

TriMet's Citation Decriminalization (HB 2777)

TriMet would like to decriminalize certain citations by removing the court system from the process.

Why does TriMet want to pursue this change?

- TriMet recognizes that for some riders the current \$175 citation is difficult to pay.
- Some riders need a more customized process to help prevent them falling into a “washing machine” of larger and larger fines and exclusions.
- TriMet’s goal is to uniformly resolve citations regardless of where the citation occurred.
- Decriminalization of certain citations may eliminate collateral consequences to employment, housing, and military service that could occur if someone has a citation on record with the court.

What does HB 2777 do?

HB 2777 revises *ORS 267.990(1)* to allow a transit agency to:

- Stay a violation for up to 90 days.
- Enact administrative payment options.
- Enact community service in lieu of payment.
- Develop a process for optional administrative adjudication.

If the citation is satisfactorily resolved during the 90-day stay, it never reaches court and thus the customer will have no court record. However, the court system would still be available if the customer elects or fails to resolve the citation in a timely fashion.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Is this new administrative procedure optional?

- Yes, this process would be an optional first step, handled by TriMet. The rider can always proceed to court and request a hearing.

What if a customer fails to resolve their citation or wants to go to court?

- Their case would be handled the same as it is today, in the appropriate court of jurisdiction.

Questions: Contact Aaron Deas at deasa@trimet.org or (503) 888-5067.