



SALEM AREA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA PACKET

Thursday, October 23, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Directors: Joaquín Lara Midkiff | Ramiro Navarro Jr. | Sadie Carney | Maria Hinojos Pressey |
Ian Davidson | Sara Duncan | Bill Holmstrom

Available meeting formats:

In Person: *Senator Hearing Room*, 555 Court Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

Zoom Gov: **Meeting ID:** 161 115 6964 | **Passcode:** 680098

Link: <https://cherriots-org.zoomgov.com/j/1611156964?pwd=T0VPaXp3eVJpc0NJWWkxeXJSNnE5dz09>

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Live Stream: <https://www.capitalcommunitymedia.org/all>

Comcast Channel 21

Public Comment: Community members may provide comments on transit-related matters during the meeting, with a three-minute time limit per speaker. Comments can be submitted in writing, by email, in person, or via ZoomGov. Written comments received by 12:00 P.M. on the meeting day will be included in the official record.

Email: Board@cherriots.org

Mail: Attn: District Board of Directors, 555 Court St. NE, Suite 5230, Salem, OR 97301

Consent Calendar: Routine items are adopted collectively through a single motion unless a Director requests to remove an item. Any item withdrawn for discussion will be addressed after the Consent Calendar is approved.

Board of Director Report: Board members report on transit-related issues, including committee participation, community outreach, and special projects representing the District.

Closed Captioning (CC): ZoomGov's live streaming platform offers Closed Captioning (CC) to enhance viewer participation, though translations may not always be accurate.

Alternative Formats: ASL services and alternate formats for individuals with limited English proficiency are available with 48 hours' notice. Requests can be made by contacting the Clerk at 503-588-2424 or through TTY via Oregon Relay Services at 1-800-735-2900 (or 711). Office hours are Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Electronic Copies: Agenda packets are available at <https://www.cherriots.org/meetings/>.

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Formatos de reunión disponibles:

En persona: Senator Hearing Room, 555 Court Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

Zoom Gov: Meeting ID: 161 115 6964 | Código de acceso: 680098

Link: <https://cherriots->

[org.zoomgov.com/j/1611156964?pwd=T0VPaXp3eVJpc0NJWWkxeXJSNnE5dz09](https://cherriots-)

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Comcast Canal 21

Comentarios del público: Los miembros de la comunidad pueden hacer comentarios sobre asuntos relacionados con el tránsito durante la reunión, con un límite de tiempo de tres minutos por orador. Los comentarios pueden presentarse por escrito, por correo electrónico, en persona o a través de ZoomGov. Los comentarios por escrito recibidos antes de las 12:00 p.m. del día de la reunión se incluirán en el acta oficial.

Correo electrónico: Board@cherriots.org

Correo postal: District Board of Directors, 555 Court St. NE, Suite 5230, Salem, OR 97301

Calendario de Consentimiento: Los puntos de rutina se adoptan colectivamente mediante una sola moción, a menos que un Director solicite retirar un punto. Cualquier punto retirado para ser debatido se tratará después de la aprobación del Calendario de Consentimiento.

Informe del Consejo de Administración: Los miembros de la Junta Directiva informan sobre temas relacionados con el tránsito, incluida la participación en comités, la extensión a la comunidad y los proyectos especiales que representan al Distrito.

Subtítulos (CC): La plataforma de retransmisión en directo de ZoomGov ofrece subtítulos (CC) para mejorar la participación de los espectadores, aunque es posible que las traducciones no siempre sean precisas.

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Copias electrónicas: Los paquetes del orden del día están disponibles en <https://www.cherriots.org/meetings/>.

Lista de distribución por correo electrónico: Para inscribirse en la lista de distribución de reuniones públicas del Distrito, envíe un correo electrónico al Secretario de la Junta a publictestimony@cherriots.org.



AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Note Attendance for a Quorum
- B. Safety Minute – HR Division
- C. Announcements | Changes to the Agenda

2. PRESENTATIONS

- A. GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting 04

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

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 - III. October 15, 2025 Board Work Session 16
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 - I. Award of Contract for KTC Entry Gate Construction 19
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5. ITEMS DEFERRED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

6. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approve Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Calendar 23
- B. Approval of Surplus Bus Donation 26
- C. Award of Contract for EAMS (Software) 28

7. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

- A. Creating Community Connections Project Brief

8. REPORTS

- A. General Manager
- B. Board of Directors 29

9. ADJOURN

NEXT MEETING: December 11, 2025 AT 5:30 P.M.



To: Board of Directors
From: Denise LaRue, Chief Financial Officer
Thru: Allan Pollock, General Manager
Date: October 23, 2025
Subject: Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting – FY24

ISSUE

Shall the District be recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)?

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS

The ACFR was established by the GFOA in 1945 to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) to prepare annual comprehensive financial reports that exhibit the spirit of transparency and full disclosure, and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal.

The ACFR shows the total of all financial accounting, provides a comparison of annual budget and actual, and gives a detailed showing of investment accounts by category reflecting balances over previous years. Various levels of government – federal, state, local and municipal – each began producing an ACFR to catalog an accurate picture of institutional funds, enterprise or financial holdings, assets and total investment incomes for those government and nongovernmental entities using the report. By the 1970s, the ACFR had become the nationwide paradigm for local government accounting.

The ACFR is submitted to the GFOA for review each year, and upon review, the GFOA awards its Certificate of Achievement Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting to those governments that comply with the ACFR accounting standards of preparation.

