

Fareless Square Extension

Background

The Lloyd District is the fastest growing economic sector in the City of Portland. This growth has prompted a focus on developing transportation options while maintaining the livability of the area. The City of Portland, the Association for Portland Progress and the Lloyd District Transportation Management Association have established a package of programs to:

- Reduce the number of auto trips between downtown and the Lloyd District and within the region (an estimated 920f all trips between the Lloyd District and downtown Portland are by automobile)
- Increase transit ridership and alternative transportation options between downtown and the Lloyd District
- Increase shopping opportunities through an "extended downtown"
- Increase the potential for new development in the Lloyd District and downtown Portland

Past Accomplishments

Elements of the program that have already been implemented include:

- On-street parking management including meters
- New regulations for surface parking lots
- Establishment of maximum parking ratios for new developments
- Encouraging employers to support alternative commuting incentives for employees

What's Next?

The next element of the program, which was effective September 1, 2001, was the extension of Fareless Square to the Lloyd District. Tri-Met MAX light rail and ten bus routes are free within an area from downtown Portland to Multnomah Blvd. on the north, Holladay St. on the south, and 14th St. on the east. Those traveling outside this area are required to pay a fare.

The Fareless Square extension is limited to a small geographic area so there is low potential for commuter parking problems in the adjacent neighborhoods. If commuter parking does become a problem, the City of Portland Office of Transportation will work with the affected residents to develop solutions.

Funding and Support

This free fare zone is funded by City parking meter revenues, a portion of the increase in the hotel/motel tax for the Convention Center expansion and Tri-Met.