



toWork

A Commuting Resource for Employers

Summer 2007

Rail projects rolling along

No doubt you've heard that the region's rail system is expanding. Here's how you can keep track of construction progress, how it affects your commute and when you can expect to ride the new rails.

I-205 and Beaverton/Wilsonville

Sign up for email updates, including weekly construction notices, at trimet.org. You'll also find news and updates at trimet.org/i205 and trimet.org/commuterrail.



The Clackamas Town Center MAX station and Transit Center will connect to 10 bus lines and have 750 parking spaces.

Downtown Portland

Sign up for email updates, including weekly construction notices and upcoming events, at portlandmall.org.



Both MAX and buses will serve the renovated Portland Mall, for easier transfers.

Rail fact: curved tracks for easy transfers

More than 2,000 feet of track is in place along ruler-straight 5th Avenue in downtown Portland—and some of it curves!

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TriMet

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Carefree Commuter Challenge coming in July

Transportation Coordinators get to have almost as much fun as Santa Claus this summer! That's due to the hundreds of prizes given by the Carefree Commuter Challenge to employees who use TriMet and other non-drive-alone options during the month of July.

The 2007 Carefree Commuter Challenge is set for all of July. Participants who ride transit, bike, walk, carpool, vanpool or telecommute for six or more days in July will be eligible for hundreds of prizes. Why? Because reducing car trips to work reduces air pollution, relieves congestion, saves money, and promotes health.



Last year a record number of businesses participated, and more than \$13,000 in prizes were awarded by drawing: \$200 in cash (for first-timers and Super Commuters), a bicycle from The Bike Gallery, New Seasons and Whole Foods gift certificates, Columbia Sportswear and Nike sports gear, weekend getaways, restaurant gift certificates, a TriMet annual pass, Hot Lips Pizza, Flexcar memberships, Ben & Jerry's ice cream, Annie Bloom's books and more. Visit wta-tma.org to see how you can join in the fun.



City offers help in how to get around

The Transportation Options division of the Portland Office of Transportation provides information, resources, and tools to help people make good choices about how to get around. To find out about walking and biking events—including bicycle commuting classes—or to receive free transportation resources, visit gettingaroundportland.org.

Vanpools: a cure for what ails you

An alternative prescription

Want another option to reduce work stress, cut commute cost by up to 75 percent, help ease pollution, global warming and traffic congestion, and maybe even make new friends? Consider a vanpool.

A vanpool is a group of five to 15 people who commute together in—you guessed it—a van. Metro's incentive program pays for half the van's lease cost, not including fuel. Passengers split the remaining costs. Monthly cost per rider, including fuel, can be as little as a quarter of what it costs to drive alone.

The average commuter spends eight hours a week driving, the equivalent of working an extra day. According to



surveys, most workers believe their commute is the most stressful part of the day. However, vanpool riders can relax, read the newspaper, work on their laptop or just take a nap. They have fewer worries about traffic, vehicle reliability or getting to work on time.

There may already be a vanpool that meets your commute needs. Learn more about vanpool options and how to start a vanpool at metro-region.org/vanpool, or call Metro at 503-813-7566.



Why wait? Get your monthly pass early

Did you know the TriMet Ticket Office at Pioneer Square and other outlets sell next month's passes as early as the 20th of this month? Why not skip the lines? Want a monthly reminder when the next month's pass goes on sale? Sign up for email updates at trimet.org/emailupdates. You can also see the full list of TriMet outlets—such as grocery stores and other neighborhood fixtures—at trimet.org/wheretobuy.

Explore summer events with TriMet

Summer brings events and activities that you can reach by TriMet. Explore the Portland area from end to end with these fun and family-friendly events, and plan your trip at trimet.org.

Event	Date	Location	For more
Summer reading program	All summer	Multnomah County libraries	multcolib.org/summer
		Washington County libraries	wilinet.wcccls.lib.or.us/summerreading
		Clackamas County libraries	clackamas.us/lib/summer.htm
Rembrandt and the Golden Age of Dutch Art	June 2–September 16	Portland Art Museum	portlandartmuseum.org
Rose Festival Starlight Parade and Grand Floral Parade	June 2 and June 9	Downtown Portland	rosefestival.org
Arthur’s World Traveling Exhibit	Opens June 8	Portland Children’s Museum	portlandcm.org
Noon Tunes and Flicks on the Bricks	July 10–August 30	Pioneer Courthouse Square	pioneercourthousesquare.org
Contemporary Crafts Museum and Gallery Grand opening	July 22	Northwest Park Blocks, downtown Portland	contemporarycrafts.org
Washington County Fair	July 26–29	Washington County Fair Complex	faircomplex.com/wcf2007
Celebrate Hillsboro Street fair and basketball tournament	August 5–6	Downtown Hillsboro	www.ci.hillsboro.or.us/Administration/CCO
Bite of Oregon	August 10–12	Waterfront Park	biteoforegon.com
HealthNet Portland Twilight Criterium bicycle race	Mid-August	South Park Blocks, downtown Portland	portlandtwilight.com
Asian Home Buying Fair	August 24	Portland Community College Southeast Center	apicia.org



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The curves mark the future sites of MAX stations, located every four or five blocks along the Portland Transit Mall. MAX will share the Mall's two transit lanes with buses, so it needs to "curve to the curb" as it approaches each station—from

the center travel lane to the right-side boarding lane.

That means both MAX and buses will stop on the right-hand side of the street, making it easier and safer for riders to transfer.

Curved tracks in place at 5th & Oak

Look Alive!

What better way to run nearby errands than walking? Here's some good advice for anywhere in our region, but especially downtown now that buses run on 3rd and 4th avenues: Be alert and stay safe when you're getting around on foot:

- Cross at crosswalks only.
- Obey all signals.
- Never cross in front of a bus, unless it's stopped at a red light.



Service update

Starting Sunday, June 3, routes and schedules will be adjusted on bus lines 10-Harold (in effect since April 16) and 46-North Hillsboro. Many other bus lines will see schedule adjustments only. To see how your trips may be affected, preview the new schedules at trimet.org or call 503-238-RIDE. New printed schedules will be available in late May.

Reader survey: Tell us what you think

To Work strives to bring you the commute-options information your workplace needs. We're considering some changes in the newsletter, and we need your input.

Could you answer a few questions? Please visit trimet.org/toworksurvey. Thanks for your help!

Contact TriMet

Customer assistance and trip planning	503-238-RIDE TTY 503-238-5811 trimet.org
Employer programs	503-962-7670
Carpool/vanpool programs	503-962-2433
Carpool matching	carpoolmatchnw.org 503-CAR-POOL
Info for people with disabilities	503-962-2455
Bikes on TriMet	503-962-7644

To Work is published quarterly by the TriMet Marketing Department.
For more information about employer transportation programs, contact TriMet Marketing:

503-962-7670 • employerprograms@trimet.org • FAX 503-962-6469



See where it takes you.