



CITY COUNCIL

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February 5, 2024

Co-Chair Senator Gorsek
Co-Chair Representative McLain
Co-Vice Chair Senator Boquist
Co-Vice Chair Representative Boshart Davis
Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Co-Chair Gorsek, Co-Chair McLain, Vice-Chair Boquist, and Vice-Chair Boshart Davis:

I'm writing on behalf of the Salem City Council in support of SB 1572, which would study a commuter rail extension of TriMet's Westside Express Service commuter line to Salem. The possible extension provides a reliable car-free option for the Willamette Valley and an alternative to traveling by car on I-5, reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Salem's City Council supports the extension of TriMet's Westside Express Service commuter line to Salem with a unanimous vote of support at our January 23, 2023 meeting. The City of Salem is taking action to respond to climate change with a Climate Action Plan that outlines strategies and actions to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions and increase climate resiliency in our community. This long-standing goal, adopted by City Council in October of 2020, can only be achieved with the collective action of everyone in our community. By offering other choices, like the Westside Express Service commuter line extension to Salem, we'll be closer to our goals of reduce Salem's GHG emissions by 50% by 2035 and making Salem is a carbon neutral city by 2050.

The City of Salem appreciates your support for Senate Bill 1572.

Sincerely,

Mayor Chris Hoy
City of Salem

cc: Salem Legislative Delegation

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Women, minorities, and disabled are encouraged to apply•ADA Accommodations will be provided upon request