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BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING THE 2018)	RESOLUTION NO. 18-4892
REGIONAL TRANSIT STRATEGY AND)	
REPLACING THE 2009 REGIONAL HIGH)	Introduced by Chief Operating Officer Martha
CAPACITY TRANSIT SYSTEM PLAN)	Bennett in concurrence with Council
)	President Tom Hughes

WHEREAS, in 2009 the Metro Council adopted the Regional High Capacity Transit System Plan via Resolution No. 09-4025, which identified the location of potential future investments in light rail, bus rapid transit and rapid streetcar in the greater Portland region; 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 2016 Metro created a Regional Transit Work Group consisting of city and county representatives, community partners and transit providers, which was tasked with providing technical input and recommendations to Metro staff regarding development of a new coordinated vision and strategy for transit in the greater Portland region; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Safety Work Group met 19 times from 2016 through 2017 and provided input to Metro staff regarding the development of a new Regional Transit Strategy (RTS) to be adopted concurrently with the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP); and

WHEREAS, the 2018 RTS includes a regional transit vision to make transit more frequent, convenient, accessible and affordable, and adopts new and updated transit-related policies aimed at creating a seamless regional transit system in the greater Portland region; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 RTS includes updates to the Regional Transit Network map to include the 2009 high capacity transit lines, new enhanced transit concept corridors, streetcar and future transit service identified by TriMet's Service Enhancement Plans and Wilsonville's South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART) Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 RTS updates existing transit-related policies, performance measures and actions that are described in the 2014 RTP and Climate Smart Strategy; and

WHEREAS, Metro released the initial draft of the 2018 RTS for public review and comment on June 29, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Metro provided a 45-day public comment period on the draft 2018 RTS from June 29 to August 13, 2018, and received comments through August 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council held a public hearing on August 2, 2018 to accept public testimony and comments regarding the draft RTS; and

WHEREAS, Metro staff invited four Native American Tribes, the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration and other federal, state and local resource, wildlife, land management and regulatory agencies to consult on the public review draft RTS in accordance with

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23 CFR 450.316, and convened four separate consultation meetings on August 6, 14 and 21 and September 6, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council, the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT), the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC), the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC), the Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC), the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, TriMet, SMART, local government elected officials and staff, business and community leaders, public agencies, private and non-profit organizations and the public, assisted in the development of the 2018 RTS and provided comment on the RTS throughout the planning process conducted for the 2018 RTP update; and

WHEREAS, JPACT and MPAC have recommended approval of the 2018 RTS by the Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council held two additional public hearings on the 2018 RTS identified in Exhibit A on November 8 and December 6, 2018; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council hereby adopts the 2018 Regional Transit Strategy attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A, as amended by the “Summary of Comments Received and Recommended Actions” in Exhibit B, as a component of the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), replacing the 2009 Regional High Capacity System Plan.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this _____ day of _____, 2018.

Tom Hughes, Council President

Approved as to Form:

Nathan A. S. Sykes
Acting Metro Attorney

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PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

2018 Regional Transportation Plan

Regional Transit Strategy

*A strategy for providing better transit
service in the greater Portland region*

June 29, 2018

oregonmetro.gov/transit

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Metro is the federally mandated metropolitan planning organization designated by the governor to develop an overall transportation plan and to allocate federal funds for the region.

The Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) is a 17-member committee that provides a forum for elected officials and representatives of agencies involved in transportation to evaluate transportation needs in the region and to make recommendations to the Metro Council. The established decision-making process assures a well-balanced regional transportation system and involves local elected officials directly in decisions that help the Metro Council develop regional transportation policies, including allocating transportation funds.

Regional Transportation Plan website: **oregonmetro.gov/rtp**

Regional Transit Strategy web site: **oregonmetro.gov/transit**

The preparation of this strategy was financed in part by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration. The opinions, findings and conclusions expressed in this strategy are not necessarily those of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration.

