERY different. I would much prefer to see a division that uses the Tualatin Mountains as a divider, rather than

the Willamette. Then we can get representation that might be more responsive to our needs!”

April 14

- Frances Sheehan
- Fsheelan2011@yahoo.com

“I live in Washington County. My transportation needs in Washington County have nothing in common to SW Portland (downtown!) or with NW residents. The below timelines alone show you what is deficient with the current transportation. Hillsboro to Downtown Portland=1 hr 17 min, Cedar Hills to Downtown Portland= 59 min, SW to Downtown Portland= 20 min. Shouldn't the Board's goal be to improve it within the areas where people live so riders are more inclined to use it? Use the Tualatin Mountains as the dividing line instead of the Willamette River. Please add me to the emailing list when voting takes place. I am interested in reading ALL responses, pro or against. Is it Trimet's protocol to publish online or scan in ALL responses as it received so anyone can read what the community response is? If not, why?”

Data Prepared by Clay Thompson
thompsoc@trimet.org

RESOLUTION NO. 22-04-26

**RESOLUTION NO. 20-04-26 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING
SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED REDISTRICTING MAP AND PUBLIC
OUTREACH REPORT TO OREGON SECRETARY OF STATE**

WHEREAS, the 2020 federal census contains data showing population gains and losses throughout the Portland metropolitan area and the TriMet transit District; and

WHEREAS, after each federal census, ORS 267.090(2) requires the Oregon Secretary of State to use federal census data to establish new district boundaries for the Board member districts of each of Oregon's three mass transit districts, including TriMet; and

WHEREAS, under ORS 267.090(2), each Board member district within the TriMet District service area must be as nearly equal in population as possible, based on the latest federal census, and shall be designed to ensure representation of the most populous city, other cities and unincorporated territory in the TriMet District, proportionate to their respective populations; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2022 the Oregon Secretary of State promulgated Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 165-008-0150 to govern the redistricting process for all Oregon mass transit districts, including TriMet, and required all mass transit districts to complete the redistricting process on or before May 16, 2022; and

WHEREAS, under the redistricting process required by OAR 165-008-0150, the newly revised Board member districts must be contiguous, of equal population, utilize existing geographic or political boundaries, not divide communities of common interest, and be connected by transportation links; and

WHEREAS, OAR 165-008-0150 also requires the process of creating the new Board member districts to be consistent with the diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility values of the Secretary of State, as outlined in the agency's mission, vision and values; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of State's mission, vision and values of diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility are consistent with TriMet's core values of Safety, Inclusivity, Community and Teamwork, and have been followed by TriMet during the redistricting process; and

WHEREAS, OAR 165-008-0150 requires each mass transit district, including TriMet, to engage the public in considering revised maps showing proposed new boundaries for Board member districts, and to provide the Secretary of State with a written Public Outreach Report describing the public engagement conducted during the redistricting process; and

WHEREAS, OAR 165-008-0150 requires TriMet to submit a map to the Secretary of State showing the preferred, revised Board member district boundaries, as proposed by the Board after the public engagement process; and

WHEREAS, the final preferred Board member district map, based on the 2020 federal census data and TriMet's public engagement process, is attached hereto as Exhibit A, and TriMet's Public Outreach Report is attached hereto as Exhibit B;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That, pursuant to ORS 267.090(2) and OAR 160-008-01500, and based on 2020 federal census data, public comment and principles of diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility, the Board hereby submits to the Oregon Secretary of State the preferred map of revised TriMet Board member districts, attached hereto as Exhibit A, and TriMet's Public Outreach Report describing its redistricting process, attached hereto as Exhibit B.

Dated: April 27, 2022



Presiding Officer

Attest:



Recording Secretary

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:

Gregory E. Skillman
Legal Department