

NORTHWEST AREA COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION MEETING AGENDA

Date: Thursday, April 11, 2024
Time: 1:00 pm—3:00 pm
Contacts: Lianne Thompson, Chair:
 503.741.1715
Sarah Lu Heath, Administrator:
 971.328.2877 or SarahLu@nworegon.org
Caroline Crisp, ODOT Staff
 (503)313-6812 or Caroline.crisp@odot.oregon.gov

Location: OMIC R&D
 33701 Charles T Parker Way, Scappoose
Virtual: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83755031485>
Call-in Number: 1-253 215 8782
Meeting ID: 837 5503 1485
 A complete meeting packet is available at
 NWOregon.org/NWACT

		Action	Presenter
Item 1 1:00 p	Welcome and Introductions		Sarah Lu Heath
Item 2 1:10 p	NWACT Minutes/Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + February Meeting Minutes (attached) + Public Comment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Limited to 3 minutes per person + Including comment on ODOT’s updates in packet + Columbia County Transportation Update 	✓	Lianne Thompson Bill Jablonski Grant DeJongh
Item 3 1:30 p	ODOT 2025 Maintenance & Operations Funding		Savannah Crawford
Item 4 2:00 p	Carbon Reduction Program		Rye Baerg
Item 5 2:10 p	Connect Oregon ACT Training		John Boren
Item 6 2:30 p	Westside Multi-Modal Corridor Study		Stephanie Millar
Item 6 2:50 p	NWACT Business/Member Updates Updates: 2-3 minutes, transportation projects, grant requests, relevant closures, or construction projects, etc.		All

✓ Indicates the NWACT should vote on this item.

Attachments:
 February 2024 Minutes

NWACT meetings are open to the public and accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities. If a sign language interpreter is needed, please call Sarah Lu Heath at 971.328.2877 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

**Northwest Area Commission on Transportation
Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Chair Thompson. NWACT Members in Attendance are denoted with an asterisk:

Clatsop County

Commission (v) **Lianne Thompson***
 Commission (a) Terry Hendryx
 Large City (v) **Elisabeth Adams***
 Large City (a)
 Small City (v) **Steve Wright***
 Small City (a)
 Citizen-at-Large Kathy Kleczek
 Citizen-at-Large

Columbia County

Commission (v) **Casey Garrett***
 Commission (a) Mike Russell
 Large City (v)
 Large City (a) **Dave Sukau***
 Small City (v) Bob Brajcich
 Small City (a) **Scott Jorgenson***
 Citizen-at-Large Rosemary Lohrke
 Citizen-at-Large **Betsy Johnson***

Tillamook County

Commission (v) **Doug Olson***
 Commission (a) **Chris Laity***
 Large City (v) Aaron Burriss
 Large City (a) Nathan George
 Small City (v)
 Small City (a) **David McCall***
 Citizen-at-Large
 Citizen-at-Large Patrick McHugh

Washington County

Commission (v) Jerry Willey
 Commission (a) **Stacy Shetler***
 Large City (v)
 Large City (a) **Jolynn Becker***
 Small City (v) **Marsha Kirk***
 Small City (a)
 Citizen-at-Large **Don Odermott***
 Citizen-at-Large **Mike Borresen***

Transit Districts

Columbia Co (v) **John Dreeszen***
 Columbia Co (a)
 Clatsop Co (v) **Debbie Boothe Schmidt***
 Clatsop County (a) Craig Johnston
 Tillamook Co (v) **Mary Johnson***
 Tillamook Co (a) **Brian Vitulli***

Ports

Port of Astoria (v) **Frank Spence***
 Port of Astoria (a) Will Isom
 Port of Columbia Co (v) Nancy Ward
 Port of Columbia Co (a) **Sean Clark***
 Port of Tillamook Bay (v) Michele Bradley
 Port of Garibaldi (a) Mike Saindon

Others in attendance:

Tova Peltz, ODOT
 Bill Jablonski, ODOT
 Caroline Crisp, ODOT
 Mark Buffington, ODOT
 Arla Miller, ODOT
 John Walsh, City of St Helens
 Colin Cooper, ColPac EDD
 Nate Stice, Regional Solutions Team
 Kevin Leahy, Clatsop SBDC & CEDR
 Peter Brandom, City of Cornelius
 Tony Hyde, Knife River
 Mehda Pulla, Washington County
 Anne McBride, City of Seaside
 Ayla Hofler, PCP District 31

*Members denoted with asterisks were in attendance.

