



Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund

The Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF), created by House Bill 2017 during the 2017 Legislative Session, strategically transformed the public transit landscape through investments in new services, capital, equipment, technology, and infrastructure. **It is the only consistent state funding source for transit operations.**

Investments from the STIF Program make transportation in Oregon more equitable and affordable by supporting reduced-fare programs, expanding service coverage, and increasing service frequency to low-income communities.

The program has advanced greenhouse gas emission reduction efforts by funding the transition to low-emission vehicles, with 80 new low- or no-emission vehicles. The STIF Program has also assisted transit providers in responding to multiple natural disasters and public health crises. STIF-supported transit providers have delivered meals to older adults; provided free rides to vaccination sites; enabled evacuations during the wildfires; and have acted as mobile cooling centers during the heatwaves for low-income communities.



STIF is primarily funded by proceeds from a payroll tax in addition to identification card fees, non-highway gas taxes, and cigarette taxes. From 2019 to 2023, STIF has invested over \$435 million into new services, capital, equipment, technology, and infrastructure. STIF has also leveraged \$158.9 million in local and federal funds.

STIF Provides Accessible & Equitable Public Transit



Transit providers take people to and from work, get students to school on time and assist older adults, persons with disabilities and veterans make it to doctor appointments, sometimes in cities away from where they live. They help urban riders get to Trail Blazer games and rural riders to reach shopping centers in the next town. They make it affordable to commute from Gresham to downtown Portland or from Hermiston to Umatilla. They make college campuses more accessible for students in cities throughout the state. They enable older adults to connect with families and friends to avoid isolation.

Transit providers and drivers are heroes. They jumped in to evacuate people from approaching wildfires and distributed food during the pandemic.

Transit providers are innovators. They make it easier for rural residents to travel between communities, not just to the local market or clinic. Transit providers are in the fight to combat climate change. They are investing in hybrid and electric vehicles that will cut carbon emissions. They monitor their routes for efficiency and maximum ridership. They work with developers and businesses to provide service that doesn't require driving a car.

Transit providers promote equity. With free or reduced fares, they make ridership more affordable and accessible. With frequent route reviews, they provide enhanced services for underserved communities, including veterans and people with disabilities.

What STIF Has Accomplished from 2019 to 2023



ADDING ROUTES

Rogue Valley Transportation District in Medford expanded routes and service allowing more seniors, people with disabilities, and veterans to get to vital services and healthcare.

**38.9 MILLION NEW RIDES
ACROSS THE STATE**



IMPROVING EQUITABLE ACCESS

Ride Connection in Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas Counties provides door-to-door services for adults and people with disabilities as well as low-income individuals. Their Community Connector Shuttles run in outlying areas underserved by traditional public transit.

**STIF IMPROVES TRANSIT FOR
LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS,
SENIORS, & PEOPLE WITH
DISABILITIES**



EXPANDING ACCESS

Students in Lincoln County receive hands-on rider training and free student passes. This helped reduce absenteeism and improved student access to after school activities, internships, and jobs.

**79,881 STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS
TO FREE OR REDUCED FARES**



EXPANDING SERVICE HOURS

The addition of later evening and weekend service by Cherriots in Marion and Polk Counties has allowed its 3.2 million annual riders access to jobs, necessary services like groceries and prescriptions, and school at Chemeketa Community College.

**3.07 MILLION ADDITIONAL
HOURS OF BUS SERVICE**



REDUCING EMISSIONS

TriMet in Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas Counties has purchased 24 electric buses with funding from the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund — and these first zero-emission buses are running in predominately low-income and minority communities.

**309 NEW TRANSIT VEHICLES
INCLUDING 80 LOW OR NO
EMISSION VEHICLES**



FILLING SERVICE GAPS

The Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund has invested \$29.7 million in extending intercommunity services to new communities, expanding schedules, and enhancing travel frequency.

**THROUGH STIF, LOCAL
PROVIDERS FUNDED \$14.6
MILLION TO STABILIZE
INTERCOMMUNITY ROUTES**

Additional Investments in STIF Will Move More People Across Oregon

Long-term investments require long-term financial commitments. Just as the cost of maintaining our roads has increased due to inflation in recent years, so too has the cost of providing transit service. Oregon's transit providers need additional funding to maintain and expand service in our communities.

Additional investments in the STIF will:

- **Make transportation more equitable and affordable** by supporting reduced-fare program, expanding service coverage, and increasing service frequency to low-income communities.
- **Produce Climate Friendly Outcomes** with the investment of zero-emission electric vehicles and busses, and partnerships that strengthen pedestrian and bike transportation.
- **Ensure improved transportation access** for Oregonians living in newly constructed housing on the edges of urban areas, and it allows people to age in place with independence and dignity.
- **Maximizing transit's contribution to economic growth** while achieving the state's climate, safety and equity targets.
- **Allow Transit to support affordable housing, economic development, and other essential state priorities.**