



## OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE TUALATIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 14, 2022

Present: Mayor Frank Bubenik, Council President Nancy Grimes, Councilor Maria Reyes,  
Councilor Valerie Pratt, Councilor Cyndy Hillier, Councilor Christen Sacco

Absent: Councilor Bridget Brooks

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Mayor Bubenik called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

### **1. TriMet's Forward Together Service Concept.**

TriMet's Service Planning & Development Manager Kate Lyman presented the Forward Together Service Concept. She stated Forward Together is a new post-pandemic service concept that responds to changes in demand, goals and expectations, and resources. Manager Lyman stated peak commute ridership, driven by more affluent workers, has declined the most and stayed low. She stated ridership in other places has fallen less and recovered faster in commercial and educational destinations and retail/industrial/service job centers. Manager Lyman stated TriMet engaged in a public outreach effort in Spring 2022 to guide its service recovery planning. She stated the three most popular responses were targeted at restoring ridership, reducing congestion, and improving services for low-income riders. Manager Lyman stated TriMet has resources to restore and expand services but the staffing shortage is causing delays in deploying those services. She stated they anticipate being able to increase TriMet's overall service levels by 38% compared to existing levels. Manager Lyman explained how access to opportunity is calculated using the transit network. Manager Lyman stated the expanded network is a concept currently and not a proposal. She stated the concept focuses on equity to address gaps in the network and prioritize frequent service areas with lower-income people, people of color, and workers. Manager Lyman stated the service concept expands the frequent network, extends the grid to new areas, creates more local services, expands weekend service, adds new lines, and reduces service to low-demand and higher-income areas. She stated the key changes to the Southwest area would include peak only service being replaced to an all-day line, better access to 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave jobs, access to PCC Sylvania from Tualatin, and a new Washington County – Oregon City service. Manager Lyman stated specific Tualatin line concepts would alter Line 76, 94, 97, and add a new line 44 on Boones Ferry. She stated in total the concept will add 38% more resources, 45% more jobs will be reachable by the median resident, and 50,000 more residents will have service near them. Manager Lyman stated next steps include refinements to the full network presented to the TriMet Board in December with first changes being seen in 2023.

Councilor Pratt asked what the frequency would be of line 44. Manager Lyman stated hourly everyday. Councilor Pratt stated she is glad to see more cross-city connections being made and the increased safety on the buses.

Councilor Pratt asked how lower income populations in suburban areas are having their needs addressed. Manager Lyman stated they have multiple tools they use to evaluate those areas and they pay close attention to locations of services.

Councilor Pratt asked if the plan will be flexible once it is implemented. Manager Lyman stated the plan will be flexible and they will continue to monitor passenger loads.

Councilor Reyes asked if line 76 would run on weekends and if the stops have been identified. Manager Lyman stated it would run on the weekends and the stops will be determined once the concept is approved.

Councilor Sacco asked if the concept has factored in the tolling discussions and how that would affect this plan. Manager Lyman stated they have talked to ODOT about putting in transit priority lanes and signals and they will continue to work with them so transit service is not slowed from tolling.

Council President Grimes asked when they project ridership if they factored in the potential for increased ridership once tolling is in place. Manager Lyman stated they don't have formal projections for ridership for this but noted they will monitor ridership. She stated the plan will be flexible enough to make changes in the future.

Council President Grimes asked if the line 76 will go further north past Oregon City. Manager Lyman stated that line won't be extending past Oregon City but there are many transfers there to get further downtown.

Council President Grimes asked when the Council will be able to give input on pickup and drop-off locations. Manager Lyman stated they don't have a timeline right now for when those bus stops will be selected but they can come back to the Council when they are ready.

Council President Grimes stated traffic appears to be back to pre-pandemic levels and asked how traffic compares across the region. Manager Lyman stated employers have stated flexible work schedules are still being offered and she can't answer why traffic is the way it is.

Councilor Hillier asked how the data was gathered for this concept. Manager Lyman stated they use the census, the American Community Survey, and direct community outreach to gather data.

Councilor Hillier asked if the county seats, such as Hillsboro, have been considered, as it would take 2 hours to get there from Tualatin to seek services there. Manager Lyman stated that was not included in part of the plan and she can raise that issue. Councilor Reyes stated they have the same issue with getting to services in Clackamas County.

Mayor Bubenik stated people like the idea that line 44 will be daily and hourly but will miss the speed of line 96. He asked how long the new line will be. Manager Lyman stated it will be longer. Mayor Bubenik stated it will be important that the line doesn't take too much longer.

Mayor Bubenik asked when the unrestrained version will be coming out. Manager Lyman stated this plan contains concepts and services they can accommodate. She stated the unrestrained version that encompasses more community desires will be addressed after the fiscally restrained version is completed in late 2023.

## ***2. Council Meeting Agenda Review, Communications, and Roundtable.***

Councilor Sacco stated she attended the final Diversity Planning Committee meeting. She proposed a Native American Month Proclamation and asked if there is a desire to put it on the

November 28<sup>th</sup> agenda. Council consensus was reached to add the proclamation to the next agenda.

Councilor Pratt stated she attended the tour of the Republic Services facility in Wilsonville.

Councilor Reyes stated she attended the tour of the Republic Services facility in Wilsonville.

Mayor Bubenik thanked the voters for passing the Parks Bond that was on the ballot. He stated he attended the Tualatin Historical Society banquet, the Veteran's Breakfast at the Juanita Pohl Center, met with Representative Prusak to seek funding for business recovery efforts, and the Washington County Coordinating Committee.

City Manager Lombos stated at the next Council meeting the Council will record the holiday greeting. She stated the next work session will include the Equity Planning Group results and the transit green line shuttle updates. City Manager Lombos stated December 12<sup>th</sup> will be the last Council meeting of the year and noted there will be a reception for outgoing Council President Grimes from 5-6pm. She stated there will be a Swearing in Ceremony on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 5pm, at Tualatin City Services.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Bubenik adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

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