

Southwest Corridor Light Rail Project

Final Environmental
Impact Statement

January 2022



**SOUTHWEST CORRIDOR LIGHT RAIL PROJECT
MULTNOMAH AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES, OREGON
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

42 U.S.C. 4321 to 4370 et seq.

By

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

METRO

TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TriMet)

In cooperation with

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

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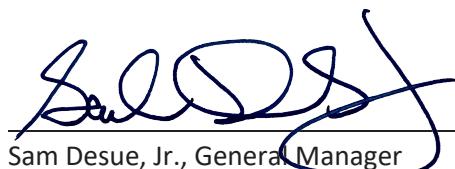
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ABSTRACT

The Southwest Corridor Light Rail Project (Project) Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been prepared by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Metro (the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Portland, Oregon, region) and the Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon (TriMet). The Project consists of a light rail investment and related transportation improvements that would serve the southwestern portion of the Portland metropolitan area. The Preferred Alternative for the light rail investment represents a new 11-mile Metropolitan Area Express (MAX) light rail line extending from downtown Portland through southwest Portland and Tigard, terminating near Bridgeport Village in Tualatin. The Draft EIS, published in June 2018, analyzed the impacts of a No-Build Alternative and a range of options for the light rail investment and related transportation improvements. The Final EIS updates the Draft EIS analysis for the adopted Preferred Alternative for the light rail investment as well as the related transportation improvements. The Final EIS has also been updated based on public comments and includes responses to substantive comments received during the Draft EIS comment period. The Final EIS describes the impact analyses and potential mitigation measures to address long-term, short-term, indirect and cumulative impacts on the following resources: public transportation; active transportation; motor vehicle operations; parking; freight facilities; transportation safety; acquisitions, displacements and relocations; land use; economics; communities; visual quality; historic and archaeological resources; parks and recreational resources; geology, soils and hydrogeology; ecosystems; water resources; noise and vibration; air quality and greenhouse gases; energy; hazardous materials; utilities; safety and security; and public services.

There will be a waiting period of at least 30 days following publication of the Notice of Availability for the Final EIS, after which FTA will issue a Record of Decision stating its determination and the basis of the Project's compliance with NEPA requirements. There is no formal public comment period for the Final EIS, but FTA will consider any public comments received during the waiting period.

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- B Supporting Materials for Final EIS Analysis
- C Environmental Justice Compliance
- D Final Section 4(f) Evaluation
- E Agency Coordination and Correspondence
- F Properties Affected by Acquisitions and Permanent Easements
- G List of Preparers
- H References
- I Preferred Alternative Selection and Project Refinements
- J Draft EIS Comments and Responses
- K Memorandum of Agreement for Historic and Archaeological Resources
- L Biological Opinion
- M Mitigation Plan
- N Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act Documentation
- O Cross-Reference of Street and Address Changes

Attachments (*available electronically*)

- A Transit Impact and Travel Demand Forecasting Results Report
- B Transportation Impacts Results Report Update
- C Cultural Resource Survey
- D Ecosystems Results Report
- E Wetland Delineation Report
- F Noise and Vibration Technical Results Report
- G Archaeological Site Protection and Monitoring Plan

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
APE	area of potential effects
BA	Biological Assessment
BMPs	best management practices
BOEC	Bureau of Emergency Communications
Btu	British thermal unit
CAC	Community Advisory Committee
CAP	Climate Action Plan
C-COM	Clackamas Communications
CBD	central business district
CDR	Conceptual Design Report
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CH ₄	methane
CIG	Capital Investment Grants
CO	carbon monoxide
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
COMPASS	Centralized Oregon Mapping Products and Analysis Support System
CORRACTS	Corrective Action Sites
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CPTED	crime prevention through environmental design
CSO	combined sewer outfall
dB	decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel
DBH	diameter at breast height
DEQ	(Oregon) Department of Environmental Quality
DMV	(Oregon) Driver and Vehicle Motor Vehicle Services
DOE	Determination of Eligibility
Draft EIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DSL	(Oregon) Department of State Lands
E&ES	Easement and acceptance of Equitable Servitudes
ECSI	Environmental Cleanup Site Information
EDR	Environmental Data Resources
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ERNS	Emergency Response Notification System
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESA	Environmental Site Assessment
E-zone	environmental overlay zone
FAST	Fixing America's Surface Transportation (Act)
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FFGA	Full Funding Grant Agreement

FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
Final EIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FOE	Finding of Effects
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GHGs	greenhouse gases
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
HCT	high capacity transit
HPA	high probability area
Hz	Hertz
I-5	Interstate 5
I-405	Interstate 405
IPaC	Information, Planning and Consultation System
Ldn	level of day-night sound
Leq	level of equivalent sound
Lmax	level of maximum noise
LEV	low emission vehicle
LOS	level of service
LPA	Locally Preferred Alternative
LRT	light rail transit
LUFO	Land Use Final Order
LUST	leaking underground storage tank
LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965
MAX	Metropolitan Area Express
MFR	multifamily residential
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOS	minimum operable segment
MPH	miles per hour
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
MUP	multiuse path
N/A	not applicable
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAC	Noise Abatement Criteria
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFA	No Further Action
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NHS	National Highway System
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NPL	National Priority List
NPS	National Parks Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
N ₂ O	nitrous oxide
NOx	nitrogen oxide

NUNM	National University of Natural Medicine
O&M	operations and maintenance
OAR	Oregon Administrative Rule
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
ODOT	Oregon Department of Transportation
OHSU	Oregon Health & Science University
ORBIC	Oregon Biodiversity Information Center
ORS	Oregon Revised Statutes
OWRD	Oregon Water Resources Division
P&W	Portland and Western
PAHs	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons
PBOT	Portland Bureau of Transportation
PCBs	polychlorinated biphenyls
PCC	Portland Community College
PGE	Portland General Electric
PM	particulate matter
PM10	particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter
PM2.5	particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter
PP&R	(City of Portland) Parks and Recreation
PPS	Portland Public Schools
PSU	Portland State University
RGA	Recovered Government Archive
ROD	Record of Decision
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
SAAQS	State Ambient Air Quality Standards
SEMS	Superfund Enterprise Management System
SFR	single-family residential
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SLOPES	Standard Local Operating Procedures for Endangered Species
SMART	South Metro Area Regional Transit
SWEDS	Southwest Corridor Equitable Development Strategy
SWNI	Southwest Neighborhoods Incorporated
TAZ	transportation analysis zone
TC	Transit Center
TCE	Temporary Construction Easement
TCE	trichloroethene
TCPs	Traditional Cultural Properties
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
TPR	Transportation Planning Rule
TriMet	Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon
UGB	urban growth boundary
USC	United States Code
USDOT	U.S. Department of Transportation

USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
UST	underground storage tank
VA	Veterans Affairs
V/C	volume-to-capacity
VCP	Voluntary Cleanup Program
VdB	vibration decibels
VOC	volatile organic compound
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
WCCCA	Washington County Consolidated Communications Agency
WES	Westside Express Service
YOE\$	year-of-expenditure dollars
ZEV	zero emission vehicle