



SALEM AREA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, December 11, 2025

Index of Board Actions

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**SALEM AREA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

ATTENDEES: President Hinojos Pressey | Directors 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 Azum | COO Tom Dietz | IT Project Manager Brenden Keane | Service
Planning Manager Chris French | Senior Manager, Project & Contract Administration Melissa Kidd |
Budget and Grants Manager Peggy Greene | Transit Operator Lionel Segura | 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 5:36 p.m.
Attendance was noted and a quorum was present.

B. Safety Minute

Service Planning Manager Chris French provided the safety minute highlighting winter driving tips.

C. Announcements | Changes to Agenda

President Hinojos Pressey announced the removal of item 4.B.IV from the Consent Calendar

2. PRESENTATIONS

A. Recognition of Million-Mile Transit Operator

Presenter: COO Tom Dietz

Staff Report: Pg. 4-6

COO Dietz recognized Lionel Segura for achieving Million Mile Operator status, which requires 12 consecutive years accident-free while working at least 1,600 hours each year. Lionel was hired in 1999 and was noted as the first operator to drive a battery electric bus in revenue service in September 2024.

B. Recognition of Outgoing CAC and STIFAC Committee Members

Presenter: COO Tom Dietz

Staff Report: NA

COO Dietz and President Hinojos Pressey recognized outgoing CAC member Lucy Edwards. Absent STIFAC and CAC outgoing members will receive their certificates by mail.

C. Recognition of Former Subdistrict 1 Board Member

Presenter: President Hinojos Pressey

Staff Report: NA

President Hinojos Pressey presented a recognition plaque to former Subdistrict 1 Board Member Joaquín Lara Midkiff, expressing appreciation for their invaluable service and insights, noting that they hoped to see the member return to the dais in the future.

D. ToGo Program Spotlight Award

Presenter: CPDO Shofi Azum

Staff Report: Pg. 6

CPDO Azum presented the Transportation Options Group of Oregon (ToGo) Program Spotlight Award that the District's vanpool program had received in early November 2025 at the Oregon



Public Transportation Conference. The award recognized the program's measurable contribution to reducing drive-alone travel and advancing goals of Oregon's Transportation Options Plan, including congestion reduction, improved employment access, and providing sustainable transportation options for those traveling from outside urban cores.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was received from Tyler McCulley and Nick Fortey for the Board's review and consideration.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes

- I. October 23, 2025 Board Meeting
- II. November 13, 2025 Board Work Session

B. Routine Business Items

- I. Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory Committee (STIF) Appointments | Reappointments
- II. STIFAC Chair | Vice-Chair Appointments
- III. Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Appointments | Reappointments
- ~~IV. CAC Chair | Vice-Chair Appointments~~ **REMOVED**
- V. Adopt Resolution 2025-14, Reaffirming the Agency Safety Plan (ASP)

Action			
Motion:	I move to approve the Consent Calendar with the exclusion of Item 4.B.IV.		
Motion by:	Director Ian Davidson	Second:	Director Ramiro Navarro Jr.
Vote			
Aye:	President Hinojos Pressey, Directors, Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan, and Holmstrom.		
Motion passes unanimously 6-0			

5. ITEMS DEFERRED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR – None

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Award Bus Stop Accessibility Improvement Program Group 6 Construction Contract

Presenter: Service Planning Manager Chris French

Agenda Packet: Pg. 94-95

Service Planning Manager French presented a request for the board to authorize a contract with AB Utility for the construction of bus stop accessibility improvements at 12 locations throughout the city. He explained that seven stops would receive simme-seats, two already had shelters, one would receive a new shelter, and two would have landscape buffers spanned but no room for simme-seats.



Action			
Motion:	I move to authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with AB Utility for construction of Local Bus Stop Accessibility Improvement Program Group 6 for an amount not to exceed \$136,530, which includes a 19.8% contingency.		
Motion by:	President Maria Hinojos Pressey	Second:	Director Sara Duncan
Vote			
Aye:	President Hinojos Pressey, Directors, Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan, and Holmstrom.		
Motion passes unanimously 6-0			

B. Approval of ESTC Site Selection & Title VI Analysis

Presenter: CPDO Shofi Azum

Agenda Packet: Pg. 96

CPDO Azum presented the East Salem Transit Center site selection and Title VI analysis solicitation results and staff recommendation. He explained that the current configuration at Chemeketa Community College was insufficient for current and future needs, with 19 buses per hour currently using the location and projections showing this would increase to 23 buses per hour. The location serves approximately 285,000-300,000 boardings annually.

