On April 4th, 1967, Martin Luther King stated profoundly “A nation that continues to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom.”

The 1% has wasted trillions of dollars fighting oil wars that should have gone towards building and funding the greatest public transportation system in the world.

With fare hikes and cuts to service at TriMet looming on the horizon, Occupy Portland joins the call for a national day of action on April 4th in defense of public transportation. ‘Occupy TriMet’ is a local day of action in support of reliable, affordable transit throughout our region. We are speaking out because we believe a strong transit system is critical to supporting jobs, equal opportunities, public health, and protecting our environment.

Today, ‘Occupy TriMet’ urges you to take action by demanding no more cuts! No more fare hikes! No more blaming union workers! We demand an elected TriMet board that is accountable to the 99% who depend on public transit!
The Problem:
TriMet claims a $12 million-budget gap in its over $400 million-budget amounts to a 'crisis' that would require massive service cuts and fare hikes. In 2010 and 2011, TriMet already cut $60 million worth of service, while raising fares. Service cuts force passengers to spend more money on lower levels of service. TriMet must explore an alternate strategy that will not punish riders or workers. Building new infrastructure provides stronger transportation for the future, but must it not come at the expense of cutting operations.

Demand the TriMet board be democratized. Currently these positions are appointed, not elected, and thus not directly accountable to the people. Would we be talking about cuts and hikes if we could vote for who runs TriMet?

Increase bus efficiency by implementing 'bus jump lanes' and giving priority at traffic signals, this will cut costs while creating a more reliable network.

Replace operational funds used for new infrastructure by requesting more federal funding. We shouldn't be fighting over millions for transit when the federal government is spending trillions on war and bank bailouts.

Stop attacking union worker wages and benefits. Let's cut the salaries of highly-paid TriMet officials instead of attacking the operators and mechanics who have worked without a contract for 3 years.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Contract TriMet public relations and tell them no cuts to service, no fare hikes, and that you support union workers getting the compensation they deserve!
Phone: 503-962-4910
Email: pr@trimet.org

Contact Governor Kitzhaber and tell him you want an elected TriMet board that is accountable to the public!
Phone: 503-378-4582
Email form letter:
governor.oregon.gov/Gov/contact.shtml

Tell the board what you think:
Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday every month.
More Info here:
https://trimet.org/about/board.html

More Info:
OPAL and Bus Riders Unite: www.opalpdx.org
Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 757: www.ata757.org
Occupy TriMet - a day of action in celebration of public transportation!

Public Event · By Hart Neeckle, Ciara Doyle and 5 others

Today 4:00pm

Street Team Info:

For updates throughout the day follow #occupypt on twitter.
Street Teams will provide flyers, day passes (first come/first serve), and fun!

-North/East: Meet at Park/Rose Transit Center @ 9am. Wear orange, bring pastries, coffee, or juice to share (in containers that can travel), we'll be singing songs and having a good time! We'll be traveling west over to Lombard Transit Center then south to Rose Quarter, then across the river to the rally at Dress Warm!

-South/East: Meet at the 7-11 @ 10:30am (Hawthorne and 43rd)

-Clackamas/Outer SE: We will be at Clackamas Town Center Bus Station starting at 1:00, we will move over to Clackamas Transit Center from there.

-Northwest: NW Park represents! Post here if you want to be a part of the NW Street Team! Flyers & such will be provided to folks at Montgomery Park or possibly at other sites by arrangement (Legacy Good Sam has a really busy streetcar & bus stop at Lovejoy & 22) during the day (9-3pm). I'll be taking the 15 or the 17 from Montgomery Park a little after 3pm. Join us!

-Southwest: TBA

-Beaverton: Meet at Beaverton Transit Center at 1:00pm. I'll have flyers, patches and signs! We will probably start heading downtown around 3-3:30pm.

-Independent riders: If you don't have time to hook up with a street team, but would still like to help info bomb! Downloadable flyers are hosted here: Flyers: http://www.asacleodeportes.com/news/official_occupy_trimet_action_flier.pdf

Flyers can also be picked up from the Occupy Portland Office located on the St. Francis building at 1311 Southeast Oak Street Portland, OR 97214

With fave bikes and cuties to serve at TriMet looming on the horizon, Occupy Portland joins Occupy Boston's call for a national day of action on April 4th in defense of public transportation. "Occupy TriMet will be a local day of action in support of reliable, affordable transit throughout our region."