On August 11, 2025, the District received notification ([Attachment A](#)) from the GFOA that their ACFR for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, qualified for a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This is the 13th consecutive year that the District has received this recognition. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement ([Attachment B](#)), a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

RECOMMENDATION

For information only.

PROPOSED MOTION

None.



Government Finance Officers Association
203 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2700
Chicago, Illinois 60601-1210
312.977.9700 fax: 312.977.4806

8/11/2025

Denise LaRue
Chief Financial Officer
Salem Area Mass Transit, Oregon

Dear Denise:

Congratulations!

We are pleased to notify you that your annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 has met the requirements to be awarded GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The GFOA established the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program (Certificate Program) in 1945 to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare annual comprehensive financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. Congratulations, again, for having satisfied the high standards of the program.

Your electronic award packet contains the following:

- **A "Summary of Grading" form and a confidential list of comments and suggestions for possible improvements.** We strongly encourage you to implement the recommended improvements in your next report. Certificate of Achievement Program policy requires that written responses to these comments and suggestions for improvement be included with your 2025 fiscal year end submission. If a comment is unclear or there appears to be a discrepancy, please contact the Technical Services Center at (312) 977-9700 and ask to speak with a Certificate of Achievement Program in-house reviewer.
- **Certificate of Achievement.** A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year. A current holder of a Certificate of Achievement may reproduce the Certificate in its immediately subsequent annual comprehensive financial report. Please refer to the instructions for reproducing your Certificate in your next report.
- **Award of Financial Reporting Achievement.** When GFOA awards a government the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, we also present an Award of Financial Reporting Achievement (AFRA) to the department identified in the application as primarily responsible for achievement of the Certificate.
- **Sample press release.** Attaining this award is a significant accomplishment. Attached is a sample news release that you may use to give appropriate publicity to this notable achievement.

In addition, award recipients will receive via mail either a plaque (if first-time recipients or if the government has received the Certificate ten times since it received its last plaque) or a brass medallion to affix to the plaque (if the government currently has a plaque with space to affix the medallion). Plaques and medallions will be mailed separately.

As an award-winning government, we would like to invite one or more appropriate members of the team that put together your annual comprehensive financial report to apply to join the Special Review Committee. As members of the Special Review Committee, peer reviewers get exposure to a variety of reports from around the country; gain insight into how to improve their own reports; achieve professional recognition; and provide valuable input that helps other local governments improve their reports. Please see our website for [information on completing an application](#).

Thank you for participating in and supporting the Certificate of Achievement Program. If we may be of any further assistance, please contact the Technical Services Center at (312) 977-9700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele Mark Levine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michele Mark Levine
Director, Technical Services



Government Finance Officers Association

Certificate of
Achievement
for Excellence
in Financial
Reporting

Presented to

**Salem Area Mass Transit
Oregon**

For its Annual Comprehensive
Financial Report
For the Fiscal Year Ended

June 30, 2024

Christopher P. Morill

Executive Director/CEO



SALEM AREA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, September 25, 2025

Index of Board Actions

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a. August 28, 2025 Board Meeting	
b. September 11, 2025 Special Board Meeting	
c. September 11, 2025 Work Session	
B. Routine Business Items	
a. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-13, Authorizing Commendations for Qualifying Million Mile Operators	
b. Award of Contract for Network Lifecycle (FY26)	
c. Award of Contract for Mobile Access Routers	
d. Award of Contract for Bus Audit Services	
Authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with EC Electric for the installation of depot charging equipment and infrastructure with a project amount not to exceed \$137,450	4
Adopt the District's 2025 Climate Action Plan, as presented in Attachment A, to advance a more sustainable future for the Salem/Keizer community	4



SALEM AREA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

ATTENDEES: President Hinojos Pressey | Directors Joaquín Lara Midkiff (Virtual) | Ramiro Navarro Jr. | Sadie Carney | Ian Davidson (Virtual) | Sara Duncan | Bill Holmstrom

STAFF: GM Allan Pollock | DGM David Trimble | CSO Cliff Carpentier | CFO Denise LaRue | CELRO Jaél Rose | CPDO Shofi Azum | COO Tom Dietz | Contracted Services Manager Ben Sawyer | Risk Manager Deb Grant | Transportation Manager Don Clifford | Security & Emergency Management Coordinator Karen Garcia | Senior Manager, Project & Contract Administration Melissa Kidd | IT Manager Ross Aguilar | Maintenance Manager Zach Leeth | Strategic Initiatives Administrator Bobbi Kidd | Security Coordinator Justin Kinyon | ITS Administrator Kristian Sorensen | Grant & Projects Coordinator Matt Marquez | Emergency Coordinator Randy Navalinski | Executive Assistants Crisandra Williams | Kirra Pressey

GUEST: Legal Counsel Sara Sayles

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Note of Attendance for a Quorum

President Hinojos Pressey called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Attendance was noted and a quorum was present.

B. Safety Minute

Senior Manager, Project & Contract Administration Kidd presented the safety minute regarding reducing National Preparedness Month.

