



A retired Max light rail car is reimaged as a retrofitted community resource space along Holladay Park in northeast Portland as part of a design concept competition hosted by the Portland State University Center for Public Interest Design.

# Finding a New Purpose for Old Max Cars

## Afro-Village envisions resource stations

Imagine Holladay Park in northeast Portland's Lloyd neighborhood transformed into a village of community resources grown from the decks of TriMet's oldest and retiring MAX light rail cars.

Along a raised sidewalk next to the park, one of the vehicles features a community kitchen. Another houses a warming shelter. The remaining two vehicles contain a health clinic and a learning center. This was the winning design concept in a unique competition hosted by Portland State University's Center for Public Interest Design.

The MAX Reuse Design Challenge invited designers to re-envision the use of TriMet's oldest MAX light rail vehicles, which we will begin retiring in the coming years. Contestants had the freedom to approach their designs from any angle,



The Type 1 train is the original light rail car used on the MAX system and has been in service for nearly 34 years.

but they were encouraged to find

new uses for the trains that could help address an issue or issues

facing society today.

The People's Choice award went to The Afro-Village Move-

ment, with moving trains that provide shelter spaces, lockers, a mini-kitchen with fresh produce

shelves, dining area, showers, laundry facilities, and more.

The competition was designed to get people thinking about new ways to address issues facing our community. The concepts may not necessarily be applied to trains when they are retired.

The 26 Type 1s were the original trains on the MAX system and have been in service for nearly 34 years. They have stairs at every door and must be paired with other trains to provide ADA accessible MAX service. TriMet will begin to retire these vehicles in 2022 as we begin bringing in the next generation of light rail vehicles and transitioning to an all low-floor, accessible fleet.

Designers in the contest had the option to base their designs on the Type 1 trains or our Type 2 vehicles. The Type 2s were the first low-floor light rail vehicles put into use by a transit agency in North America. They've been in service since 1997. The Type 2s are being renovated over the next five years, so their retirement date is undetermined.