

Hello,

I live in ultra-rural south Clackamas County so no form of public transportation is available or could assist me. Every trip is 30 to 60 minutes one-way and so obviously only automobiles are useful.

However, on the rare occasion I go to a part of Portland that does not have parking or it's \$20 an hour, I used to drive to a Park & Ride and take a Max (or bus). That was 20 years ago. And it was a good option.

Now, riding a Max or bus is extremely dangerous and possibly lethal. There is NO security at any Tri-Met bus stop, Transit Center, or Max Platform. Just a year ago I tried riding public transportation. I was exposed to people smoking fentanyl and other drugs - which can be deadly. I was confronted by a man running up and down the Max train aisles with a jousting pole. And I was subjected to violent fights between people on buses. I will NEVER take public transportation again.

I'm not the only person who feels this way. To solve the problem and make public transportation a viable option for anyone, there must be ARMED security on every bus and Max - by contractors or police. The situation in the Portland Metro area, with a large number of violent, drug-addled, mentally ill, and homeless people, is so far out-of-control it needs to be reigned in to make Tri-Met usable.

Additionally, this culture of insanity and violence in all of Portland, makes walking also an extremely dangerous option. I have stopped going to Portland unless I am accompanied by a large group of people during every step I take. It's not even safe to walk half a block.

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