

February 20, 2025

Representative John Lively
House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re Support for HB 3261

Dear Chair Lively and Members of the Committee,

TriMet supports HB 3261 with the -1 amendment that would create the Task Force on Renewable Diesel and designate a seat for TriMet on the Task Force.

TriMet is Oregon's largest transit provider, serving more than 1.6 million people across 533-square mile service district in the tri-county Portland metro area. With about 700 diesel-powered transit buses in our fleet, 100 paratransit vans and 8 commuter rail cars, TriMet is also the largest consumer of diesel fuel in Oregon.

Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the state of Oregon, and public transit plays a leading role in reducing those emissions by replacing millions of car trips every year.

Since 2022, TriMet has transitioned its entire fleet of buses, vans, and railcars to R99 renewable diesel. The switch to renewable diesel, combined with the switch to purchasing renewable electricity to power MAX light rail system, has allowed TriMet to cut its emissions by nearly 70%.

Due to the size of TriMet's diesel-powered fleet and limited availability of domestically-produced R99 renewable diesel in Oregon, TriMet's renewable diesel currently comes from a refinery located in Singapore. We are very interested in being able to procure locally as regional and national demand for renewable diesel grows.

Switching to renewable diesel has made TriMet the largest user of renewable diesel in the state and we welcome the opportunity to share our knowledge and experience with this task force and explore ways to increase the supply of renewable diesel in Oregon.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Tenes
State Government Affairs Manager
TriMet