



Bus service will be expanded on some bus lines in Portland as part of a new budget for TriMet that will see 57 new buses being added to the fleet.

Bus Service to Expand

TriMet released a new operating budget last week that calls for continued investment in expanding bus service and improving the reliability of MAX light rail trains.

The \$532.4 million proposal would add 57 new buses to the fleet and bring new bus lines in east Portland, east Multnomah County and Washington County. Other investments include improvements to the original MAX line that has been serving the community for more than 30 years, and updating pedestrian rail crossings. For the fifth year in a row, there is no adult fare increase.

TriMet is in the second year of a 10-year expansion of transit service throughout the region

focused on improving reliability, better matching service to demand, connecting people with jobs, and expanding service hours and easing crowding. The growth is funded in part from an increase in the employer payroll tax being phased in over a 10-year period.

“With these new revenues, we’re improving service and even adding new bus lines to help keep our growing region moving,” said TriMet General Manager Neil McFarlane. “With thousands of new residents and jobs coming to the region, our service expansions are critical to providing new and better options for riders to connect to jobs, school and other activities.”

Fired Employee Sues

Emanuel Price, a former employee in the Multnomah County office of Diversity and Equity, claims in a lawsuit filed against the county on Friday claiming that he was fired after he complained about a Portland police officer using the n-word during a presentation about bullying. Price, the founder of the non-profit “Second Chances Are for Everyone,” is seeking \$470,000 for economic and emotional distress.

Deadly Shooting Justified

A Multnomah County Jury determined Friday that a business owner was justified in the Feb. 20 shooting death of another man outside his insurance agency office on Southeast 82nd Avenue. Charlie Win Chan, 47, said he was responding to a threat and was cleared of all charges in the death of Jason Gerald Petersen, 32.

Sister Sledge Singer Dies

Joni Sledge, the singer best-known for “We Are Family,” died Friday at the age of 60. Sledge, who formed Sister Sledge with her three siblings in 1971, was found unresponsive by a friend at her home in Phoenix, Arizona, her publicist, Biff Warren, said. The group had



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still been touring around the country and was slated to perform in Los Angeles next week.

24 Million May Lose Care

A non-partisan report concluded Monday that 24 million more Americans would be uninsured over the next decade under the Republican Party’s repeal plan for the Affordable Care Act. “The headlines are terrible,” said one senior GOP source involved in the health care process, describing the CBO’s conclusions.



Snow Storm Hits East

A late-season storm lashed the Northeast with sleet and more than a foot of snow in some places Monday, paralyzing much of the Washington-to-Boston corridor after a remarkably mild February had lulled people into thinking the worst of winter was over.

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