

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCEPTING THE	)	RESOLUTION NO. 26-5588
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE	)	
COMMUNITY CONNECTOR TRANSIT STUDY	)	Introduced by Chief Operating Officer
AS UPDATES TO THE 2028 REGIONAL	)	Marissa Madrigal in concurrence with
TRANSPORTATION PLAN, CLIMATE SMART	)	Council President Juan Carlos González
STRATEGY, AND REGIONAL TRANSIT	)	
STRATEGY	)	

WHEREAS, transit is a central tool for implementing the region's 2040 Growth Concept, Climate Smart Strategy and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP); and

WHEREAS, in 2014 the Metro Council adopted the Climate Smart Strategy via Ordinance No. 14-1346B, which calls for increased investment in our regional transit system in order to help meet state-required targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from light-duty vehicles; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 the Metro Council adopted the Regional Transit Strategy (RTS), as a component of the RTP, via Resolution No. 18-4892, which established the regional vision to make transit more frequent, convenient, accessible and affordable for everyone and included community/jobs connector shuttles on the Regional Transit Network map as part of reflecting that vision; and

WHEREAS, local transit is a component of both the Climate Smart Strategy and RTS which are elements of the RTP; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 RTP identified the need for the Community Connector Transit Study (CCT Study) to explore potential solutions for areas of the region that lack access to the regional transit network today and in the future, but where opportunities may exist to connect people to jobs and other essential destinations, and the need for the study to be completed prior to the 2028 RTP to support future planning, policy-making and investment; and

WHEREAS, Metro created a Transit Working Group consisting of transit, city, and county and state agency partners that met more than ten times and held three broader local partner workshops and review sessions from 2024 to 2026 to provide technical input and recommendations to the team regarding the CCT Study; and

WHEREAS, development of the Community Connector Transit Study aimed to increase regional collaboration and coordination through a combination of existing and new partnerships, sound technical work, and inclusive public engagement designed to build awareness of and opportunities for implementation of community connectors, and make the case for funding and investment in local transit implementation; and

WHEREAS, the Community Connector Transit Study includes recommendations for advancing local transit implementation, an updated local transit policy framework for how connectors can fill gaps aligned with regional goals and develop the market for fixed route transit, and updated community/jobs connectors to be reflected on the Regional Transit Network map aimed at expanding the reach of the greater Portland regional transit system to support ongoing efforts to link land use and transportation planning to implement the 2040 Growth Concept and community visions within fiscal constraints; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council, the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT), the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC), the Metro Technical Advisory Committee, the Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee, TriMet, South Metro Area Regional Transit, local government elected officials and staff, small and large businesses and economic development interests, community leaders, and the public, particularly underrepresented communities including Black, Indigenous and people of color, people with low income, people who speak limited English, people experiencing a disability, youth and older adults, assisted in the development of the CCT Study and provided comment throughout the planning process through nearly 90 meetings, events and other touchpoints; and

WHEREAS, JPACT and MPAC have recommended acceptance by the Metro Council of the findings and recommendations in the CCT Study for incorporation as updates to the 2028 RTP, Climate Smart Strategy, and RTS; and

WHEREAS, by accepting the CCT Study, the Metro Council further recognizes the value in using the findings and recommendations to inform updates to the 2028 RTP, Climate Smart Strategy, and RTS and ongoing local, regional and state efforts; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Metro Council accepts the Community Connector Transit Study attached to this resolution as Exhibit A.
2. The Metro Council accepts the recommendations for updates to the Regional Transportation Plan, Climate Smart Strategy, and Regional Transit Strategy as shown in Exhibit B.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 29th day of October 2026.

Juan Carlos González, Council President

Approved as to Form:

Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney