

High capacity transit vision & corridor investment priorities

A new vision for high capacity transit identifies faster and reliable transit connections that will connect more people in the greater Portland region to the places they need to go. Now, the region must prioritize where to invest first.

What is the vision for high capacity transit?

New high capacity transit will strengthen the backbone of the transportation system in the greater Portland region as the area continues to grow and change. High capacity transit is public transportation that moves a lot of people quickly and often – think light or commuter rail or bus rapid transit. It can efficiently move the highest number of people along regional routes where the most people need to travel quickly, reliably, and comfortably. The vision for high capacity transit builds from the existing light rail network and Division Street Frequent Express (FX) bus line and calls for new and stronger high quality transit connections in Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington and Clark counties.

The envisioned high capacity transit system will provide better alternatives to driving that encourage new ridership in support of the region's climate goals. The expanded system will prioritize those who depend on transit or lack travel options.

What is a "corridor"?

Corridors are routes that are heavily used by people and freight to connect to major destinations throughout the region. A corridor might include a large roadway with multiple transit lines and nearby smaller roadways and bikeways.



How will the corridors be prioritized?

Not all the corridors identified in the vision are ready for high capacity transit today. To be prioritized for high capacity transit in the near-term, corridors must already have:

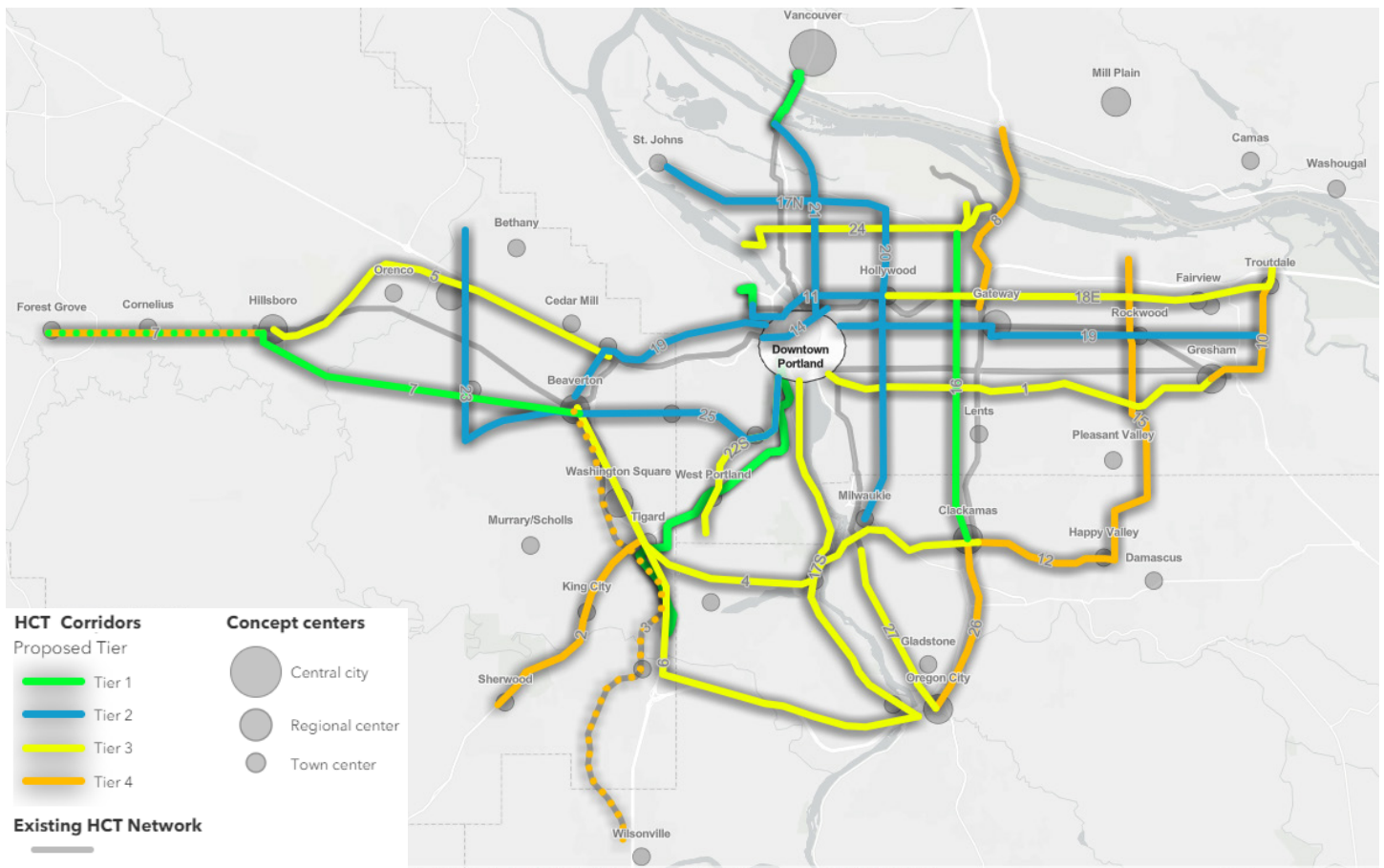
- many and a balanced mix of jobs and housing that creates places where activity occurs most of the day,
- essential destinations within short, walkable distances of each other,
- well-designed streets and buildings that encourage walking and rolling and give transit priority,
- funding available for investments and high cost-effectiveness of those investments, and
- community needs and priorities.

