



Enhanced Transit Concepts in the Portland Region

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Context in Portland

- Bus ridership down
- Speed and reliability worsening
- Citizens are demanding transit priority

Bus Ridership Falls As Portland Population Grows

by Jim Redden Pamplin Media Group Oct. 10, 2017 8:08 a.m. | Portland

Portland wants help plotting busonly lanes, bikeways and safer crossings in central city

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Updated Mar 19, 2018; Posted Mar 19, 2018



Portland wants to make it easier

Group pushing for dedicated bus lanes across Hawthorne Bridge

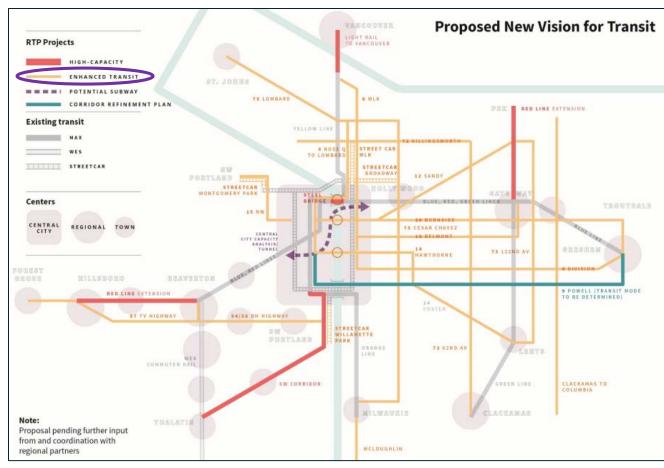
by Keaton Thomas | Sunday, May 21st 2017





Background

- Program originated by City of Portland
- Expanded in 2017 to region





Regionwide Program Goals

- 1. Increase bus reliability and decrease travel time
- 2. Design and build projects <u>within two</u> <u>years</u> that will improve bus reliability
- 3. Develop a pipeline of projects for future construction



Steps in the Program

- 1. TriMet/Metro identified candidate street segments
- 2. TriMet/Metro hosted workshops for potential solutions
- 3. Jurisdictions submit a Request for Interest
- 4. Projects selected by TriMet and Metro



- 5. Regional funds will be used to design solutions
- 6. Local jurisdictions expected to fund and manage construction



Candidate Roadway Segments

- On a frequent service or *future* frequent service bus line
- High ridership
- Poor reliability





Roadway Treatments Considered

- Bus-only or BAT lanes
- Transit signal priority with queue jumps
- Moving bike lanes to left side







Request for Interest Process

- 32 project applications submitted from 6 jurisdictions (state, counties, cities)
- 15 were chosen for inclusion in the design package, based on:
 - Ridership and level of reliability problem
 - Ability to be completed quickly
 - Availability of funds for construction
 - Geographic equity



Details on Selected Tier 1 Projects

- Pilot program will design eight projects through construction documents
 - 4 are in central city
 - 3 are located in the suburbs
 - 1 is in outer Portland
- Projects vary in scope



Details on Selected Tier 2 Projects

- Seven projects have been chosen for design to 15%
 - One bundle of projects in central city
 - One in inner east side
 - One in inner west side
 - Four in suburbs



TriMet Internal Efforts

- Consideration of systemwide all-door boarding
- Systemwide stop consolidation policy
- Articulated buses on key routes





Next Steps

- Accelerate design work for Tier 1 projects to meet summer 2019 construction season
- Design Tier 2 projects to 15% for further public input
- TriMet Board to consider:
 - Purchase of articulated buses
 - All-door boarding and stop consolidation



Lessons Learned Thus Far

- Importance of education about types of transit improvements
- Importance of data-driven decisions
- Location of the physical improvement remains important



Questions?