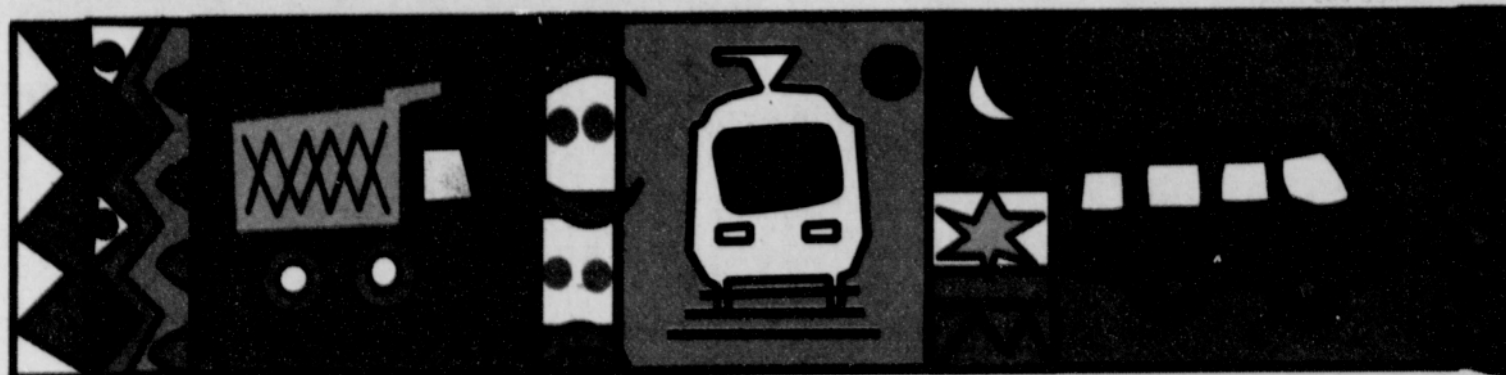


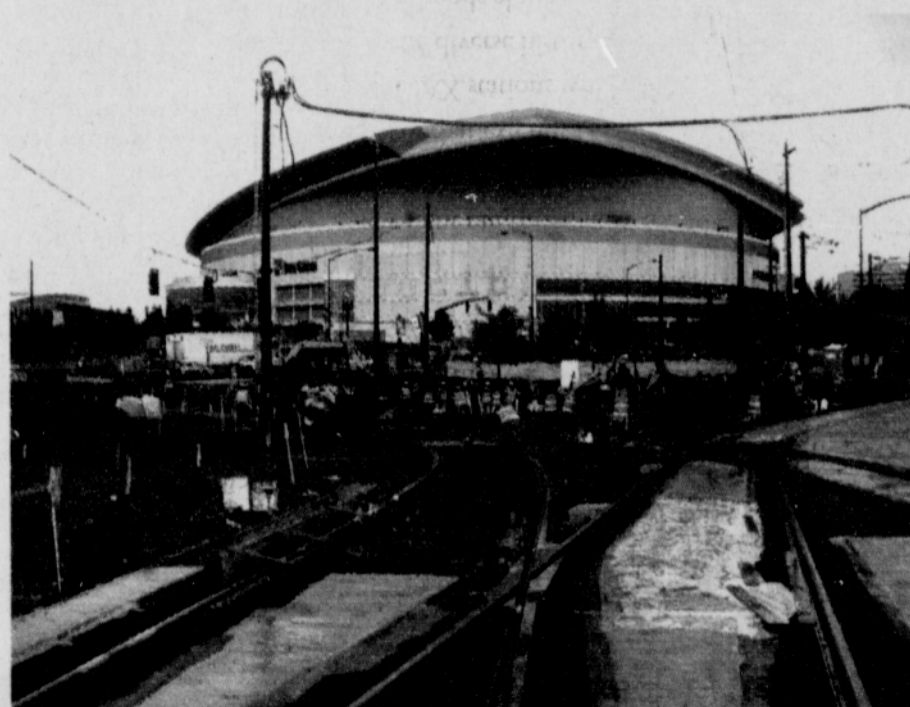


INTERSTATE MAX FOCUSES ON THE COMMUNITY

Construction in full swing from Rose Quarter to Expo Center

One year after the start of Interstate MAX light rail construction, crews have nearly finished moving power poles, telephone wires and gas lines to make room for the 5.8-mile extension. New sewer and water lines are being installed along N Interstate, and new sidewalks, curbs and streets are taking shape along the light rail line.

Tri-Met's Interstate MAX light rail project is committed to seeking opportunities for businesses located in North and Northeast Portland. The project is helping to revitalize the neighborhoods and create opportunities for local firms to work on the project.



LOCAL COMPANIES & WORKERS ON THE JOB

Bruce Watts heads Tri-Met's effort to involve disadvantaged businesses and workers on the Interstate project. He's also working to have local firms engaged in the project. To date, of the approximately 104 contractors and subcontractors building Interstate MAX, 46 are Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE), more than half of which are Portland companies.

One of those companies is Workhorse Construction, which provides flaggers along the construction sites. Many of these flaggers who help keep construction workers safe also live in the neighborhoods near Interstate.

Another innovative team of local businesses has formed the Northeast Urban Truckers Consortium. This organization provides a way for small trucking businesses to compete for large public works projects, which in the past would have been out of reach. The consortium of seven trucking firms recently received its first subcontract from general contractor Stacy and Witbeck totaling more than \$400,000.

TRI-MET'S INTERSTATE MAX LIGHT RAIL PROJECT IS COMMITTED TO SEEKING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSES LOCATED IN NORTH AND NORTHEAST PORTLAND.

CONNECTING WITH DBE FIRMS

Tri-Met developed a directory to help DBE firms bid on Interstate MAX contracts. The DBE directory highlights each firm's expertise, experience on similar projects, insurance and business philosophy. The directory is provided to potential prime contractors as they seek to bid on segments of the project. Minority- or woman-owned businesses, as well as emerging small businesses are also included in the directory if they are working toward obtaining DBE status.

INTERSTATE AVENUE OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

Interstate MAX staff is also working closely with more than 100 businesses that operate along Interstate Ave. The focus is to provide these firms with strategies to minimize construction impacts, including providing special signs, advertisements and discount coupons. In the coming weeks, Tri-Met will launch a Buy Interstate campaign to attract shoppers to the unique services and products available on Interstate Avenue.

Tri-Met's four community relations coordinators each have years of experience living and working in North/Northeast Portland. Contact Carlos Banks, Alexandra Kuykendall, Coral Ten Fingers or Greg Wolley at 503-962-2150 for assistance.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

New light rail tracks have been laid at the Rose Quarter Transit Center, the first along the 5.8-mile extension that extends to the Expo Center. Each of the 10 MAX stations will have art features that reflect the diverse history and character of the neighborhoods along the extension.

For construction information, visit our website at www.tri-met.org/max/yellowline. En español: www.tri-met.org/yellowline/espanol.htm.



Harold Milligan is a driver for J&R Trucking, one of seven local firms collaborating in the Northeast Urban Trucking Consortium that provides services for Interstate MAX. All of the truckers in the consortium are Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE).



How we get there matters.

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