Action			
Motion:	I move to authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Parametrix for the East Salem Transit Center site selection and Title VI analysis project for an amount not to exceed \$282,084 which includes a 10% contingency.		
Motion by:	Director Ramiro Navarro Jr.	Second:	Director Ian Davidson
Vote			
Aye:	President Hinojos Pressey, Directors, Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan, and Holmstrom.		
Motion passes 6-0			

C. Authorize Cherriots LIFT Vehicle Purchase

Presenter: COO Tom Dietz

Agenda Packet: Pg. 97

COO Dietz presented a board report regarding a request for the Board to authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Northwest Bus Sales for the purchase of 10 paratransit buses for the Cherriots LIFT ADA service for \$1,652,938. He explained that the LIFT fleet (37 buses total) is significantly aged, with 30 vehicles past their useful life. The proposed purchase would be for Turtle Top cutaway buses built in Indiana.



Action			
Motion:	I move to authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Northwest Bus Sales for the purchase of ten (10) paratransit buses for use in the Cherriots LIFT ADA service for an amount not to exceed \$1,652,938.		
Motion by:	President Maria Hinojos Pressey	Second:	Director Sadie Carney
Vote			
Aye:	President Hinojos Pressey, Directors, Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan, and Holmstrom.		
Motion passes unanimously 6-0			

D. Adopt Cherriots/Business Coalition Task Force Charter

Presenter: GM Allan Pollock

Agenda Packet: Pg. 98-104

GM Pollock presented the proposed task force charter to establish a formal dialogue with the business community regarding the repeal of ORS 267.302, which will become operative January 1, 2026.

GM Pollock explained that after presenting the District's service enhancement plan and funding mechanism at a Salem Chamber of Commerce meeting, significant concerns were raised by the business community, leading to the formation of a business coalition. The proposed task force would include the District Board of Directors and six representatives from Business Coalition organizations, with meetings beginning in January and concluding in May.

Director Navarro noted the absence of organizations like the Latino Business Alliance and Main Street Alliance, expressing his desire to represent voices that don't always get heard. Director Duncan expressed disappointment about the lack of female or non-binary members from the business community but was excited to engage with these organizations on transit issues.

Action			
Motion:	I move to adopt the proposed Cherriots/Business Coalition Task Force Charter as presented in Attachment B.		
Motion by:	President Maria Hinojos Pressey	Second:	Director Sara Duncan
Vote			
Aye:	President Hinojos Pressey, Directors, Navarro, Carney, Davidson, Duncan, and Holmstrom.		
Motion passes unanimously 6-0			

7. **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

A. January 2026 Service Change Briefing



Presenter: Service Planning Manager Chris French

Agenda Packet: Pg. 105-106.

Service Planning Manager French presented information on service changes scheduled for January 4, 2026. Local system changes included minor adjustments to time point locations for Routes 17, 21, and 27 to reduce conflicts with school traffic and other vehicles. The most significant change involved the 80X regional service, which would be shortened to terminate at the Woodburn Memorial Transit Center rather than continuing to Wilsonville.

He also noted that Martin Luther King Day and Presidents Day would operate with Saturday-level service.

B. Fiscal Year 2026, Quarter 1 (FY26 Q1) Performance Report

Presenter: CPDO Shofi Azum

Agenda Packet: Pg. 107-151

CPDO Azum presented the Q1 performance report. Ridership remained steady at approximately 887,000 boardings, with youth ridership slightly down and non-youth ridership up. On-time performance improved to 87.7%, and system productivity remained competitive. Traffic signal priority technology was implemented on Lancaster Drive, the battery electric bus fleet logged 99,000 miles, and vanpool performance remained strong.

C. FY26 Q1 Strategic Plan Report

Presenter: Executive Assistant Kirra Pressey

Agenda Packet: Pg. 152-156

EA Pressey presented the Q1 Strategic Plan report on behalf of the Strategic Initiatives Administrator. She explained that the Strategic Plan had been restructured into two components: a long-term guiding framework and an annually updated work plan with organizational and divisional goals. She invited Senior Manager of Project and Contract Administration Kidd to highlight Q1 progress on two organizational goals: Employee Resource Planning Tools and the Strategic Grant and Funding Framework.

EA Pressey noted that all 24 goals (9 organizational and 15 divisional) showed progress in Q1, and that planning for FY27 goals would begin in the coming weeks.

D. FY26 Q1 Finance Report

Presenter: CFO Denise LaRue

Agenda Packet: Pg. 157-161

CFO Denise LaRue presented the first quarter FY26 financial report, noting that revenues and expenditures were tracking within expected ranges and the annual audit was underway. Several Board members acknowledged Ms. LaRue's service to the District, as this was her final Board meeting prior to her departure for a new opportunity.

8. REPORTS

A. General Manager's Report

GM Pollock provided an update on the state transportation package. He also noted the District's participation in human trafficking awareness training focused on general awareness and reporting of suspicious activity. He thanked CFO Denise LaRue for her service and wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

B. Board Of Directors Report



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

9. ADJOURN

President Hinojos Pressey adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Maria Hinojos Pressey, Board President