



**Date:** May 5, 2025

**To:** Portland Design Commission

**From:** TriMet Planning Staff

**Subject:** Next Generation Bus Shelter Family

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TriMet looks forward to presenting to the Design Review Commission and introducing our next generation bus shelter project. We are looking for feedback from the Commission to make our new bus shelters standard improvements in the ROW and to consider including them in the *Guide to Standard Light Rail And Bus Rapid Transit Improvements in Public Streets*.

**Background:** TriMet currently has an in street inventory of approximately 1000 shelters across our service district with the majority placed within the city of Portland. The shelter design was approved and a siting agreement was developed in the early 1990's to allow for efficient permitting and placement across the city over subsequent decades. Today, many of the shelters are 20 to 30 years old and in a state of decay. Further, the current design no longer adequately addresses the needs of transit patrons, and has become difficult to maintain in an era when acts of vandalism have increased eight to tenfold.

**The Proposal:** TriMet is developing a new family of bus shelters to replace all of our existing in street shelters. We are also developing high capacity bus shelters for our Transit Center upgrades. All shelters:

- utilize quality materials that are more resistant to vandalism
- allow for replacement or removal of glazing panels
- incorporate larger canopies to accommodate more riders
- reduce widths of vertical elements to better accommodate pedestrian movement and improve sightlines
- allow for the inclusion of solar lighting, digital schedule displays and text to speech devices

We are currently in the process fabricating prototypes of the in street family for placement and review within Portland. City staff have been involved in the review of locations and the permitting process. Going forward, new shelters in the design or historic overlays (or any ROW improvements that are not currently "standard improvements in the ROW" or adopted by the PBOT City Engineer) will trigger Land Use Design Review or Historic Review. In order to avoid this lengthy and duplicative process for these types of objects in the ROW, TriMet/ PBOT seek advice from the Portland Design Commission to exempt them from the Land Use process by making them new standard improvements in the ROW.

Further, we propose updating and expanding the *Guide to Standard Light Rail And Bus Rapid Transit Improvements in Public Streets* to include the Next Generation Bus Shelters and associated amenities for regular service stops and transit centers.