



## 2018 Regional Transit Strategy

*Working together, we can create a shared vision and investment strategy that helps partners prioritize transit improvements over the next 25 years.*

The Regional Transit Strategy will generate a shared vision and investment strategy that provides local and regional partners with a blueprint for prioritizing transit and transit-supportive improvements that support the regional transit vision.

Metro, TriMet, South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART) and other regional partners are embarking on the next generation of regional transit planning. This effort will look beyond high capacity transit projects to encompass a range of opportunities to meet transit needs around the region.

### What is the Regional Transit Strategy?

Through a shared vision and investment strategy, the Regional Transit Strategy will help make transit more convenient, frequent, accessible and affordable.

The Regional Transit Strategy will serve as the transit component of the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update. The strategy will be developed in coordination with the Future of Transit vision being developed by TriMet through its Service Enhancement Plans and with SMART's Transit Master Plan.

Reflecting the Future of Transit vision, the plan will include services that provide important connections between regional centers, jobs, schools and other community destinations.

There are four major elements to the Regional Transit Strategy: regional transit vision, transit system expansion policy, transit investment strategy, and adoption and implementation.

### What is the regional transit vision?

The transit vision is a comprehensive look at the transit service, major capital investments and supporting elements of the region's transit network, such as access to transit improvements and transit priority treatments.



Clean air and clean water do not stop at city limits or county lines. Neither does the need for jobs, a thriving economy and sustainable transportation and living choices for people and businesses in the region. Voters have asked Metro to help with the challenges and opportunities that affect the 25 cities and three counties in the Portland metropolitan area.

A regional approach simply makes sense when it comes to providing services, operating venues and making decisions about how the region grows. Metro works with communities to support a resilient economy, keep nature close by and respond to a changing climate. Together we're making a great place, now and for generations to come.

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## **What is the transit system expansion policy?**

The transit system expansion policy will provide a framework for prioritizing transit and transit supportive improvements and investments.

Through the Regional Transit Strategy process, Metro will coordinate with TriMet and SMART to identify and prioritize future transit service improvements. The transit system expansion policy will focus on a set of criteria based on readiness and performance to help prioritize major and significant transit investments, including bus rapid transit, light rail and rapid streetcar. The criteria will build off of the system expansion policy developed as part of the 2010 High Capacity Transit Plan and will likely include similar criteria as the New Starts and Small Starts federal grant programs.

## **What is the transit investment strategy?**

The transit investment strategy is the application of the policies and guidelines developed with the transit system expansion policy framework to develop a coordinated set of transit and transit supportive investments that support the regional transit vision. The strategy will also inform the transit and transit supportive elements of the 2018 RTP.

## **How do transit investments get implemented?**

The Regional Transit Strategy will be adopted as part of the 2018 RTP. It will guide how transit investments can advance and clarify roles and responsibilities that lead to implementation.

## **How does this plan support other efforts?**

By clearly defining the vision and implementation strategy for transit improvements throughout the region, the Regional Transit Strategy will support the 2018 RTP and other projects and programs, including but not limited to Metro's Equitable Housing Strategy Initiative, Active Transportation Plan, Regional Safety Plan, Designing Livable Streets update and Regional Travel Options Strategy. A collaborative approach reinforces the importance of shared responsibility for the success of region's transit system in helping build healthy, resilient and equitable communities and a strong economy.

## **Contact**

Contact Metro to receive periodic email updates and notices of public comment opportunities: Regional transportation planning | 503-797-1750 | [trans@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:trans@oregonmetro.gov) .

For more information on the 2018 RTP, visit [www.oregonmetro.gov/transportation](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/transportation).