

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE 2023	)	ORDINANCE NO. 26-1536
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO	)	
INCLUDE THE LOCALLY PREFERRED	)	Introduced by Chief Operating Officer
ALTERNATIVE FOR THE 82 ND AVENUE	)	Marissa Madrigal in concurrence with
TRANSIT PROJECT	)	Council President Lynn Peterson

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is the federally-recognized metropolitan transportation plan for the greater Portland region, and must be updated every five years; and

WHEREAS, the RTP fulfills statewide planning requirements to implement Statewide Planning Goal 12 (Transportation), as implemented through the Transportation Planning Rule and the Metropolitan Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Rule; and

WHEREAS, the RTP is a central tool for implementing the Region 2040 Growth Concept, and constitutes a policy component of the Regional Framework Plan; and

WHEREAS, transit is a key element of the Climate Smart Strategy and the RTP; and

WHEREAS, in June 2010, the Metro Council adopted Ordinance No. 10-1241B, amending the 2004 RTP to comply with federal and state law, which included adoption of the Regional High Capacity Transit (HCT) System Plan; 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

WHEREAS, the HCT Strategy is a component of the 2018 RTS which was updated by Resolution No. 23-5348 to include new high capacity transit-related policies and identified high capacity transit lines on the Regional Transit Network map to better reflect the RTS vision; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 HCT Strategy identified the 82nd Avenue corridor as a Tier 1 near-term priority investment which is included on the RTP 2030 financially constrained project list; and

WHEREAS, the most recent update to the RTP was completed on November 30, 2023, following approval by the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and the Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, JPACT and the Metro Council must approve any subsequent amendments to add new projects or policies or to substantially modify existing projects or policies in the RTP; and

WHEREAS, the public must be provided an opportunity to review and comment on proposed amendments to the RTP, consistent with the policies and procedures in Metro's Public Engagement Guide; and

WHEREAS, ongoing efforts to address congestion in the region include directing growth in designated centers and corridors served by high-quality transit in combination with investments in system and demand management strategies, improving transit service and reliability, increasing bicycle and pedestrian connections and adding roadway capacity in targeted ways; and

WHEREAS, the 82nd Avenue Transit Project was identified in the 2023 RTP's financially constrained list of projects and programs; and

WHEREAS, Metro's Transportation Funding Task Force also designated the 82nd Avenue Corridor as a Tier 1 priority in their 2019 Recommendation for Corridor Investments and underscored the need to complete corridor planning to facilitate longer-term corridor investments; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portland and the Oregon Department of Transportation have transferred the portion of 82nd Avenue between Clatsop Street and Killingsworth Street from state to city ownership, and the City of Portland has begun investing in safety and maintenance on 82nd Avenue and developed a plan to envision this part of the corridor; and

WHEREAS, in June 2022, Metro convened a Steering Committee led by Metro Councilors from District 2 and District 6 with local elected officials, representatives of project partner agencies and community members. The committee was charged with recommending a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) and funding strategy for high-capacity transit on the 82nd Avenue corridor; and

WHEREAS, the 82nd Avenue Transit Project Steering Committee met numerous times, heard public input and testimony, and unanimously recommended the LPA for adoption on January 16, 2025; including the mode of transportation, alignment, and general station locations;

WHEREAS, the LPA was endorsed by the Board of Clackamas County Commissioners, the Oregon Department of Transportation, and the Port of Portland with letters of support dated June 10, 2025, May 5, 2025, and May 2, 2025, respectively; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portland City Council unanimously adopted Resolution Number 37706 on May 21, 2025 endorsing the LPA with Conditions of Approval; and

WHEREAS, the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted Resolution Number 2025-023 on April 17, 2025, endorsing the LPA; and

WHEREAS, the TriMet Board of Directors unanimously adopted Resolution Number 25-03-15 on March 26, 2025, recommending confirmation of the LPA; and

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2025, JPACT approved Resolution Number 25-5495 for the purpose of endorsing the Locally Preferred Alternative for the 82nd Avenue Transit Project and submitted the resolution to the Metro Council for approval; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting on June 26, 2025, Metro Council approved Resolution No. 25-5495 endorsing the Locally Preferred Alternative for the 82nd Avenue Transit Project; and

WHEREAS, FTA requires that the Locally Preferred Alternative be included in the Financially Constrained RTP and the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Plan in order to be considered for a Small Starts Capital Investment Grant project rating; and

WHEREAS, Metro held a 45-day public comment period on the requested amendment from November 3 to December 19, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council held a public hearing on December 4, 2025 to accept public testimony and comments regarding the requested RTP amendment; and

WHEREAS, JPACT and MPAC have recommended approval of the requested RTP amendment by the Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council held an additional public hearing on the requested RTP amendment on March 5, 2026; now therefore,

THE METRO COUNCIL ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The 2023 Regional Transportation Plan is hereby amended, as indicated in attached Exhibit A, attached and incorporated into this ordinance.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Lynn Peterson, Council President

Attest:

Approved as to Form:

Georgia Langer, Recording Secretary

Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney