


Date: February 28, 2024

To: Board of Directors

From: Sam Desue, Jr. 

Subject: **RESOLUTION NO. 24-02-10 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) ESTABLISHING THE ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO REPLACE THE SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

1. Purpose of Item

This Resolution requests that the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) establish the Accessible Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (ATFAC) to replace the Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (STFAC).

2. Type of Agenda Item

- Initial Contract
- Contract Modification
- Other: Establish the Accessible Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (ATFAC)

3. Reason for Board Action

Board action is necessary to dissolve the existing Board advisory committee (STFAC) and establish the ATFAC as a Work Group to the HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee.

4. Type of Action:

- Resolution
- Ordinance 1st Reading
- Ordinance 2nd Reading
- Other _____

5. Background

Established in 1985, the Special Transportation Fund (STF) utilized taxes and fees on cigarettes, ID cards, and gasoline for non-automotive uses (e.g., boats, generators, lawnmowers, etc.) to support regional transportation programs for adults 65 and older (older adults) and people with disabilities. The STF program provided local governments, including TriMet, with a flexible source of funds for dial-a-ride services, transit ticket subsidies, travel training, purchases of accessible vans, buses and wheelchair lifts, and other equipment upgrades, in order to make transportation services more accessible for older adults and people with disabilities.

TriMet was charged by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to establish a STF Advisory Committee (STFAC) to determine the allocation of the funds among regional transportation providers throughout the TriMet District (e.g., TriMet, counties, cities, non-profit providers, etc.). The STFAC makes recommendations to the TriMet Board of

Directors as to how the funds should be spent. The TriMet Board appointed STFAC members and approved the Committee's bylaws.

More recently, the Oregon legislature passed HB 2017 (effective October 6, 2017), establishing the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF), to fund transportation programs across the State. As with STFAC, TriMet was charged by ODOT to establish a STIF Advisory Committee (the HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee) for STIF to allocate the tri-county region's share of statewide transportation funds among TriMet, the three counties, cities, non-profit organizations and other providers. Based on guidance from the HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee, the Board approves the STIF plan and expenditure of STIF funds throughout the region.

During the 2020 Special Legislative Session, the legislature adopted Senate Bill 1601, which directed ODOT to consolidate the STIF and the STF in the FY2024-2025 biennium. Consequently, STF ceased to exist as of July 1, 2023. The former STF tax and fee revenues for programs, services, and capital expenditures intended to increase or maintain transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities are now called STIF Population Based Formula Funds, and are a component of TriMet's biennial STIF Plan. As a result, the HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee advises the TriMet Board on the STIF Plan, including the allocation of Population Based Formula Funds, and a separate STFAC no longer is necessary.

This Resolution will formally dissolve the STFAC and establish a new Accessible Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (ATFAC) in line with the updated state law. The ATFAC will provide advice as a "Work Group,"¹ reporting to the HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee, which in turn advises the Board on the STIF Plan and allocation of STIF funds, including the Population Based Formula Funds.

Approval of this Resolution will achieve the following goals:

- Dissolve the STFAC as a Board advisory committee, in accordance with the statutorily-required consolidation of STF into the broader STIF program.
- Establish the ATFAC as a "Work Group" (i.e., subcommittee) to the HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee concerning the allocation of the Population Based Formula Funds.
- Approve and revise the existing STFAC bylaws as the ATFAC bylaws, with appropriate changes to the committee name and structure, as shown on Exhibit A, attached.
- Appoint all current STFAC members as members of the ATFAC, and
- Appoint South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART) Grants and Programs Manager, Kelsey Lewis, to an open position on the HB 2017 Advisory Committee, replacing former SMART Operations Manager, Eric Loomis.

6. Committee Membership

Similar to the STFAC, the ATFAC will be composed of older adults, people with disabilities, and individuals working for transportation providers and other organizations serving older adults and people with disabilities.

¹ According to the ODOT STIF Program Guidebook, committees reporting to the STIF Advisory Committee are called "work groups," not "subcommittees".

7. Financial/Budget Impact

While approval of this Resolution will have no direct budgetary impact, it will streamline the STIF planning process and help the HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee fulfill its role in advising the Board on the upcoming STIF Plan, including the allocation of Population Based Formula Funds. This is required in order to receive and allocate STIF funds in Fiscal Years 2026 and 2027.

8. Impact if Not Approved

The STFAC would remain as a Board advisory committee, but would have no practical or statutory function because the STF has been eliminated and its sources of revenue have been incorporated into the STIF. This is not recommended for the reasons set forth above.

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RESOLUTION NO. 24-02-10 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) ESTABLISHING THE ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO REPLACE THE SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Oregon Legislature passed SB 1601, which consolidated the Special Transportation Funds (STF) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds (STIF); and

WHEREAS, the Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (STFAC) previously advised the Board of Directors (Board) regarding the biennial allocation of STF Funds; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon State Legislature's consolidation of the STF with the STIF and the incorporation of Population Based Formula Funds into the STIF have eliminated the need for the STFAC, which should be dissolved; and

WHEREAS, through the biennial STIF Plan, the HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee advises the Board regarding the allocation of STIF revenues, which now include Population Based Formula Funds formerly derived from the STF; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to appoint South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART) Grants and Programs Manager, Kelsey Lewis, to the ATFAC in place of former SMART Operations Manager, Eric Loomis; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to approve the ATFAC bylaws, attached as Exhibit A;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Board shall:

- Dissolve the existing STFAC;
- Establish the Accessible Transportation Fund Advisory Committee (ATFAC) as a Work Group to the Board's HB 2017 Transit Advisory Committee, in order to carry out the functions of the former STFAC;
- Approve the ATFAC bylaws, as shown on the attached Exhibit A;
- Appoint the current members of STFAC as members of the ATFAC; and
- Appoint South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART) Grants and Programs Manager, Kelsey Lewis, to the ATFAC, in place of former SMART Operations Manager, Eric Loomis.

Dated: February 28, 2024

Attest:



Recording Secretary



Presiding Officer

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:



Legal Department