C. Announcements | Changes to Agenda - None

2. PRESENTATIONS

A. Million Mile Driver Recognition

Presenter: COO Tom Dietz

Staff Report: Pg. 4-11

COO Dietz presented the Million Mile Club recognition, which honors operators who demonstrate safety and longevity. Cherriots recognizes operators with 12 consecutive years of accident-free service and at least 1,600 hours worked per year. Six operators achieved one million miles and one operator, Harry McFadden, achieved two million miles. Recognitions include Board acknowledgment, reserved parking, bomber jackets, bus decals, medallions, and monetary awards totaling \$18,532.76, funded through the FY26 Operations Division budget.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Board President Hinojos Pressey noted that written public comments had been received from several individuals and organizations including Dakota Saunders, Julie Hall, SEDCOR, Chuck Flowers, Kate, Daniel Potter, Larry Sipe, Mike De Blasi, Margaret Stephens, Cathy Howell, 350 Salem OR, Spencer Woolley, Liz Henderson, Elliot Groeneveld, Angela Williams, Lisa Schneider, Laurie Miller, KellyAnn Shaughnessy, and Marion County Board of Commissioners for Staff and Board review. The Board also received a total of 26 in-person



verbal public comments, 25 regarding the payroll tax, both in favor and opposed, and one regarding the MTM-ATU Union Contract, all for their review and consideration.

4. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. **Approval of Minutes**

- I. August 28, 2025 Board Meeting
- II. September 11, 2025 Special Board Meeting
- III. September 11, 2025 Work Session

B. **Routine Business Items**

- I. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-13, Authorizing Commendations for Qualifying Million Mile Operators
- II. Award of Contract for Network Lifecycle (FY26)
- III. Award of Contract for Mobile Access Routers
- IV. Award of Contract for Bus Audit Services

Action			
Motion:	I move to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.		
Motion by:	Director Bill Holmstrom	Second:	Director Ramiro Navarro Jr.
Vote			
Aye:	President Hinojos Pressey, Directors, Lara Midkiff, Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan, and Holmstrom.		
Motion passes unanimously 7-0			

2. **ITEMS DEFERRED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR** - None

3. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. Award of Contract for Installation of Depot Charging Equipment & Infrastructure

Presenter: Maintenance Manager Zach Leeth

Agenda Packet: Pg. 32

Maintenance Manager Leeth presented a request for Board authorization for the General Manager to enter into a contract with EC Electric for the installation of Electric Bus charging equipment and infrastructure at Del Webb Operations Headquarters. The project will expand the District's charging capacity using existing NEPA/SHIPO-approved conduits to avoid site disturbance and is scheduled for completion within five weeks. Funding is available through Federal CMAQ Flex to 5307 grant funds (80/20 match) and is included in the FY2026 Operations capital budget.



Action			
Motion:	I move that the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with EC Electric for the installation of depot charging equipment and infrastructure with a project amount not to exceed \$137,450		
Motion by:	Director Ramiro Navarro Jr.	Second:	Director Sara Duncan
Vote			
Aye:	President Hinojos Pressey, Directors, Lara Midkiff, Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan, and Holmstrom.		
Motion passes unanimously 7-0			

B. Adopt the District's 2025 Climate Action Plan

Presenter: Strategic Initiatives Administrator Bobbi Kidd

Agenda Packet: Pg. 33-75

Strategic Initiatives Administrator Kidd presented the 2025 Climate Action Plan (CAP) for Board adoption. Developed in partnership with Cumming Group, the CAP outlines strategies to decarbonize District operations and build resilience to climate impacts. The plan is based on a comprehensive baseline assessment, stakeholder engagement, and a public visioning survey, which received 137 responses and highlighted priorities such as increasing transit ridership, providing access to heating/cooling shelters, and transitioning to low/zero-emissions vehicles. With Board adoption, staff will establish a steering committee, prioritize actions for FY27, and implement a monitoring and reporting process to guide measurable progress toward sustainability goals.

Action			
Motion:	I move that the Board adopt the District’s 2025 Climate Action Plan, as presented in Attachment A, to advance a more sustainable future for the Salem/Keizer community.		
Motion by:	Director Joaquín Lara Midkiff	Second:	Director Sara Duncan
Vote			
Aye:	President Hinojos Pressey, Directors, Lara Midkiff, Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan, and Holmstrom.		
Motion passes unanimously 7-0			

4. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

A. FY 25 Annual Performance Report

Presenter: CPDO Shofi Azum

Agenda Packet: Pg. 76-119

CPDO Azum presented the FY25 Annual Report, covering July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. Highlights include hiring 25 new transit operators, deploying the Avail CAD/AVL system, placing all 10 Battery Electric Buses into service, launching New Route 22, and implementing the Umo contactless fare system. Systemwide ridership increased 3.3% to 3.6 million rides, on-time performance improved, and new KPIs were introduced for Marketing and BEBs, tracking social media engagement and BEB performance. The report reflects progress in providing safe, reliable, and high-quality service while advancing sustainability and accessibility.

B. FY25 Annual Safety & Security Division Report

Presenter: CSO Cliff Carpentier

Agenda Packet: Pg. 120-137

CSO Carpentier presented the FY25 Annual Safety and Security Division Report, highlighting expanded committee roles, adoption of the updated Agency Safety Plan, strengthened risk management, expanded training, and emergency preparedness achievements, including StormReady designation. Customer safety perception remains strong, while employee surveys indicate ongoing workplace safety concerns. FY26 priorities include finalizing emergency and pandemic plans, expanding security training, and investing in technology and safety analytics.