Item 2: Consent Calendar

Minutes were reviewed. David McCall motioned to accept the minutes and Steve Wright seconded; passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Betsy Johnson requested information about the restriping project in Astoria. Bill Jablonski shared that the project was in Astoria's TSP and funding was mostly federal.

Betsy Johnson inquired about permitting for a Verizon tower on Highway 6. Bill Jablonski suggested that she contract with the Department of Forestry, as ODOT does not comment on those types of permits.

Betsy Johnson requested an update on Banks Fire Department request for emergency access to Highway 26 from their fire station. Bill Jablonski noted that stop lights are not allowed on highways [without ODOT analysis](#) -and that at this time there is no scheduled communication between ODOT and interested parties. Stacy Shetler requested flashing lights for the fire station for emergencies.

Items 3: Oregon State Policy & Highway Safety Discussion

Lieutenant Hasenkamp attended the meeting and shared data with the group regarding meritorious service from local officers, accident statistics, and contact information for county-level contacts. The group asked questions and there were several comments including: Marsha Kirk shared the desire for enforcing school bus rules, Pat McHugh gave appreciation for increased presence in Tillamook County, Arla Miller shared concerns about speeding in Knappa, and Lianne Thompson shared her concerns about pedestrian crossings on Highway 101.

Lianne Thompson also asked about the ability for ODOT and OSP to provide a list of 'easy' fixes for safety along Highway 30 that focused on low-cost and near-term solutions. Bill Jablonski suggested she look to the 2025 legislative session to see what ODOT is considering.

Item 4: 2027-2023 STIP and Great Streets 2.0

Tora Peltz, ODOT's Delivery and Operations Deputy Division Administrator, presented information about the next STIP planning process and the Great Streets Program.

Lianne Thompson asked how DEI is being weighted and shared concerns about rural areas ability to compete for funding. Stacy Shetler and Don Odermott shared concerns about using census tract data for eligibility purposes.

Tora Peltz shared that there would be upcoming community engagement.

Item 5: ODOT DEI Training & ACT Code of Conduct

Lisa Brown ODOT's Equity and Civil Rights Program Manager a presentation on Equity Guidance. Lianne Thompson encouraged members to bring this information to our work as a group.

Item 6: NWACT Member Updates

Sunset Empire Transportation District shared that their next step in service restoration will be a fixed route in Warrenton. Financial conditions will dictate the timeframe to return this service.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:04pm.

Area 1 updates NWACT	11-Apr
STIP Project	Comments
Planning	
Tillamook County TSP - ODOT budget	Consultant solistation is now at DOJ for review.
US101 Flooding study Beerman Creek	Building on the work completed 10 years ago. Move forward with the next design and construction options including King Tide impacts
St Helens Path - Oregon Community Paths	Consultant solicitation is now at ODOT procurement
NWACT Work Plan	Complete
Project Development (current)	
OR202: Nehalem River Bridge	Full bridge deck and rail repalcement - early in design
US101 @ Broadway Signal Upgrades (Seaside)	Starting consultant selection - replace/upgrade signal
US101 MP 23.9 Culvert Replacement	Project kick-off Jan 2024- replace failing culvert
OR6 Roadside Barrier Upgrades	Project at DAP - construction expected 2025 full barrier upgrade/replacement Tillamook to Banks
OR6 MP 4.4 - 9.0 (Paving)	Paving construction anticipated 2025
OR6 @ Wilson River Loop Road (MP2.07)	Upgrade NE intersection of WRL and OR6 - construction anticipated 2025
OR 6 Devila Lake Fork Wilson River Bridge	Bridge painting anticipated summer 2024
US101 Nedonna Creek	Culvert replacement incooperation with Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad/POTB
US30 Rainier - Wonderly Rd	Preservation design started, replacing center median barrier, construcion funding has been identified
US101 Urban Upgrades (Garbibaldi)	Bids April 2024 - Highway preservation, sidewalks, ADA ramps, rail safety expected to beigin construcion 2024
US101 Pacific Way (Gearhart)	Signal replacement under design - construction funding not identified
US30 SE Maple St Rail Safety Crossing (Scappoose)	Upgrade rail crossing - construction funding not identified
US101 Butte Creek Culvert	Shelf project for now - only going to DAP
Complete 2427 STIP @ https://www.oregon.gov/odot/STIP/Documents/OnlineSTIP_Public.pdf	
Construction	