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 18-4892, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING
THE 2018 REGIONAL TRANSIT STRATEGY AND REPLACING THE 2009 HIGH
CAPACITY TRANSIT SYSTEM PLAN

Date: September 10, 2018

Prepared by: Jamie Snook
503-797-1751

BACKGROUND

This is a critical time to consider how transit fits into our larger regional goals. The Climate Smart Strategy, adopted in 2014, provided clear direction to invest more in our transit system in order to meet regional goals and objectives related to sustainability and carbon emissions. Current growth rates will require us to expand transit service in order to provide people with transportation options and minimize congestion. Significant and coordinated investment is needed to continue to provide equivalent service as our region grows; increasing service and access will require dedicated funding, policies, and coordination from all jurisdictions. Transit also helps the region meet its equity and access goals as it is a primary mode of transportation for people with disabilities and youth, providing them with a way to get to work, school, and attain access to daily needs. Investments in transit will increase access to jobs and other community places, provide more transportation options for residents and workers, improve air quality, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Metro is the regional government responsible for regional land use and transportation planning under state law and the federally-designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Portland metropolitan area. In these roles, Metro has been working together with regional technical and policy advisory committees and community, business and elected leaders across the region to shape the Regional Transit Strategy and supporting implementation recommendations in this resolution. Development of the Regional Transit Strategy (RTS) informed the transit element of the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update and resulted in a coordinated vision and strategy for transit in the Portland metropolitan area.

Policy context

The RTS is consistent with and implements the goals of the following statewide goals and plans:

- Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP),
- Oregon Public Transportation Plan (OPTP), the transit modal plan of the OTP,
- Oregon Transportation Options Plan, and
- Transportation Planning Rule (TPR), Chapter 660, Division 12.

The RTS supports the implementation of Metro's 2040 Growth Concept, the region's long-range land use and transportation plan for managing growth to preserve the region's economic health and livability in an equitable, environmentally-sound and fiscally responsive manner.

The RTS implements the policies and strategies identified in the Climate Smart Strategy, adopted in 2014, to provide more transportation choices, keep our air clean, build healthy and equitable communities and grow our economy – all while reducing per capita greenhouse gas emissions from cars and small trucks to meet state targets.

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The RTS incorporates the findings and priorities of the Regional High Capacity Transit System Plan, adopted in 2009, which identifies potential future HCT corridor investments. The HCT corridors are embedded in the RTS policy and are identified in the Regional Transit Network Map.

Additionally, the RTS implements the goals and policies of the Regional Framework Plan, the Urban Growth Management Functional Plan (Title 6: Centers, corridors, Station Communities and Main Streets) and the Regional Transportation Functional Plan (Section 3.08.120 Transit System Design).

The RTS also incorporates the future transit service and strategies defined by the transit agencies in TriMet's Future of Transit Service Enhancement Plans (2013-2016), TriMet's Coordinated Transportation Plan for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (2016), Portland Streetcar Strategic Plan (2016) and City of Wilsonville's Transit Master Plan (2017).

Transit Work Group

The RTS was developed with input from the Transit Work Group, which included city and county representatives from across the region, community partners and transit providers from within and outside the region. See Attachment 1 for a full list of Transit Work Group members. The transit work group meetings were comprised of two groups: city and county representatives, community partners and transit providers and 2) transit providers that operate within and outside the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). The transit work group met 19 times from 2016 through 2017 to provide input on the regional transit vision, transit related policies, performance measures and monitoring targets, and strategies and actions for implementation.

Regional Transit Vision

Building off the Climate Smart Strategy, *the regional transit vision is to make transit more frequent, convenient, accessible and affordable for everyone*. The regional transit vision, policies and actions outlined in the Regional Transit Strategy build upon the policies and actions adopted in the Climate Smart Strategy and support the implementation of our 2040 Growth Concept. The Regional Transit Vision also incorporates TriMet's Service Enhancement Plans, Wilsonville's South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART) Master Plan, Streetcar Strategic Plan and the 2009 adopted Regional High Capacity Transit System Plan into a single vision of transit in the future.