Security and Emergency Management Manager Garcia reported on system safety highlights, including committee education on Safety Management Systems, hazard analysis, the Safety Risk Rating Matrix, and establishment of safety performance targets.

Security Coordinator Kinyon presented the FY25 System Security report, highlighting staff de-escalation training, TransTrack reporting system implementation, and security contracts at Del Webb and transit centers. FY26 priorities include expanded training, mobile security services, Del Webb upgrades, and video system enhancements.

Risk Manager Grant presented FY25 Risk Management highlights, including reduced workplace injuries, strengthened insurance and loss control, and expanded safety committee oversight. FY26 priorities focus on analytics, wellness initiatives, and continuous process improvements.

Emergency Coordinator Navalinski presented FY25 Emergency Management highlights, including StormReady designation, COOP implementation, staff training, and response to the 2025 ice storm and Courthouse Square outage. FY26 priorities include finalizing emergency plans, updating response guides, and aligning staff training with NIMS/ICS.



Division FY26 Priorities: implement integrated Safety & Security training, de-escalation programs, monitor FTA requirements, and continue collaboration with security providers.

C. Creating Community Connections Project Brief

Presenter: CELRO Jaél Rose

CELRO Rose presented the CCC campaign brief. Events and open houses held in September as part of the Service Enhancement Plan provided community feedback, including strong support for the Youth Zero Pass, interest in expanded weekend service, and engagement from small businesses. Social media efforts from 8/26-9/22 generated 139,000 impressions (up 429% from last year), a 541% increase in engagement, 1,700% more link clicks, and an engagement rate of 5.2%, above the industry average.

5. REPORTS

A. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

GM Pollock highlighted inter-agency partnerships and resource sharing. Executive Assistant Pressey introduced LTD Board Liaison Brianna Gutierrez Thorne, noting their ongoing collaboration since meeting at APTA TBA. GM Pollock attended the APTA TRANSform Conference, where the legislative committee approved recommendations for the next transportation bill, including the 40-40-20 Capital Distribution. He also congratulated Million Mile Operators and noted completion of Employee Engagement and Customer & Community Value surveys.

B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

President Hinojos Pressey and Directors provided reports on committees and activities in which they represent the District.

6. ADJOURN

President Hinojos Pressey adjourned the meeting at 7:57p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Hinojos Pressey, Board President



SALEM AREA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT
BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES

Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

ATTENDEES: President Maria Hinojos Pressey | Directors Joaquín Lara Midkiff (Virtual) | Ramiro Navarro Jr. | Sadie Carney | Ian Davidson | Sara Duncan | Bill Holmstrom
STAFF: GM Allan Pollock | DGM David Trimble | CSO Cliff Carpentier | CFO Denise LaRue | CELRO Jaél Rose | CPDO Shofi Ull Azum | COO Tom Dietz | Executive Assistants Crisandra Williams | Kirra Pressey

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Note of Attendance for a Quorum
President Hinojos Pressey called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
Attendance was noted.
- B. Safety Minute
HR Manager Harrington presented the safety minute focusing on Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- C. Announcements | Changes to Agenda: None

2. PRESENTATIONS - None

3. DISCUSSIONS

- A. Creating Community Connections
Presenter: GM Allan Pollock, CELRO Jaél Rose
CELRO Rose provided an update on community outreach, noting modest attendance but strong engagement across open houses at various locations. Key themes included the need for increased service frequency and weekend availability, strong support for the Youth Zero Pass, and business concerns about payroll tax timing. Social media engagement showed impressive growth, with a 30% increase in impressions from the previous month and a 440% increase year-over-year. Engagement increased by 25% month-over-month and 548% year-over-year, with post link clicks jumping 824%. A spike occurred in non-rider survey responses, likely skewed but still helpful. CELRO Rose stated the community wants a transit system befitting a state capital, although business support hasn't matched the levels of community engagement. General Manager Pollock noted community appreciation for current services alongside demand for more frequent service.
- B. Battery Electric Bus Update
Presenter: COO Tom Dietz
COO Dietz reported all 10 BEBs have operated since September 2025, with depot charging working but inductive charging at Keizer Transit Center unstable, increasing Route 11 bus needs. Gillig will discontinue inductive charging and add a seventh battery pack to 12 ordered buses. Options include larger-battery BEBs or retrofitting some buses to RNG. The Board expressed support for primarily using RNG while maintaining some electric buses. Existing orders will be maintained while long-term fleet strategy is assessed.



4. GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS/REPORTS

- A. Upcoming Agenda Items
- B. Board Calendar

GM Pollock reviewed the upcoming agenda and calendar items.

5. ADJOURN

President Hinojos Pressey adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Hinojos Pressey, Board President



SALEM AREA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT
BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES

Thursday, October 15, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

ATTENDEES: President Maria Hinojos Pressey | Directors Joaquín Lara Midkiff (Virtual) | Ramiro Navarro Jr. | Sadie Carney | Ian Davidson | Sara Duncan | Bill Holmstrom

STAFF: GM Allan Pollock | DGM David Trimble | CFO Denise LaRue | COO Tom Dietz | Executive Assistant Kirra Pressey

GUEST: Coalition Representative & Salem Chamber CEO Tom Hoffert

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Note of Attendance for a Quorum

President Hinojos Pressey called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.
Attendance was noted.

2. PRESENTATIONS - None

3. DISCUSSIONS

A. Creating Community Connections

President Hinojos Pressey invited GM Pollock to provide follow-up information from the previous work session.

