### Reimagining Public Safety & Security on Transit



Hearing community's concerns, TriMet shifts \$1.8 million from Transit Police and other sources in order to fund communityinformed public safety initiatives to help riders feel more safe and welcome on the regions public transit system

Initiate three efforts to inform a reimagined public safety approach:

- Conduct community-wide listening sessions & focus groups
- Establish a panel of thought leaders to inform new community investments
- Pilot new community informed strategies to help make the system more safe and welcoming

**\ E T** 

TRI





### **Project Design & Research Partners**



TRI



Local market research, focus group parameters, online survey support

Project design consultation, community focus group coordination, community feedback report development & synthesis



Transit systems comparisons & practice research



Local system incident and safety outcomes/system crime & code incident review

## **Community Outreach**



# **Outreach Summary**

- Over 13,000 survey responses received!
- Over 700 non-English responses

Arabic, French, Khmer, Lao, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Ukrainian, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese and English

- 300 one-on-one interviews
- Engaged 271 people in 31 focus group discussions
- Leveraged social media across multiple languages
- Invested in print and online news media sites



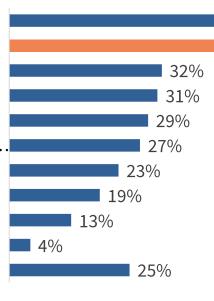
# Survey Findings N=12,698

- People feel safer on bus than on MAX (73% and 63% respectively)
  - Reasons for feeling unsafe are other riders and lack of TriMet staff, especially Transit Police
  - Reasons for feeling safe are lighting, presence of other riders, security cameras and TriMet staff
- 7 in 10 feel welcome on TriMet
- Those who feel less safe and less welcome:
  - Tend to be POC, Black, Native American, Latino, people living with a disability, female, non-binary or other gender identity, non-English speakers
- Safety and security staff types most important (of 4 types)
  - On-street Customer Service (71%), Unarmed Security (65%)
- Those who want more safety and security staff:
  - Tend to be POC, Black, Native American, Latino, people living with a disability, female, age 65+



# What made you feel unsafe onboard TriMet buses? (check all that apply)

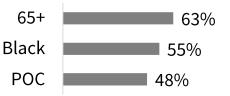
Other riders Lack of Transit Police Lack of unarmed security Lack of fare enforcement staff Presence of Transit Police Lack of non-security TriMet.. The part of town The time of day I was alone Lack of riders Other (specify)



#### More likely to choose "Lack of Transit Police"

57%

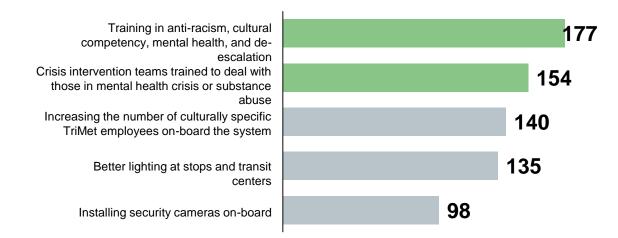
45%





### Community & Staff Focus Group Feedback

Training and crisis teams are top priorities for riders and community members in the focus groups, even though they saw a different list of options.





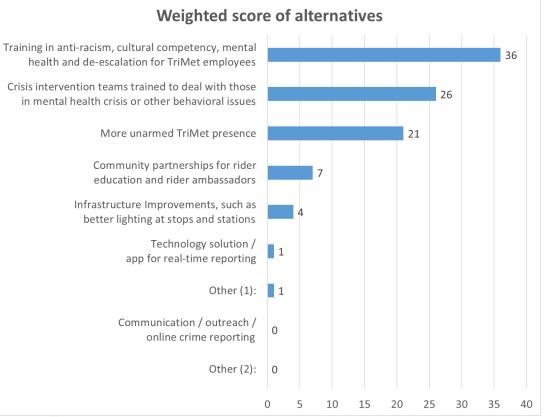
### **Transit Public Safety Advisory Committee**

Name	Organization
Marcus Mundy	Coalition of Communities of Color
Joe McFerrin	POIC, Rosemary Anderson High schools
Anthony Deloney	SEI, Self Enhancement Incorporated
Patricia Daniels	Constructing Hope
Jan Campbell	Disability Rights Oregon., CAT
Kevin Modica	Retired Transit Police Commander
Kenechi Onyeagusi	Professional Builders Development Group
Deshawn hardy	Highland African American Youth Coalition
Lakayana Drury	Word is Bond
Laura Cohen	Cascadia Behavioral Health
Jackie Yerby	State of Oregon, Basic Rights Oregon
Johnathon Colon	Centro Cultural
Dr. Beverly Scott	Former Transit System General Manager(4X)
Polly Hanson	American Public Transportation Associations
Emily Nelson	JOIN
Kim Cota	Clackamas County Disability Services

T R I ((5)) A

ET

# **Committee priorities**





TR

# **Committee Recommendations for investing the \$1.8 million**

- 1. <u>Training</u> in anti-racism, cultural competency, mental health & de-escalation for TriMet employees
- 2. <u>Increased presence of TriMet personnel</u>, and unarmed safety presence
- 3. <u>Crisis intervention teams</u> trained to deal with those in mental health crisis or other behavioral issues



# Summary

- All Committee Recommendations will move forward
- In addition we have identified 22 additional steps we will be taking in support of the project
- Continue regional policing model with 14 current law enforcement partners
- Community engagement and innovation will be key elements of all the work moving forward







John Gardner Director, Transit Equity, Inclusion, and Community Affairs gardnerj@trimet.org

T R I 🧭

ΜΕΤ