On April 4th, 1967, Martin Luther King stated profoundly that "A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom." The 1% has wasted trillions of dollars fighting oil wars that should have gone towards building and funding the greatest public transportation system in the world. We shouldn't have to be fighting each other for scraps to fund transit in the richest nation on the planet.

Amalgamated Transit Union International President Larry Hanley has endorsed A4, stating: "Public transportation is a human right and critical to our nation's economic recovery. The ATU pledges our support for the Occupy National Day of Action for Public Transportation. It is so appropriate that these actions take place on the anniversary of Dr. King's April 4th, 1967 speech 'Beyond Vietnam' because this crisis is about the toll and resources these wars have taken on working people and their families."

We recognize that public transportation is absolutely essential for the 99% to get from home to work, to school, to doctors appointments, but we also realize that public transit is about more than moving from point A to point B. The streets used to be places where people gathered to engage one another. Unfortunately, 100+ years of building for automobiles has seen rural road design replace urban street design. The result is neighborhoods where people are forced to drive a car, and with millions of Americans barely able to afford housing, paying thousands of dollars a year for a vehicle simply isn't an option.

Portland is a place worth caring about because of the positive ways that good planning and transit help define space. City centers should be places of social interaction, of festivities, of shopping, of performance, music, and art. We have made it easy to experience all those things and more in Portland by creating a strong network of public transportation. Occupy TriMet plans to utilize many of those kind of activities on April 4th, to remind people that when you create modes of transit for people, the places in between become healthy, vibrant communities as well.

It is for all of these reasons that we will take action on A4, to engage and encourage the public to help solutions to take shape. We have a great variety of direct actions to deliver positive information, statistics, and proposed solutions that anyone can participate in. This is a day of empowerment for the people. Public transportation is the heartbeat of any major city. A4 will be a day to support our own livelihoods, and help it thrive. We invite everyone to come out and get involved.

https://www.facebook.com/events/269310639815547/
"Occupy TriMet" demands public transit funding for all. TriMet needs to ensure new capital investments are being made for buses as well as rail, and can provide the proper operational funding to make both work. We demand a TriMet Board that is elected and thus accountable to the people who ride and depend on public transit. TriMet workers earning living wages with progressive benefits are no longer to be blamed. Degrading our public transit network will no longer be tolerated!

Details are still in the works, mass info distribution to riders during that day that will converge downtown to rally sometime between 4-6pm, then we scatter to spread more transit love to build a broader coalition for actions down the road.

Stay tuned for more updates.

Media or logistical inquiries contact Hart Neecker: 517.202.1322

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**Posts**

**Deb Reitenour**
NE Crew Photos! #orangecab
https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.403173039627295&type=1
www.facebook.com

Like • Comment • Share • 19 minutes ago

**Deb Reitenour**
N/NE crew is taking a break. SE crew just hitting the road live now on www.opdlive.org
#opdlive
www.opdlive.org

Many selfless people volunteer countless time, energy, and other resources to bring you live video coverage of important events of our time. The live news coverage afforded means that viewers may see unedited, uncensored video depicting events or containing language some may find offensive. Their...

Like • Comment • Share • 26 minutes ago

**Hart Neecker**
Occupy TriMet protesters say goal of tonight's rally is celebration of transit, not disruption of rush
blog.oregonlive.com

After a day of leafleting buses and trains, union groups and rider advocates will take part in the Occupy TriMet rally planned for 4 p.m. at Pioneer Courthouse Square in downtown Portland. Organizers say they don't plan to disrupt the evening commute.

Like • Comment • Share • about an hour ago near Portland

**Reed Teadsdale**
is there anyone who will be with the southeast group who I could contact around 3-4 pm to help me locate/join up with the rest of the southeast group? I would love to represent southeast, help the occupy movement grow and support our amazing local public transportation system!

thanks

Like • Comment • 12 hours ago near East Portland

2 people like this.

View all 4 comments

Write a comment...

Chat (Offline)