GM Pollock addressed several questions that had been raised at the last meeting:

1. Regarding different tax rates for employers versus self-employed individuals, he confirmed the board could implement two different rates if they chose to do so, which had been verified with the Department of Revenue.
2. If the body wanted to refer ordinances, it could be either one or two ballot measures, depending on how the ordinance was structured. Two separate ordinances would result in two ballot measures, while combining them would result in one.
3. The draft ordinances had been modified to exempt local jurisdictions from the tax, based on the board's previous guidance.
4. Regarding data on local government and self-employed workers, CFO LaRue reported that they had reached out to the Oregon Employment Department for information.

CFO LaRue also explained that the Employment Department does not track self-employment data since their numbers are calculated based on the unemployment insurance program, which doesn't apply to self-employed workers. For planning purposes, they had used conservative estimates based on Lane Transit District's experience, which ranged from \$2.2-2.4 million for the last few years. For their own estimates, they had projected a lower amount of \$1.7-1.8 million.

Tom Hoffert, CEO of the Salem Chamber of Commerce, representing a coalition of six business organizations, then made a presentation to the board. The coalition included the Salem Chamber, Keizer Chamber, Realtors of Marion Polk County, Home Builders



Association of Marion Polk County, West Salem Business Association, and Mid-Valley Association of Realtors.

Mr. Hoffert stated the coalition's desire was to "reset the table and add place settings for employers to sit and meaningfully participate" in the process. He acknowledged the importance of strong, reliable public transportation and recognized the District's efforts in building and maintaining a system that serves the community.

He expressed the coalition's concerns about the proposed employer payroll tax, noting that businesses are currently struggling with high unemployment, inflation, and economic uncertainty. While the tax is described as an employer tax, he argued that costs ultimately get passed down through stalled wages, reduced hours, and increased prices.

Mr. Hoffert questioned the need for the tax, noting that only 4% of residents currently use the transit system, buses are not at or near capacity, and the analysis on projected ridership growth remains unclear. He requested a cost-benefit analysis to determine the appropriate employer wage tax rate.

The coalition proposed three key actions:

1. Form a joint committee between the District and the Business Coalition to find efficiencies and explore solutions together.
2. Establish a shared responsibility model where transit users contribute more through increased fares (noting that the District has not raised fares in over a decade while TriMet and LTD have higher fares).
3. Provide a clear cost-benefit analysis that ties every new dollar to measurable outcomes.

Mr. Hoffert noted that the District will soon receive approximately \$11.5 million per year in new state funds and suggested demonstrating the results of these investments before adding a local payroll tax.

A lengthy discussion followed Mr. Hoffert's presentation. Board members raised several concerns:

Director Davidson noted that the state funding was only temporary (lasting 2 years) and could not be relied upon for long-term service expansion. He questioned Mr. Hoffert's assertion that the District has delivered strong, reliable public transit, suggesting the current service level is inadequate. He also expressed skepticism about finding significant efficiencies in what he described as a fiscally well-run organization.

Director Duncan expressed frustration that the coalition had waited until the "eleventh hour" to engage, noting that the board had reached out to the chamber in June and held a special meeting with them. She was disappointed that the presentation seemed to



request additional delays rather than offering concrete negotiation points. She also strongly objected to the suggestion to end the free pass program for students.

Director Carney asked whether the chamber would consider using a lottery system to select business representatives for the proposed committee to ensure diverse perspectives within the business community.

Director Lara Midkiff emphasized that the transportation system's improvements would benefit the local economy by enabling people to travel, recreate, and spend money locally.

After extensive discussion, the Board considered delaying the ordinance process to allow for the formation of a joint committee. President Hinojos Pressey proposed a committee structure that might include three Board members, six coalition members, and two to four members of the public (including transit users).

The Board tentatively agreed to:

1. Table the ordinance readings that were scheduled to begin the following week
2. Work with the coalition to establish committee structure and goals by early November
3. If agreement on goals could not be reached, potentially hold a special board meeting on November 10th for the first ordinance reading
4. Have the committee work from approximately January to June 2026 if formed

The delay would push potential tax implementation to January 2028 rather than January 2027 as originally planned.

4. ADJOURN

President Hinojos Pressey adjourned the meeting at 7:32p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Hinojos Pressey, Board President

To: Board of Directors
From: Tom Dietz, Chief Operations Officer
Thru: Allan Pollock, General Manager
Date: October 23, 2025
Subject: Keizer Transit Center (KTC) Vehicle Entry Gate and Controls

ISSUE

Shall the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Sloan Security Group for the installation of entry gates and controls at KTC with a project amount not to exceed \$301,000?

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS

This project focuses on controlling access to the bus-only lane at KTC to prevent personal vehicles and commercial trucks from entering. Since the completion and signalization of the intersection at Chemawa Rd and Keizer Station Blvd., multiple non-District vehicles have entered the bus only lane at KTC including semi-trucks and trailers that were unable to turn around, resulting in damage to landscaping, poles, signs, etc.

The new gate system will be activated through a radio frequency (RF) transponder mounted on all District vehicles, both revenue and non-revenue. When the vehicle equipped with a transponder approaches the sensor, the system will authorize the gate to open. Once the vehicle passes through, the gate will automatically close.