Rumble Strips (Unit 1 NW Oregon)	US30, 26, OR47, 131
US30 @ Graham Creek	Second season to start approximately May 15
US26 @ Mendenhall	New structure is complete. Need to finish striping and punch list in the spring.
US30 Clatskanie ADA Ramps	Complete
US30 EB Larson Road Longview Queue Warning	Canteliever posts and signs to be installed late April to early May
US30 Clatskanie River Bridge Scour	Staging yard ready. Rock will begin to be delivered in a couple weeks
US26 Little Humbug Creek Bridge	Pile driving and site preparations in April. Bridge construction in September.
US101 Ave A - Ave K Seaside	Need to address one identified drainage issues between Ave A and Ave B in the spring.
Old Youngs Bay Bridge	Complete
US30 Jones Road to Rainier paving	Anticipated 2024 season. Still working out the details
OR202 Dresdin St. to 4th St (Astoria)	Bids in late March. Anticiapting 2024 season for completion. Will know more next NWACT meeting.
OR104 Warrenton Paving	Paving four way stop intersection in Warrenton
Spur 104 Skippanon River Bridge Deck Rehabilitation	Replace center span bridge deck
District 1 Maintenance activities:	
Winter maintenance has pretty much ended for the year. Although we still are keeping an eye out for ice/frost. All crews are back to strictly day shift except for Manning who does winter maintenance on the coastal passes on US26 and OR6.	

Sweeping of sand that was spread for winter maintenance will be occurring throughout the month of April in all maintenance sections.	
Bumps on US26 at MP10ish have been paved by the Warrenton Maintenance crew.	
The sinks on OR6 from MP32 -36 are being patched on a regular basis by the Manning Maintenance crew as it cracks and sinks constantly.	
Working on a culvert replacement on OR202 near MP6.	
Permanent pothole repair will be accomplished in April as asphalt plants begin to open for the season and drier days occur.	

Addressing Transportation Challenges on the Westside

You know that things are changing in Oregon.

Over the last 20 years, the area has seen more people move in and more cars and trucks on the roads.

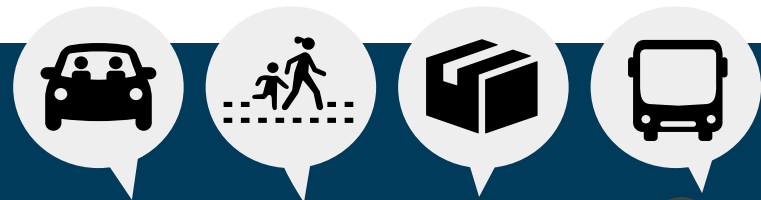
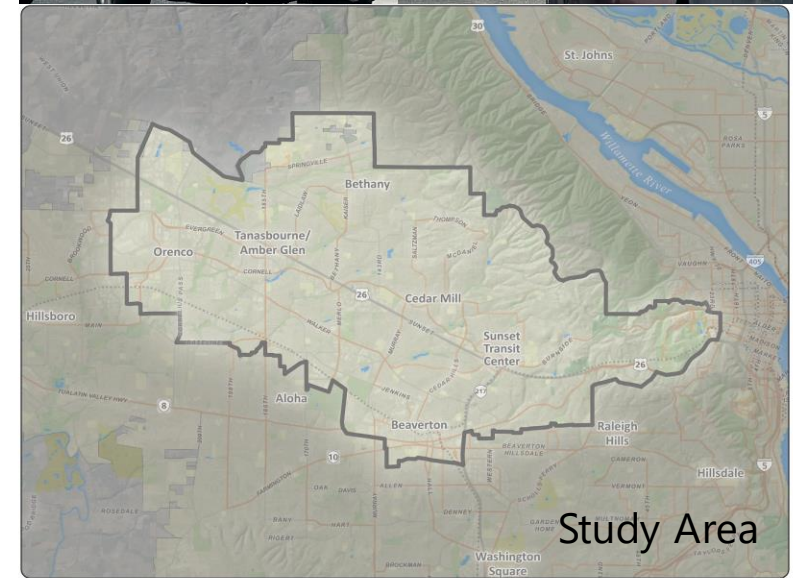
Washington County is growing faster than its neighbors in the region. Since the pandemic, we've seen fewer people on transit and changing travel needs. To sustain the area's economic health and quality of life, the Westside Multimodal Improvement Study will think big about how people and goods travel in and through the Westside Corridor today and over the next 20 years.



