## 75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY House Committee on Transportation

MEASURE: CARRIER:

HB 3047 A Rep. J. Smith

| FISCAL: No fiscal impact |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Action:                  | Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed                              |
| Vote:                    | 9 - 1 - 0  |
| Yeas:                    | Bailey, Bentz, Berger, Boone, Edwards D., Gilman, Kahl, Schaufler, Beyer |
| Nays:                    | Weidner  |
| Exc.:                    | 0  |
| Prepared By:             | Patrick Brennan, Administrator   |
| Meeting Dates:           | 4/1, 4/17  |

## **REVENUE:** No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Directs the Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon to implement a pilot project to use volunteer greeters on light rail station platforms to greet users as they board vehicles and to report problems and/or concerns to the district or appropriate law enforcement agency.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Security concerns on light rail vehicles
- Public perception
- Use of volunteers and paid security on light rail system
- Community engagement

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Adds whereas statements. Changes requirement for greeters on light rail vehicles to requirement for greeters on light rail platforms. Changes purpose for greeters to greeting light rail system users as they board system vehicles and reporting problems and concerns to the district or appropriate law enforcement agency.

**BACKGROUND:** TriMet provides public transportation services throughout the Portland metropolitan region in Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties. Its MAX light rail system spans through Portland east to Gresham, west to Hillsboro, and north to the Expo Center and the Portland Airport, for a total of 64 stations, 18 transit centers and 44 miles. Projects are under development to extend lines south to Clackamas Town Center and Milwaukie. There are approximately 100,000 rider trips each weekday on MAX trains.

TriMet provides contracted security personnel for its stations and vehicles. Senate Bill 1074, adopted by the Legislative Assembly in 2008, requires that TriMet perform annual safety and security evaluations of its light rail system and to present a report annually to the Legislative Assembly. The district and some of the communities it serves have worked to improve security on the MAX system since a high-profile attack on an elderly passenger in 2007.

House Bill 3047-A directs TriMet to institute a pilot program to utilize volunteers as greeters at light rail station platforms. The volunteers would provide an official presence at the stations, provide information and assistance to riders as they purchase tickets and board vehicles, and would be able to report any problems that arise to TriMet officials or to law enforcement.