This solicitation was performed through an Invitation to Bid (ITB) process, which closed on September 10, 2025. There two (2) bids that were deemed responsive and Sloan Security Group was determined to be the successful bidder.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding for this project will be covered by FTA 5307 capital funds and local match covered by the general fund. It includes a 5% contingency to cover any unforeseen cost fluctuations. This project is listed in the FY2025-2026 Adopted Capital Budget in the Operations Division.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend that the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Sloan Security Group for the installation of entry gates and controls at KTC with a project amount not to exceed \$301,000.

PROPOSED MOTION

I move that the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Sloan Security Group for the installation of entry gates and controls at Keizer Transit Center with a project amount not to exceed \$301,000 (three hundred one thousand dollars).



BOARD MEETING MEMO

Agenda Item 4.B.II

To: Board of Directors
From: Don Clifford, Transportation Manager
Tom Dietz, Chief Operations Officer
Thru: Allan Pollock, General Manager
Date: October 23, 2025
Subject: Operator/Supervisor Uniforms

ISSUE

Shall the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a new uniform contract with Galls, LLC for the purchase of Uniforms and Services for transit operators and operations supervisors?

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS

The District's current uniform contract with Beyond Uniforms & Apparel will expire on December 31, 2025. A review of our prior contract performance has highlighted concerns with delays in order fulfillment on select items, often forcing operators to look at the retail market for those items.

The Contract was drafted using the Purchase Order process including reference to the State of Washington Contract #03424 with Galls, LLC and the District General Terms and Conditions.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The contract has a base term of three (3) years with two (2) additional one-year options to extend, for a total of five years. Funding for the first year of this project is accounted for in the FY2026 General Fund operating budget. Future years will be budgeted in the upcoming operating budgets.

The annual contract cost is estimated at \$55,000 per year for a not to exceed total cost of \$275,000.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Galls, LLC for operator and supervisor uniforms and Services, for a contract price not to exceed \$275,000.

PROPOSED MOTION

I move that the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Galls, LLC for Cherriots operator and supervisor uniforms, for a contract price not to exceed \$275,000 (two hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars).



To: Board of Directors
From: Kirra Pressey, Executive Assistant
Thru: Allan Pollock, General Manager
Date: October 23, 2025
Subject: Budget Committee Community Member Appointment

ISSUE

Shall the Board reappoint Nick Fortey, Kathy Lincoln, and Carl Garner to the Budget Committee as community members representing Subdistricts 1, 3, and 5, for an expired term, ending June 30, 2028?

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS

There are three community member vacancies on the Budget Committee representing Subdistricts 1, 3, and 5. District Bylaws provide for filling vacancies on the committee at the discretion of the Board as follows:

- a. A qualified member must be a registered voter, 18 years of age or older who resides within the District boundaries, preferably within the subdistrict to be appointed to.
- b. The board member representing the subdistrict of the vacancy may recommend to the board, the appointment of a qualified elector. The board then moves to accept or reject that appointment; or
- c. The board member representing the subdistrict of the vacancy may call for applications for the community member position(s) on the budget committee.

Nick Fortey (Subdistrict 1), Kathy Lincoln (Subdistrict 3), and Carl Garner (Subdistrict 5) were asked to serve an additional term as community members; all have agreed to do so.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

RECOMMENDATION

Director Joaquín Lara Midkiff recommends the Board reappoint Nick Fortey to the Budget Committee as a community member representing Subdistrict #1 for a term, ending June 30, 2028.

Director Sadie Carney recommends the Board reappoint Kathy Lincoln to the Budget Committee as a community member representing Subdistrict #3 for a term ending June 30, 2028.

Director Ian Davidson recommends the Board reappoint Carl Garner to the Budget Committee as a community member representing Subdistrict #5 for a term, ending June 30, 2028.

PROPOSED MOTION

I move the Board reappoint community members Nick Fortey, Kathy Lincoln, and Carl Garner, representing Subdistricts 1, 3 and 5, respectively to the Budget Committee for a term ending June 30, 2028.



Salem Area Mass Transit District BUDGET COMMITTEE ROSTER

Subdistrict: Board Member:

- 1 Joaquín Lara Midkiff**
Term Expires: 6/30/2027*
- 2 Ramiro Navarro Jr.**
Term Expires: 6/30/2029
- 3 Sadie K. Carney**
Term Expires: 6/30/2027
- 4 Maria Hinojos Pressey**
Term Expires: 6/30/2029
- 5 Ian Davidson**
Term Expires: 6/30/2027
- 6 Sara Duncan**
Term Expires: 6/30/2029
- 7 Bill Holmstrom**
Term Expires: 6/30/2027

Community Member:

- Nick Fortey**
Appointed: 10/23/2025 Expires: 6/30/2028
- Andrew Hickey**
Appointed: 12/17/2020 Expires: 6/30/2027
- Kathy Lincoln**
Appointed: 10/23/2025 Expires: 6/30/2028
- Marie Greene**
Appointed: 3/23/2023 Expires: 6/30/2027
- Carl F. Garner**
Appointed: 10/23/2025 Expires: 6/30/2028
- Ashley Carson**
Appointed: 10/26/2023 Expires: 6/30/2026
- Sheronne Blasi**
Appointed: 10/26/2023 Expires: 6/30/2026

Budget Officer

Allan Pollock, General Manager / CEO
Email: allan.pollock@cherriots.org

Denise LaRue, Chief Financial Officer
Email: denise.larue@cherriots.org

Budget Committee Email: publictestimony@cherriots.org

*** Unexpired Term**

To: Board of Directors
From: Denise LaRue, Chief Financial Officer
Thru: Allan Pollock, General Manager
Date: October 23, 2025
Subject: FY2026-27 Budget Calendar

ISSUE

Shall the Board adopt a Budget Calendar for the FY2026-27 budget process?

