



Metro

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Portland, OR 97232-2736
oregonmetro.gov

March 22, 2024

Sam Desue
General Manager
TriMet
101 SW Main St., Suite 700
Portland, OR 97204

Dear General Manager Desue,

As the director of Planning and Development and Research at Metro, which leads regional transportation planning in the greater Portland area, I am writing to express Metro's intent to fully participate in a coalition project with TriMet to use and EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grant (CPRG) to fund the design and construction of next-generation Transit Signal Priority (TSP) projects in areas experiencing transit delay.


According to Metro's [Climate Smart Strategy](#), which is the Portland region's roadmap to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from transportation, an efficient transit system is critical to meeting the region's climate goals. Redesigning transit signals is a cost-effective way to help buses move swiftly through traffic, which makes people more likely to shift from driving to riding transit, thereby reducing GHG emissions. Reducing delay also reduces GHG emissions and pollution from idling buses, which improves air quality and health along transit corridors.

Metro, TriMet and other agencies have a long history of collaborating to implement successful transit signal priority projects. We have worked together on prior transit priority projects, such as the City of Portland's [Rose Lanes](#), and participate in [TransPort](#), a committee that coordinates transportation system management work in the region and has long provided support for transit signal priority projects. We know how to work together to plan and execute transit signal priority projects in a variety of contexts, and our current Better Bus program provides a framework to quickly and effectively allocate grant funds toward projects that best reduce GHG emissions.

Metro confirms its intent to partner with TriMet in delivering this project as described in the enclosed grant application. This includes providing staff support to identify TSP projects for funding, and helping to plan and implement these projects. If this application is selected for an award, Metro will enter into a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with TriMet that includes the elements described in Appendix E of the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the CPRG implementation grants by July 1, 2024, as required by EPA.

Making public transit more efficient is one of the best ways we can keep people moving while meeting our ambitious climate goals. Thank you for leading this important grant application.

Sincerely,


Catherine Ciarlo