



Let's get moving

Connecting greater Portland with a transportation system that works for everyone

Transportation connects us all – it should also make our communities stronger.

Greater Portland is known for bold plans. For decades, we transformed the very idea of how to build an American metropolitan region. Instead of sprawl, we created communities. Instead of concrete jungles, we created parks and protected nature. Instead of more and more freeway lanes, we built fast MAX lines.

We did such a good job that people kept coming and coming. Today, our roads, bridges, and transit networks suffer from overuse and neglect. People spend more and more time just getting to work and school, picking up kids, and making that doctor's appointment. Public transit doesn't arrive often enough or get us there as reliably as it used to. Trucks and containers are stuck in traffic, adding to pollution in nearby neighborhoods, and our streets and road crossings aren't as safe as they should be.

These challenges are headaches for some of us. But for many, particularly communities of color, they are critical barriers to enjoying the "Oregon dream" we've worked so hard to build. Unless we act, these disparities will grow with our population -- and our economy will suffer as other cities and regions surge beyond us.

We can do better. Greater Portland should be a place where:

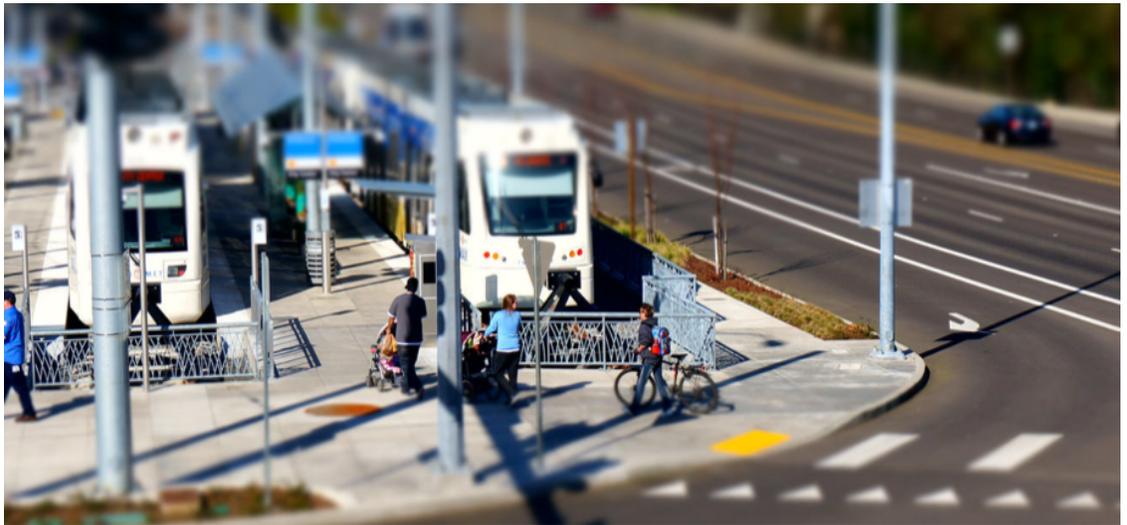
- Everyone has options for getting around safely and on time
- We all enjoy safe, vibrant town and city centers



- Commuters can rely on frequent and convenient MAX and express buses that connect the whole region
- All kids have safe routes to school
- People breathe cleaner air wherever they live
- People of color have more economic opportunities
- Homes are affordable, so communities remain intact
- Businesses can reliably move goods to market
- Employers have ready access to a stable workforce
- We can depend on our roads, bridges and transit even after a natural disaster
- Technology that works for everyone

To fulfill this vision, we need to think big

Instead of trying to build a few projects every 20 years, we need a systemic approach that makes comprehensive investments in key travel corridors -- the road and transit routes tens of thousands of us depend on to get to work and school and home again.



Other metro areas, from Seattle to Salt Lake City, to Indianapolis and Denver, are making transformative investments that will serve them for generations.

Now it's our time.

Getting the region moving

As greater Portland grows into a major metropolitan area, our communities need a collaborative approach to transportation planning, funding and implementation.

This process is already well underway. Over the past two years, hundreds of residents from Hillsboro to Gresham, from St. Johns to Oregon City, have told us what matters to them and identified the outcomes our transportation system should deliver.

Now it's time to build off that effort, and create a comprehensive investment vision that meets our communities' needs and expectations.

Every corridor and community center needs different types of investment, but they should all move people safely and efficiently, whether by transit, car, on foot or bike.

We should also invest in region-wide programs like reduced transit fares, electric buses and Safe Routes to School

that benefit all communities. And we need clear ways to measure the outcomes of our investments.

Working together, we can make our region's key travel corridors better for people of all ages, incomes and abilities, even as more and more people move here.

We succeed only by working together, listening to community -- and thinking big

Over the next 18 months, we need a community-driven conversation about outcomes, investments and programs that can fulfill the vision we share.

Local leaders will engage their communities, bringing priority corridors and investments forward for a task force and the Metro Council to consider. Metro will work with community partners to lift the voices of people that have much at stake but are too often the least heard.

Together, we will shape a successful investment measure that prepares us for our future and begins a bold new chapter in greater Portland's story. The Metro Council will consider referring a transportation investment measure to voters on the November 2020 ballot.