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS

Pursuant to Oregon Budget Law, the FY2026-27 budget must be adopted by the Board no later than June 30, 2026, in order for the District to continue to operate.

As required under Oregon Budget Law, the Board selects a budget committee to review and approve a proposed budget. Prior to the first Budget Committee meeting, a notice of the meeting must be published at least 10 days before the meeting if publishing in both a newspaper and online.

Orientation for new Budget Committee members may be scheduled during the month of April by notifying the General Manager or Executive Assistant. Finance staff will then set up mutually convenient meeting date(s) and time(s) to cover the basic duties of the committee.

The work of the Budget Committee begins at the first meeting proposed for Tuesday, May 5, 2026. At this meeting, the Budget Committee receives the proposed budget presented by the General Manager. During this, and any subsequent meetings, the committee reviews and ultimately approves the budget. Staff is recommending two series of dates for the Budget Committee meetings.

Option 1: Meetings starting at 5:30 PM on May 5, May 6, and May 7 (if needed).

Option 2: Meetings starting at 5:30 PM on May 5, May 7, and May 12 (if needed).

The Budget Committee will present the approved budget to the Board at the June 25, 2026 Board meeting, and the Board will hold a Budget Hearing. Prior to that meeting, the District is required to publish a summary of the budget, along with a notice of the budget hearing, between 5 and 30 days prior to the board meeting. This publication will occur the week of May 25, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the proposed FY2026-2027 Budget Calendar, utilizing either Option 1 or Option 2.

PROPOSED MOTION

I move that the Board adopt the proposed FY2026-2027 Budget Calendar utilizing Option ____ (Select Option 1 or Option 2).

Salem Area Mass Transit District

BUDGET CALENDAR – OPTION 1

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Day	Date	Time	Activity
Thursday	October 23, 2025	5:30 PM	Board adopts FY2026-2027 Budget Calendar (for FY2026-27 Budget Process)
Mon - Fri	Week of April 13, 2026		Publish Notice of Budget Committee Meeting at least 10 days prior
Wednesday	April 15, 2026		SAMTD Executive Leadership Team approves draft for Budget Committee consideration
Mon – Fri	Month of April, 2026		Budget Committee Orientation with Committee members upon request
*Tuesday	May 5, 2026	5:30 PM	First Budget Committee Meeting – • Election of Officers & Budget Message • Deliberation & Approval
*Wednesday	May 6, 2026	5:30 PM	Second Budget Committee Meeting – (if necessary) • Deliberation & Approval
*Thursday	May 7, 2026	5:30 PM	Third Budget Committee Meeting – (if necessary) • Deliberation & Approval
Tues - Fri	Week of May 25, 2026		Publish Budget Summary and Notice of Budget Hearing (5-30 Days Prior)
Thursday	June 25, 2026	5:30 PM	Board holds Budget Hearing
Thursday	June 25, 2026	5:30 PM	Board adopts FY2026-27 Budget, makes appropriation, levies taxes
Mon - Fri	Week of July 6, 2026		Adopted budget and levy certification form due to County Assessors (submission required by July 15, 2026)

*Mandatory Attendance Required for Senior Leadership Team

Salem Area Mass Transit District

BUDGET CALENDAR – OPTION 2

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Day	Date	Time	Activity
Thursday	October 23, 2025	5:30 PM	Board adopts FY2026-2027 Budget Calendar (for FY2026-27 Budget Process)
Mon - Fri	Week of April 13, 2026		Publish Notice of Budget Committee Meeting at least 10 days prior
Wednesday	April 15, 2026		SAMTD Executive Leadership Team approves draft for Budget Committee consideration
Mon – Fri	Month of April, 2026		Budget Committee Orientation with Committee members upon request
*Tuesday	May 5, 2026	5:30 PM	First Budget Committee Meeting – • Election of Officers & Budget Message • Deliberation & Approval
*Thursday	May 7, 2026	5:30 PM	Second Budget Committee Meeting – (if necessary) • Deliberation & Approval
*Tuesday	May 12, 2026	5:30 PM	Third Budget Committee Meeting – (if necessary) • Deliberation & Approval
Tues - Fri	Week of May 25, 2026		Publish Budget Summary and Notice of Budget Hearing (5-30 Days Prior)
Thursday	June 25, 2026	5:30 PM	Board holds Budget Hearing
Thursday	June 25, 2026	5:30 PM	Board adopts FY2026-27 Budget, makes appropriation, levies taxes
Mon - Fri	Week of July 6, 2026		Adopted budget and levy certification form due to County Assessors (submission required by July 15, 2026)

*Mandatory Attendance Required for Senior Leadership Team

To: Board of Directors
From: Tom Dietz, Chief Operations Officer
Thru: Allan Pollock, General Manager
Date: October 23, 2025
Subject: Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training Donation

ISSUE

Shall the Board authorize the General Manager to approve the donation of three (3) surplus buses to the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST)?

