

# Senate Bill 1572

Sponsored by Senators WOODS, MANNING JR, Representatives MANNIX, ANDERSEN, EVANS, NERON; Senators CAMPOS, DEMBROW, FREDERICK, GORSEK, JAMA, MEEK, PATTERSON, THATCHER, Representatives BOWMAN, CHAICHI, CRAMER, DEXTER, GAMBA, LEWIS, NELSON, NGUYEN H, NOSSE, PHAM H, PHAM K, REYNOLDS, WALTERS (Presession filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act requires ODOT to study extending the WES commuter rail line to Salem. The Act creates an advisory committee to aid ODOT in its study. Requires ODOT to consult with the advisory committee as part of the process of conducting the study. ODOT must submit a report no later than December 1, 2024. Gives money to ODOT to pay for the costs of the study. The Act takes effect as soon as it is passed. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.4).

Requires the Department of Transportation, after consulting with the Westside Express Advisory Committee, to study extending the Westside Express Service commuter line to Salem. Directs the department to submit findings to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to transportation not later than December 1, 2024.

Appropriates moneys from the General Fund to the Department of Transportation for the study. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to a study on extending the Westside Express Service commuter line to Salem; and de-  
3 claring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Transportation, after consulting with the Westside**  
6 **Express Advisory Committee described in this section, shall study issues related to extending**  
7 **the Westside Express Service commuter line to Salem, including increasing the frequency**  
8 **and hours of service. The study must include, but is not limited to, the following:**

9 (a) **A review of the specific operational and locational issues for extending and operating**  
10 **the Westside Express Service commuter line on the old Oregon Electric Railway using the**  
11 **existing or new:**

12 (A) **Westside Express Service tracks;**

13 (B) **Portland and Western Railroad tracks; and**

14 (C) **BNSF Railway Company tracks.**

15 (b) **An examination of potential operators of the existing and new commuter rail service.**

16 (c) **Consulting cities that may be potentially served by the service extension, including**  
17 **Wilsonville, Donald, Aurora, Hubbard, Woodburn, Keizer and Salem, to better understand**  
18 **local access and other related issues.**

19 (d) **Consulting relevant transit agencies, including but not limited to South Metro Area**  
20 **Regional Transit, Woodburn Transit Service, Yamhill County Transit and Salem Area Mass**  
21 **Transit District, that would potentially provide bus service from rail stops to Wilsonville,**  
22 **Donald, Aurora, Hubbard, Woodburn, Keizer or Salem and exploring options for connecting**  
23 **rail stops with transit service.**

24 (2) **To aid the department in conducting the study, the department shall appoint the**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **Westside Express Advisory Committee, consisting of 18 members as follows:**

2 (a) **One member who represents the Aurora city council;**

3 (b) **One member who represents the Donald city council;**

4 (c) **One member who represents the Hubbard city council;**

5 (d) **One member who represents the Keizer city council;**

6 (e) **One member who represents the Salem city council;**

7 (f) **One member who represents the Wilsonville city council;**

8 (g) **One member who represents the Woodburn city council;**

9 (h) **One member who represents the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments;**

10 (i) **One member who represents the Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of**  
11 **Oregon;**

12 (j) **One member who represents the Metro Council of the Portland area metropolitan**  
13 **service district;**

14 (k) **One member who represents the Salem Area Mass Transit District;**

15 (L) **One member who represents South Metro Area Regional Transit;**

16 (m) **One member who represents Woodburn Transit Service;**

17 (n) **One member who represents Yamhill County Transit;**

18 (o) **One member who represents Portland and Western Railroad;**

19 (p) **One member who represents BNSF Railway Company;**

20 (q) **One member who represents a statewide rail passenger advocacy association; and**

21 (r) **One member who represents a statewide land use conservation advocacy association.**

22 (3) **The department shall collaborate, through an intergovernmental agreement, with the**  
23 **Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments to coordinate, convene and record the**  
24 **meetings of the advisory committee.**

25 (4) **The advisory committee shall provide recommendations to the department regarding**  
26 **all aspects of the study, including but not limited to land use and transportation issues.**

27 (5) **The advisory committee shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson and**  
28 **one member to serve as vice chairperson.**

29 (6) **If there is a vacancy for any cause, the department shall make an appointment to**  
30 **become immediately effective.**

31 (7) **A majority of the members of the advisory committee constitutes a quorum for the**  
32 **transaction of business.**

33 (8) **The department shall identify opportunities to apply for federal funding to supplement**  
34 **state funds for the study and any eligible subsequent corridor identification and development**  
35 **efforts.**

36 (9) **The department shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and**  
37 **may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative**  
38 **Assembly related to transportation no later than December 1, 2024.**

39 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2024 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.**

40 **SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**  
41 **ated to the Department of Transportation, for the biennium ending June 30, 2025, out of the**  
42 **General Fund, the amount of \$500,000, which may be expended for the purpose of carrying**  
43 **out the provisions of section 1 of this 2024 Act.**

44 **SECTION 4. This 2024 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
45 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2024 Act takes effect**

1 **on its passage.**

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