

April 28, 2020

A couple of updates from this morning's check-in with TriMet:

1. There will be a delay for summer sign-up. We know this is frustrating news. However, as things change daily, and we await direction from the Governor, this does make sense. We would hate for you to sign work, and then immediately have to do another sign-up based on the Governor's directive to reopen. We are involved with the Governor's Transit Sector Reopening Strategy Subcommittee and will keep you apprised of information as it becomes available. As part of this extension, vacation relief will be assigned to the extra board. Again, this schedule was the way in which we avoided layoffs for all TriMet operators. We appreciate the sacrifice that you are making to save the jobs of your Sisters & Brothers and thank you for your patience during this challenging time.
2. TriMet will be posting for additional Fare Inspectors to assist operators with ongoing issues throughout the system. Please keep your eye out if this is a position that you are interested in!
3. As many of you have heard, TriMet is moving forward with a special can service. We are working with them to make sure that the buses involved all have vinyl seats and a barrier, that the operator has all necessary PPE, that there is additional security at all times, that buses are cleaned at the end of the line, and that bags are available to avoid leaky ones coming on the bus. We know this is not ideal. But, many people rely on cans as their sole source of income and this service was specifically requested by the Governor. We will also work with TriMet to monitor where this creates additional cans on other routes and seek to get additional resources there as well. So please, continue to call Dispatch or your Union Representative to inform them of overcrowding, cleaning needs, or other issues you see.
4. We continue to push for mandatory face coverings for riders, and we are almost there! This does require a directive from health officials, and we believe that will be coming soon.

In Solidarity,

ATU 757 Leadership