

Light rail safety and security progress report – September 2009

During the past 20 months, TriMet has aggressively enhanced safety and security on its MAX and bus system. These improvements include:

More police officers

- Doubling the number of police officers working in the Transit Police Division, up from 29 actual positions to 58 officers. Officers spend up to 70 percent of their time patrolling the system.
- Created East, West and South precincts with dedicated officers patrolling area MAX trains and buses. These precincts complement the work of the Central Transit Police Precinct in downtown Portland.

New South Precinct

- TriMet has made tenant improvements to retail space on the first floor of the Clackamas Town Center garage for the 2,100-square-foot South Precinct of the Transit Police Division.
- Project includes office space, staff locker room and two plumbed holding cells.
- South Precinct opened in September 2009, just days before the MAX Green Line extended into Clackamas County.
- Initial staffing includes a sergeant and four officers. Other transit police officers will cover shifts when the Green Line officers are off duty.

More security cameras

- Currently, 75 percent of all MAX stations have closed circuit TV (CCTV) cameras, including all eight Gresham areas MAX stations.



A Transit Police Division officer checks passengers for valid fares on MAX.

- CCTV cameras have been installed along the entire MAX Green Line and at bus stops along the downtown Portland TransitMall.

More fare inspection

- Doubling the number of staff—from 15 to 30 supervisors—dedicated to check fares and issue warnings, citations and exclusions for riders without a valid fare.
- The remaining 46 TriMet supervisors check fares as a part of their daily duties.
- Improved reliability of Ticket Vending Machines (ongoing); replaced all of the original TVMs; doubled staffing to two shifts a day, seven days a week; better deployment of field technicians to more quickly respond to issues; increased number of retail shops located on MAX platforms that sell tickets.

- Real-time reports are now available to track service issues and to speed repairs.

More tools for enforcement

- Extended and streamlined Interdiction Command option to allow rowdy or intimidating riders to be immediately removed from the transit system for six hours, up from the previous limit of four hours.
- Changed TriMet Code to add intimidation as behavior restricted on the system, including violent, threatening or disruptive behavior or conduct intended and likely to provoke a violent response. The code change also restricts excessively boisterous and unreasonably loud conduct.
- Extended juvenile detention to allow for safety hold for up to 36 hours for repeat offenders violating the TriMet code or engaged in certain criminal activity so officials can work with the youths and their families to stop the activity.
- Provided jail time for persons that commit crimes on TriMet (Project 57).
- Created a pilot effort to limit access to station platforms and improve lighting at NE 82nd Ave and Gresham Central MAX stations. Fencing will be added to the Gresham Central platforms, making it a paid fare zone. Slated to be completed

in fall 2009, these improvements will allow for improved fare inspection.

More prevention

- Improved lighting and improved sight lines at MAX platforms.
- Eight Rider Advocates to engage and work with youth to promote safe behavior on the system.
- Continue to use contracted security to provide presence on the system.
- Remove graffiti within 24 hours at busy MAX stations and transit stations.

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