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# LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO BY CERVANTE POPE/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Vivian Satterfield of the nonprofit Organizing People/Activating Leaders (OPAL) calls for reduced transit fares for low income riders. The protest last Wednesday in front of TriMet's administrative offices, downtown, broke up shortly after the building was put on lock down.

## Low Income Fares Wanted

### Transit advocates push for reduced costs

BY CERVANTE POPE  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Advocates for the poor and disadvantaged are asking TriMet

to adopt a reduced fare for low-income riders as part of a larger strategy to support sustainable growth and livability in the Portland area.

The message was delivered to the agency in the form of a protest last Wednesday by Bus Riders Unite from the nonprofit organization Organizing People/Activating Leaders (OPAL).

"This is about the people in

the community that make incomes below 200 percent of the federal poverty line which is a really small amount of money,"

says Shawn Fleek, OPAL community engagement coordinator. "People in Portland are feeling the squeeze on housing and the cost of transportation, which is the second largest cost that any-

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## Beloved Pastor Remembered

### A wake and home going for Mary Overstreet Smith

Beloved Portland Pastor Mary Overstreet-Smith, known for her decades of selfless work as co-founder and pastor of the Power House Temple Church on North Williams Avenue, died Aug. 30 after a long illness. She was 78.

Friends and family are invited to a Celebration of Life wake in her honor on Friday, Sept. 9 at 7 p.m. at Maranatha Church in northeast Portland. The public is also invited to her going home funeral service that will follow the



Mary Overstreet-Smith

next day, Saturday, Sept. 10 at 11 a.m., also at Maranatha Church, according to family and friends.

Overstreet-Smith was always known for having an open door for people in the community who needed food, clothing and other help. After Hurricane Katrina, for example, she sold her "wintertime" home in Glendale, Ariz., to raise money to bring more than 40 people to Portland left homeless by flooding in Louisiana and

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