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## How to comment on TriMet's proposed fare increases, bus line cuts

**By Helen Jung, The Oregonian**

February 10, 2010, 12:42PM

TriMet is accepting public comment starting today through Friday, April 23 on its proposals to raise fares 5 cents and reduce bus service -- including eliminating four lines.

The full list of proposed cuts can be found **at this link on TriMet's Web site**. But the highlights are listed below.

Eliminating four bus lines the agency considered to have low ridership or have alternative service is available. The lines are:

No. 27 - Market/Main

No. 65 - Marquam Hill/Barbur

**No. 154** - Willamette

No. 157 - Happy Valley

Trimet would reduce some or all weekend service on three other low-ridership lines:

No 32 - Oatfield (cut Saturday service)

**No. 45** - Garden Home (cut Sunday service)

No. 80-Kane/Troutdale (both Saturday and Sunday)

The agency would also run 24 bus lines less frequently, increasing the waiting time between buses by two to 10 minutes on weekdays. Other lines would also see longer wait times on weekends.

TriMet said it would start accepting public comments on the proposed fare increase and bus changes today through Friday April 23.

The agency will hold four open houses in the coming weeks.

**Tuesday, Feb. 23 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.: Portland Building**, Room C., 1120 SW 5th Ave., Portland, OR 97204

**Wednesday, Feb. 24 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.: Pioneer Community Center**, Rooms 1 and 2, 615 5th St., Oregon City, OR 97045

**Wednesday, March 3, from 4:30 pm. to 6:30 p.m.: Beaverton Community Center**, 12350 SW 5th St., Suite 100, Beaverton, OR 97005

**Thursday, March 4, 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.: Gresham City Hall** - Oregon Trail & Springwater Conference Rooms, 1333 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham, OR 97030

In addition, people can e-mail: **comments@trimet.org** or call 503-962-5806. Fax: 503-962-6469. TTY: 503-238-5811

Mail:

TriMet-MK2

4012 SE 17th Avenue

Portland, OR 97202

-- The Oregonian

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**Rich, Pat**

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**From:** Wyatt, Kirsten  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2010 3:31 PM  
**To:** City Council; Transportation Advisory Board  
**Subject:** Talking Points: 154-Willamette Bus Service

City Councilors and Transportation Advisory Board Members -

TriMet is proposing a five-cent fare increase and the elimination of four bus lines to balance their budget. One of the bus lines is in West Linn. Here are some talking points related to TriMet's announcement for you to use when talking/emailing with citizens about this announcement. We have posted this information online and will actively direct citizens to the open houses and communications opportunities available:

- The 154 -Willamette bus line provides weekday service between West Linn's Willamette neighborhood and Oregon City, along Willamette Falls Drive.
- I am disappointed to learn that TriMet might end this service route.
- TriMet cites low ridership as part of its decision to discontinue this route, but to the riders who rely on the 154 bus, this decision will have a significant impact.
- It is important that West Linn citizens have transportation options available to them.
- The 154 bus route gives West Linn citizens a more sustainable transportation option – eliminating car trips eases congestion and improves air quality.
- I will encourage all West Linn citizens to attend one of four open houses planned by TriMet as they consider ending this service route.
- The closest open house for West Linn citizens to attend is on Wednesday, February 24, 2010, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Pioneer Community Center in Oregon City.
- Attendance at these open houses is the best way for citizens to share their opinions about the potential end to 154 bus service.
- Citizens can also send their concerns to TriMet using their feedback form; **Comment line:** 503-962-5806; **Fax:** 503-962-6469; **Mail:** TriMet-MK2, 4012 SE 17th Ave., Portland, OR 97202
- Here's a link to an article on this topic:  
[http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2010/02/trimet\\_could\\_raise\\_fares\\_5\\_cen.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2010/02/trimet_could_raise_fares_5_cen.html)
- Here's a link to the open house schedule: <http://trimet.org/meetings/openhouse.htm>
- Here's a link to TriMet's website: <http://trimet.org>.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Kirsten

2/10/2010

Kirsten Wyatt, Assistant to the City Manager  
Administration, #1428

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The logo for the City of West Linn, featuring the words "CITY OF" in a small font above "West Linn" in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The "W" and "L" are significantly larger than the other letters.

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## TriMet could raise fares 5 cents, cut four bus lines in Portland area

By Helen Jung, The Oregonian

February 10, 2010, 11:42AM



Olivia Bucks/The Oregonian

TriMet proposes cuts, fare increase to meet a budget shortfall.

TriMet proposes raising fares by 5 cents and discontinuing four bus lines to help fill an expected \$27 million shortfall for the budget year starting July 1.

The agency said lower-than-expected revenue from payroll taxes -- which account for 55 percent of its operating revenue -- and decreased passenger revenue were driving the shortfall. But the agency also said some expenses, such as health care costs and cost-of-living-increases for its union workforce were projected to increase for the 2011 fiscal year.

The agency is also proposing a 5 percent cut in administrative expenses as



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well as a salary and hiring freeze.

The four bus lines the agency may shut down are considered to have low ridership or serve areas where alternative service is available. The lines are:

- No. 27 - Market/Main
- No. 65 - Marquam Hill/Barbur
- No. 154 - Willamette
- No. 157 - Happy Valley

Both the fare increase and dropping the four bus lines would go in effect in September.

TriMet also said it plans to reduce some or all weekend service on three other low-ridership lines:

- No 32 - Oatfield (cut Saturday service)
- No. 45 - Garden Home (cut Sunday service)
- No. 80-Kane/Troutdale (both Saturday and Sunday)

The agency would also run 24 bus lines less frequently, increasing the waiting time between buses by two to 10 minutes on weekdays. Other lines would also see longer wait times on weekends.

TriMet said it would start accepting public comments on the proposed fare increase and bus changes today through Friday April 23. For information on how to comment or to find out about upcoming public hearings, [click here](#).

In February last year, TriMet announced its first service cuts in more than a decade. It initially proposed cutting 12 bus lines and cutting service on many others, but the agency instead cut four bus lines and trimmed frequency and weekend service on other bus lines and **MAX light rail**.

Those service cuts were implemented in **September**.

In **November**, it cut service again, reducing frequency of service during off-peak times on 18 bus lines.

For more information, check tomorrow's Oregonian.

-- **Helen Jung**

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