

Procedures Regarding Public Testimony Before The TriMet Board of Directors (“Board”)

The TriMet board of directors generally holds its regular meeting on the fourth Wednesday of every month. (During the months of December and August, Board meetings are often held at an earlier date in those months. Public notice is provided in advance of the time and location of all Board meetings.)

Board agendas are published on the Friday or Saturday before each Wednesday’s regular meeting and are also put on TriMet’s website (trimet.org). Anyone also can sign up to receive advance e-mail notification and a copy of upcoming Board meeting agendas. Public Comments are also welcome at (503) 238-RIDE, or through TriMet’s e-mail system – accessed through www.trimet.org. These are the best ways to communicate specific service issues.

The Board greatly values public comment or suggestions in written form or during a regular Board Meeting. The following procedures apply to public testimony before the Board.

(A) Agenda Items

Purpose: To provide a procedure for enabling public comment before the Board on specific Agenda Items. Public testimony allows the Board to receive comments on specific agenda items, but does not allow an opportunity for dialogue.

All testimony must be related to the specific Board agenda item being considered at that time.

(B) Public Forum Communications

Purpose: To provide a procedure for general public communications before the Board during the Public Forum portion of regular Board meetings. These communications allow the Board to hear testimony on TriMet operations and policies and general transit issues that interest citizens and customers, but does not allow an opportunity for dialogue.

(C) Public Testimony Procedures

The Procedure for presenting public testimony to the Board is as follows:

- The Board administrative staff places a public testimony sign-up sheet outside the Board’s regular meeting room approximately 30 minutes before the scheduled meeting.
- Individuals must sign up in person on a first come, first serve basis.
- The Board President or Presiding Officer will read off the names in order of all individuals who have signed up to testify on a specific Agenda Item.

- TriMet's Public Forum is scheduled following the completion of the Board's regular monthly agenda and is scheduled for 60 minutes. Individuals who have signed up to testify will be invited to do so by the Board President or Presiding Officer.
- Each individual called has three minutes to testify, unless otherwise stated in advance by the Board President or Presiding Officer.
- Those called to testify before the Board will provide their testimony from the testimony table.
- Those who speak during the Public Forum are encouraged to address the Board about matters related to TriMet operations and policies; or transportation, land use or livability matters in which TriMet is directly engaged.
- Those addressing the Board are encouraged to effectively utilize their time and limit repetitious testimony, so as to provide the greatest opportunity for others to also testify within the time allotted for public testimony
- Written copies of testimony are encouraged to be provided to the Board Secretary in advance of the testimony being presented. These copies will be provided at the Board meeting to each Board member and the TriMet General Manager.