What are our goals for addressing transportation needs?

The study will look ahead to find policies and investments to create solutions that address five priority areas:

- **MOBILITY:** Improve travel time and travel time reliability for people and freight moving through the corridor
- **SAFETY:** Improve safety for all users
- **SOCIAL EQUITY:** Provide benefits or mitigate transportation burdens to historically underserved populations
- **CLIMATE ACTION:** Reduce air pollutant emissions and support climate goals
- **ECONOMIC VITALITY:** Serve or connect regional destinations and centers



Developing strategies together

This study will lay the foundation for future investments in the Westside Corridor. We will work together to make **recommendations for projects, strategies, and technologies to meet the needs of the community.** The study is a critical piece of the planning process that gives you the chance to share your thoughts in helping share the future before we jump ahead.

Spring-Summer 2022

Setting the stage:
Understanding needs and identifying goals

Fall 2022-Spring 2023

Developing strategies:
Working to identify solutions

Summer 2023 and beyond

Implementation and investment:
Prioritizing projects and developing a plan

Ongoing stakeholder and community input

We are talking to the community throughout this study.



Share your thoughts today!

Sign up for the **mailing list** to stay up to date and get notified about the about upcoming survey, community presentations, and other opportunities to provide feedback.

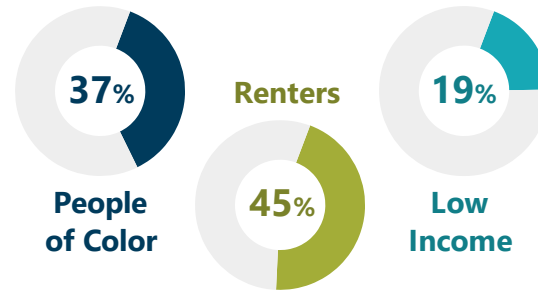
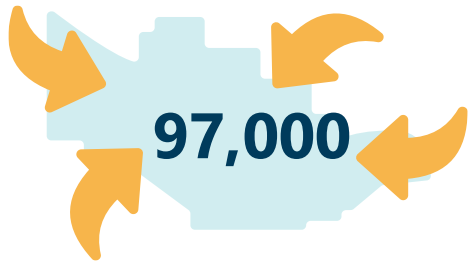
Please **visit our website** to sign up for the mailing list and learn more about the study:
<https://prod.oregon.gov/odot/UMO/Pages/wmis.aspx>

Email the project team anytime at **Westside.Study@odot.oregon.gov**



Who experiences transportation challenges in the Westside Corridor?

The Westside Study Area, centered on the US 26 Sunset Highway from Hillsboro through the Vista Ridge Tunnel, is home to approximately **90,000 residents and 124,000 jobs**. It is a regional employment destination, with many people traveling into the area for work, and an economic engine for Oregon, producing many high value exports.



Employment & Commute Trips

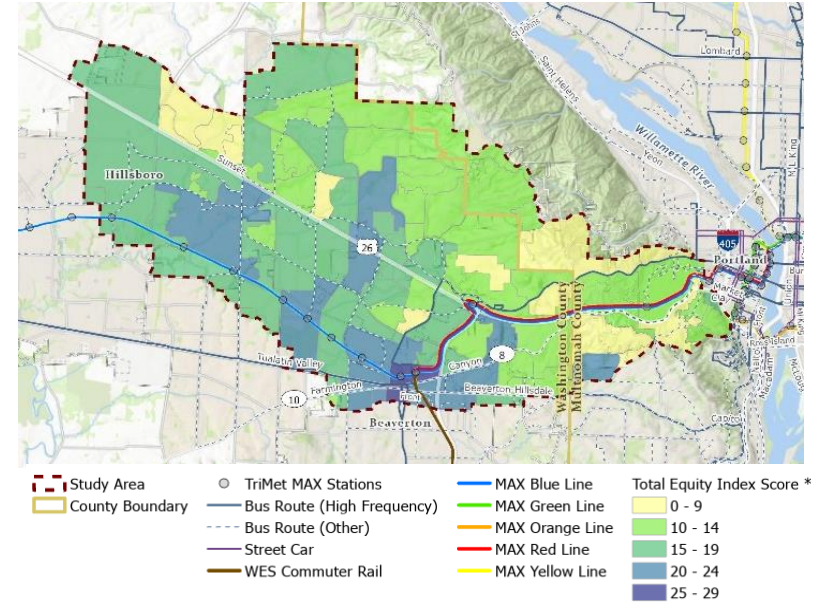
Washington County is a major employment center. Within the study area, roughly **97,000** non-resident workers commute into the study area daily, while 64,000 residents commute outside the study area for work. Notably, 27,000 people both live and work here. (2018 data)

Transit use in the Westside Corridor is higher than across the region, making up 9% of commute trips, as of 2018. We recognize COVID-19 has changed the way some travel, and this study reflects these changes. The busiest TriMet stops are now at major transfer points.