Together, these considerations help identify where there is the greatest need for and most potential benefit in making high quality transit investments. Grouping the corridors by levels of readiness, referred to as tiers, creates a plan that will support the cost-effective use of regional resources to build a high capacity transit system.

- **Tier 1:** Corridors that are ready and where new high capacity transit connections are currently planned for the near-term.
- **Tier 2:** Corridors where planning for high capacity transit investments could start as soon as the next five years.
- **Tier 3:** Corridors where other investments are needed to help high capacity transit to be successful
- **Tier 4:** Important future connections that are not yet ready for high capacity transit in the near-term.



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HCT Investment Tiers

Tier 1: Where investments are currently being planned

- Southwest Corridor MAX
- 82nd Avenue FX Bus
- TV Highway FX Bus
- Interstate Bridge MAX
- Montgomery Park Streetcar

Tier 2: Where planning could start in five years

- 14 Central City Tunnel (improving MAX speed and reliability)
- 19 Burnside Beaverton to Gresham
- 11 NW Lovejoy to Hollywood
- 21 MLK Blvd Hayden Island to Downtown
- 23 185th Bethany to Beaverton
- 25 Hwy 10 Beaverton to Portland
- 22N St Johns to Portland
- 20 Cesar Chavez Portland to Milwaukie

Tier 3: Where corridors are getting ready for investments

- 1 Portland to Gresham (Powell)
- 22S Capitol Hwy PCC Sylvania to Portland
- 5 Hwy 26 Sunset TC to Hillsboro
- 24 Swan Island to Parkrose
- 17S Portland to Oregon City
- 18E Hollywood to Troutdale
- 27 McLoughlin Park Avenue MAX to Oregon City
- 6 Beaverton to Oregon City
- 4 Beaverton to Clackamas TC

Tier 4: Important corridors not yet ready for investment

- 9 Hillsboro to Forest Grove
- 10 Gresham to Troutdale
- 2 Hwy 99W Tigard to Sherwood
- 3 WES Corridor Improvements
- 15 Clackamas to Columbia
- 12 Clackamas TC to Damascus
- 26 Clackamas TC to Oregon City
- 8 I-205 Gateway to Clark County

What's Next?

In winter and spring 2023, the project team will work with community members and organizations, businesses, agency partners and elected officials to hear more about their investment priorities. Discussion will focus on what else the corridors need to be ready for high quality transit service.

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