Update RTP transit-related policies

This vision has been incorporated into our transit related policies to create a seamless transit system that works for everyone. Existing policies were integrated with new policies that address: equity, maintenance and resiliency, enhanced transit concept, first and last mile, new technology and affordability. The proposed new transit policies are:

Transit Policy 1. Provide a seamless, integrated, affordable, safe and accessible transit network that serves people equitably, particularly communities of color and other historically marginalized communities, and people who depend on transit or lack travel options. (New)

Transit Policy 2. Preserve and maintain the region's transit infrastructure in a manner that improves safety, security and resiliency while minimizing life-cycle cost and impact on the environment. (New to address MAP-21 asset management and resiliency requirements)

Transit Policy 3. Make transit more reliable and frequent by expanding regional and local frequent service transit and improving local service transit options. (Revised)

Transit Policy 4. Make transit more convenient by expanding high capacity transit and improving transit speed and reliability through the regional enhanced transit concept. (New/revised)

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Transit Policy 5. Evaluate and support expanded commuter rail and intercity transit service to neighboring communities and other destinations outside the region. (Revised)

Transit Policy 6. Make transit more accessible by improving pedestrian and bicycle access to and bicycle parking at transit stops and stations and using new mobility services to improve connections to high-frequency transit when walking, bicycling, or local bus service is not an option. (New/revised)

Transit Policy 7. Use emerging technology to provide better, more efficient transit service, focusing on meeting the needs of people for whom conventional transit is not an option. (New)

Transit Policy 8. Ensure that transit is affordable, especially for people who depend on transit. (New)

Update the current Regional Transit Network Map

The Regional Transit Network is the future transit vision and includes future regional and local bus, enhanced transit corridors, high capacity transit and intercity rail. Updates to the Regional Transit Network Map include:

- reflecting transit service in the TriMet's adopted Future of Transit Service Enhancement Plans (SEPs), including: community and job connector transit service as defined by TriMet's SEPs
- reflecting transit service in the City of Wilsonville's adopted Transit Master Plan
- reflecting Enhanced Transit Concept/Corridors (ETC) identified by the City of Portland and the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan update
- reflecting the Division Transit Project Locally Preferred Alternative
- reflecting the Southwest Corridor Transit Project Locally Preferred Alternative
- Integrating the 2009 HCT Corridor Map with the following updates:
 - changing the I-5 HCT corridor designation from under development to a future HCT project;
 - changing the Portland to Lake Oswego Streetcar project designation from under development to a future HCT project;
 - Portland to Gresham in the vicinity of Powell Corridor remains a future HCT project, while the Portland to Gresham in the vicinity on SE Division St is designated as a HCT project under development, consistent with the adopted Division Transit Project Locally Preferred Alternative;
 - Portland to Sherwood in the vicinity of Barbur/Highway 99 Corridor is changed from a future HCT project to project under development; and
 - changing Clackamas Town Center to Damascus to connect to Happy Valley via the Columbia to Clackamas Corridor as a future HCT project.

Update RTP transit-related performance measures

The RTP transit-related performance measures were updated to include the performance measures and monitoring targets outlined in the Climate Smart Strategy, including transit revenue hours.

Development of the RTS also updated the transit system expansion policy framework adopted in 2009, as part of the Regional High Capacity Transit Plan. Now called the HCT Assessment and Readiness Criteria, the criteria provide a framework for the region to screen and prioritize major capital investments in transit. This framework aims to identify transit corridor capital projects that best meet regional outcomes and position projects for potential federal and other funding opportunities. The outputs of this assessment can help illustrate the strengths and weaknesses of each project and will allow project sponsors to understand opportunities to enhance how a given project will score in future evaluations.

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This process applies to any projects that are seeking Federal funding through the FTA Capital Investment Grant Program. This information along with local support is meant to help guide the regional decision making process to advance HCT investments. This additional assessment would only apply to those investments seeking FTA Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program funding (e.g. New Starts, Small Starts or Core Capacity).

Transit strategies and actions

The RTS provides a list of transit related actions to support our regional transit vision to make transit more frequent, convenient, accessible and affordable for everyone. The actions identified in the strategy support improving transit service, investing in our transit system and providing transit supportive elements to meet our vision. Some of the actions are policy based while others are actions that local and regional partners should implement.

ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. **Known Opposition** No known opposition.

2. **Legal Antecedents**

Federal regulations include:

- Clean Air Act [42 U.S. C. 7401 and 23 U.S.C. 109(j)], as amended.
- US EPA transportation conformity rules (40 CFR, parts 51 and 93).
- Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), signed into law in 2012.
- Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), signed into law in 2015.
- USDOT rules that govern updates to RTPs [23 CFR 450 and 771], as of June 27, 2016.
- 23 U.S.C. 150: National goals and performance management measures, as of August 19, 2018.