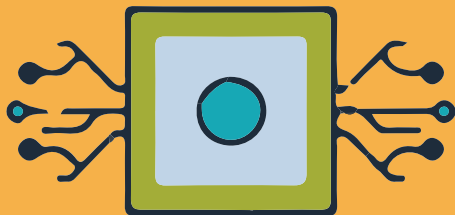
Residents & Housing

Westside residents are more racially diverse than the region and state, with over 37% residents of color. Forty-five percent of households are renters, which is higher than the region.

The percentage of car-free households (6.5%) and low-income households (19%) are both lower than the regional averages.



This map of the study area shows TriMet's Transit Equity Index. Many parts of the area score high in opportunity for improved transit service and access to jobs for equity priority communities.

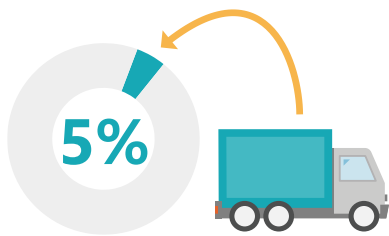


Silicon Forest: High Tech Exports

- Oregon's thriving high-tech industry includes more than 6,000 businesses statewide that provide over **81,000 jobs**.
- Oregon exported **\$15 billion** in electronics in 2021. This made up 60% of Oregon's exports, and much of that value comes from Washington County businesses.

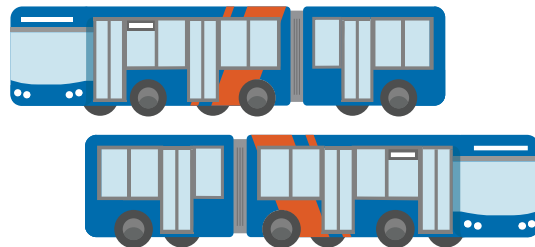
What Do We Know?

Existing and expected future conditions highlight transportation issues and needs on the Westside.



Cars and Freight

Although, US26 has the highest freight volume of all non-interstate highways in the region, just **five percent** of trips are freight vehicles, indicating that freight is not the primary cause of traffic congestion.



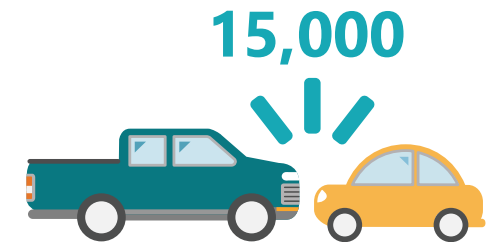
Westside Transit

The Westside corridor has **frequent service** bus routes and MAX light rail service. However, there are few north/south transit routes, and many employers are located on large campuses or office parks with poor traffic circulation for transit service.



Traffic Congestion

Travel times can vary **20+ minutes** for a typical trip from Hillsboro's employment areas to PDX Airport, due largely to congestion on US26.



Safety

The study area has seen **15,000 crashes** in the past 5 years. Many westside arterials have high rates of injuries and fatalities relative to the region, including Tualatin Valley Highway, Baseline Rd, Cornell Rd, Cornelius Pass Rd, and Farmington Rd.

What's Next?

- **Evaluating Potential Solutions.** In early 2023, the project team for the Westside Multimodal Improvements Study will evaluate a variety of different investments, including programs, policies, and infrastructure projects to understand how well different investment options address the study's priority areas: mobility and reliability, safety, social equity, climate action, and economic vitality.
- **Community Survey.** We want to hear from you! A project survey will be available for public input in early 2023.
- **Focus Groups.** The project team is working with community-based organizations to host in-depth focus groups in early 2023 to understand travel needs and get feedback on potential investments.

Visit the **project website** and sign up for the **mailing list** to stay informed and engaged with the study.

<https://www.oregon.gov/odot/UMO/Pages/wmis.aspx>