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS

The District received a request from DPSST for three (3) surplus buses (see Attachment A). DPSST is the state's training and certification agency for public safety. The academy, where these buses would be used, is located on Aumsville Highway in Salem. DPSST trains approximately 1,500 students per year. These buses would not be driven, rather used as static props for trainings that include confined space, de-escalation, etc. These props are an integral component to a robust training program.

These buses are 2008 Gilligs that are being decommissioned and are well past their useful life. The FTA has approved this donation in lieu of scrapping. Under normal circumstances, the District would send this equipment to public auction. Considering past auctions, the District might have received \$1,000-\$3,000 per bus for the buses listed above. By donating these items to the state department of safety, these buses will be repurposed in an educational setting that benefits our partner law enforcement community and, ultimately, the community as a whole.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The financial impact of this is the loss of \$1,000-\$3,000 per bus from the public auction.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board authorize the General Manager to approve the donation of three (3) surplus buses to the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training.

PROPOSED MOTION

I move that the Board authorize the General Manager to approve the donation of three (3) surplus buses to the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training.



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

4190 Aumsville Hwy SE

Salem, OR 97317

503-378-2100

www.oregon.gov/dpsst

July 24th, 2025

To: Maria Hinojos Pressey, President, Cherriots Board of Directors

From: Chris Enquist, Training Division Director, Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST)

Subject: Transfer of Three Busses to DPSST

Maria,

As you may be aware, DPSST is the state's training and certification agency for public safety. As part of our mission, we operate the Oregon Public Safety Academy located in Salem, Oregon. This academy is the site of basic training for all public safety professionals who enter the workforce in Oregon. We currently utilize a collection of buses as static props, all of which have previously been acquired by donation from transit and school districts. We use these props for a variety of training programs, they see near-constant use throughout any given week of training on the campus. These buses, through a combination of their prior use in actual transit operations and our use as training props, have degraded to a point where replacement is needed.

I am writing to ask you to consider the donation of three buses out of your fleet. We are happy to be flexible with regard to the condition of the busses as we will be using them as static props and not operating them in any mobile capacity.

I can assure you that any donated item will be well used by our agency. We train approximately 1,500 students in a calendar year, the majority of which will receive training on these props. The training they receive in these venues includes topics such as communication, de-escalation, and application of force. Our ability to provide students with training in the context of a confined space, such as a transit bus, is critical to ensuring students fully understand how to apply their skills in varied settings.

I appreciate your consideration on this matter and am happy to offer further information as needed. Additionally, I am more than willing to provide a tour of the campus and our training facilities if desired.

Thank you,

Chris Enquist
Training Division Director
503-602-3231

To: Board of Directors
From: Tom Dietz, Chief Operations Officer
David Trimble, Deputy General Manager
Thru: Allan Pollock, General Manager
Date: October 23, 2025
Subject: Enterprise Asset Management System (EAMS) Contract Award

ISSUE

Shall the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Avail Technologies, Inc. for the delivery of an Enterprise Asset Management System (EAMS) and approve a project budget amount not exceed \$214,562?

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS

The Enterprise Asset Management system tracks all work performed or required for the District's fleet. The existing system is outdated and no longer supported. With this new EAMS, the District can archive legacy data from decommissioned vehicles, update current records, and securely maintain all information in the cloud. This system upgrade will also better align purchasing and work orders within Finance for reporting and tracking.

The District received nine (9) proposal responses to the Request for Proposals (RFP). All proposers were determined to be responsive per FTA guidelines. The Source Evaluation Committee (SEC) met and scored all submissions, narrowing the field to three (3) finalists for interviews and final evaluation.

Following this process, the SEC determined that Avail Technologies, Inc. was the successful proposer.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The expenses associated with this contract are accounted for in the FY2025-2026 Adopted Capital Budget. The subsequent years of this contract (software/hardware maintenance, warranty, and licensing) will be accounted for in the upcoming fiscal year operating budgets. The project will be funded by Federal 5307 funds with an 80/20 match.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Avail Technologies, Inc. for the delivery of an Enterprise Asset Management System and approve a project budget amount not exceed \$214,562.

PROPOSED MOTION

I move that the Board authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Avail Technologies, Inc. for the delivery of an Enterprise Asset Management System and approve a project budget amount not exceed \$214,562 (two hundred fourteen thousand, five hundred sixty-two dollars).

To: Board of Directors
From: Allan Pollock, General Manager
Date: October 23, 2025
Subject: Board Member Committee Report

ISSUE

Shall the Board report on their activities and committee assignments as representatives of Salem Area Mass Transit District?

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS

Board members are appointed to local, regional, or national committees. Board members also present testimony at public hearings on specific issues as the need arises on behalf of the District. Board members may take this opportunity to report committee updates or on any meetings or items of note relating to District business.

Subdistrict:	Board Member:	Committee:
1	Joaquín Lara Midkiff	West Salem Business Association
2	Director Navarro	State Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory Committee (STIFAC)
3	Director Carney	Finance Subcommittee Legislative Subcommittee Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS) Salem Scenario Planning Advisory Committee
4	Director Hinojos Pressey	
5	Director Davidson	FY27 Service Enhancement Subcommittee Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWVCOG)
6	Director Duncan	Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee Mid-Willamette Area Commission on Transportation (MWACT)
7	Director Holmstrom	MWVCOG Regional Rail Advisory Board

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

RECOMMENDATION

For informational only.

PROPOSED MOTION

None.