State regulations include:

- Statewide planning goals.
- Oregon Administrative Rules for Transportation Planning (OAR Chapter 660, Division 12).
- Oregon Transportation Plan and implementing modal plans, including the Oregon Public Transportation Plan.
- Oregon Metropolitan Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Rule (OAR Chapter 660, Division 44), last amended in January 2017.
- Oregon Administrative Rules for Transportation Conformity, (OAR Chapter 340, Division 252).
- 2006 State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Metro legislation includes:

- Ordinance No. 10-1241B (For the Purpose of Amending the 2004 Regional Transportation Plan to Comply with State Law; To Add the Regional Transportation Systems Management and Operations Action Plan, the Regional Freight Plan and the High Capacity Transit System Plan; To Amend the Regional Transportation Functional Plan and Add it to the Metro Code; To Amend the Regional Framework Plan; And to Amend the Urban Growth Management Functional Plan), adopted by the Metro Council on June 10, 2010.

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- Resolution No. 09-4025 (For the Purpose of Adopting the Regional High Capacity Transit System Plan Screened Corridor Map and Evaluation Criteria), adopted on February 12, 2009.
- Ordinance No. 14-1346B (For the Purpose of Adopting the A Climate Smart Communities Strategy and Amending the Regional Framework Plan to Comply with State Law), adopted by the Metro Council on December 18, 2014.
- Resolution No. 15-4662 (For the Purpose of Approving a Work Plan and Public Engagement Plan for the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan Update), adopted by the Metro Council on December 3, 2015.
- Resolution No - 16-4702 (For the Purpose of Adopting the 2018-2021 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program and 2019-2021 Regional Flexible Funds Allocation Policy Statement For the Portland Metropolitan Area), adopted by the Metro Council on June 16, 2016.
- Ordinance No. 16-1371 (For the Purpose of Adopting the Distribution of the Population and Employment Growth to Year 2040 to Local Governments in the Region Consistent with the Forecast Adopted by Ordinance No. 15-1361 in Fulfillment of Metro's Population Coordination Responsibility under ORS 195.036), adopted by the Metro Council on October 13, 2016.
- Resolution No – 17-4848 (For the Purpose of Approving an Increased Multi-Year Commitment of Regional Flexible Funds for the Years 2019-34, Funding the Division Transit Project, the Southwest Corridor Transit Project, Arterial Bottleneck Projects, Active Transportation Projects and Enhanced Transit Projects, and Authorizing Execution of an Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement Amendment with TriMet Regarding the increased Multi-Year commitment of Regional Flexible Funds), adopted by the Metro Council on November 2, 2017.
- Resolution No. 18-4886 (For the Purpose of Adopting the 2018 Regional Travel Options Strategy), adopted by the Metro Council on May 24, 2018.
- Resolution No. 18-4915 (For the Purpose of Approving the Southwest Corridor Locally Preferred Alternative), adopted by the Metro Council on November 15, 2018.

3. **Anticipated Effects**

The following are anticipated effects of this action:

- Staff will produce a final RTS that reflects recommended changes identified in Exhibit B to this resolution.
- A targeted review and update of the Regional Transportation Functional Plan will occur to ensure that the functional plan language and provisions are consistent with and adequately reflect new and updated transit vision and policies adopted in the 2018 RTP.
- The Regional Transportation Functional Plan will subsequently be implemented through future local Transportation System Plan updates.
- The RTS will inform future regional planning and investment decisions and ongoing performance monitoring to meet state and federal requirements.
- The region will continue to implement the Regional ETC Pilot Program per direction from JPACT and the Metro Council.

4. **Budget Impacts** No additional financial impact beyond the adopted budget.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends the Metro Council adopt Resolution No. 18-4892.

Attachment 1 to Staff Report for Resolution No. 18-4892

Work Group Members

The work group consisted of topical experts and representatives from MTAC and TPAC, or their designees. The following list includes all work group members that participated at one point or another from 2015 to 2018. Table 1 lists the city and county representatives, community partners and transit providers. Table 2 lists the transit providers working group members.

Table 1. Transit Work Group: Regional Representatives

First Name	Last Name	Title	Affiliation
Todd	Juhasz	Transportation Division Manager	City of Beaverton
Luke	Pelz	Senior Transportation Planner	City of Beaverton
Karen	Buehrig	Transportation Planning Supervisor	Clackamas County
Dawn	Emerick	Public Health Director	Clackamas County
Scott	France	Program Coordinator	Clackamas County
Glenn	Koehrsen	Advocate	Community Representative/TPAC
Roger	Hanson	Senior Planner	CTRAN
Randy	Parker	Transit Planner	CTRAN
Jay	Higgins	Associate Transportation Planner, Urban Design and Planning Department	City of Gresham
Kathryn	Kelly	Comprehensive Planning Manager	City of Gresham
Jon	Holan	Community Development Director	City of Forest Grove
Dan	Riordan	Senior Planner	City of Forest Grove
Brad	Choi	Transportation Planner	City of Hillsboro
Gregg	Snyder	Transportation Planning Supervisor	City of Hillsboro
Grace	Cho	Associate Transportation Planner	Metro
Tim	Collins	Senior Transportation Planner	Metro
Lake	McTighe	Senior Regional Planner	Metro
André	Lightsey-Walker	Assistant Regional Planner	Metro
Amanda	Sear	Planning Intern	Metro
Jamie	Snook	Principal Planner/Regional Transit Strategy Project Manager	Metro
Denny	Egner	Planning Director	City of Milwaukie
Kate	McQuillan	Transportation Planner	Multnomah County
Joanna	Valencia	Transportation Planning & Development Manager	Multnomah County

Attachment 1 to Staff Report for Resolution No. 18-4892

First Name	Last Name	Title	Affiliation
Karyn	Criswell	Regional Transit Coordinator	ODOT, Region 1
Lidwien	Rahman	Principal Planner	ODOT, Region 1
Steve	White	Project Manager	Oregon Public Health Institute
Dayna	Webb	Principal Planner	City of Oregon City
Mike	Coleman	Senior Planner	Port of Portland
April	Bertelsen	Senior Transportation Planner	City of Portland
Radcliffe	Dacanay	City Planner	City of Portland
Steve	Hoyt	Project Manager	City of Portland
Mauricio	LeClerc	Transportation Planner	City of Portland
Dan	Bower	Executive Director	Portland Streetcar Inc.
Alex	Page	Service Specialist	Ride Connection
Kari	Schlossbauer	Pacific Northwest Regional Policy Manager	Safe Routes to School National Partnership
Eric	Hesse	Regional Planning and Policy Coordinator	TriMet
Jeff	Owen	Strategic Planning Coordinator	TriMet
Chris	Deffebach	Policy Analyst	Washington County
Steve	Szigethy	Principal Transportation Planner	Washington County
Dyami	Valentine	Senior Planner, Department of Land Use & Transportation	Washington County
Dwight	Brashear	Transit Director	City of Wilsonville/SMART
Nicole	Hendrix	Transit Management Analyst	City of Wilsonville/SMART
Stephan	Lashbrook	Transit Director	City of Wilsonville/SMART
Nancy	Kraushaar	Community Development Director	City of Wilsonville
Charlie	Tso	Assistant Planner	City of Wilsonville

Attachment 1 to Staff Report for Resolution No. 18-4892

Table 2. Transit Work Group: Transit Providers

First Name	Last Name	Title	Affiliation
Julie	Wehling	Transit Manager	City of Canby, Canby Area Transit
Steve	Dickey	Transit Manager	Cherriots
Luke	Norman	Transportation System Analyst	Clackamas Community College
Teresa	Christopherson	Administrative Service Manager	Clackamas County, Social Services
Dan	Bower	Executive Director	Portland Streetcar Inc.
Julie	Wilcke	Chief Operating Officer	Ride Connection
Elaine	Wells	Executive Director	Ride Connection
Alex	Page	Service Specialist	Ride Connection
Andy	Howell	Transit Manager	City of Sandy, Sandy Area Metro
Shirley	Lyons	Transit Manager	South Clackamas Transportation District
Eric	Hesse	Regional Planning and Policy Coordinator	TriMet
Stephan	Lashbrook	Transit Director	City of Wilsonville, SMART
Steve	Allen	Transit Operations Manager	City of Wilsonville, SMART
Dwight	Brashear	Transit Director	City of Wilsonville/SMART
Nicole	Hendrix	Transit Management Analyst	City of Wilsonville/SMART
Cynthia	Thompson	Transit Manager	Yamhill County Transit Area