

Since EMCTC last met, the Steel Bridge project has been completed, and transit service across the bridge was restored on August 30. This was TriMet's biggest rail revitalization effort in 34 years and involved replacing thousands of feet of rail and installing a new signal system, all with the goal of keeping MAX service reliable.

More information is available here:

<https://news.trimet.org/2020/08/video-steel-bridge-to-reopen-following-major-four-week-max-improvements-project/>

#### TriMet begins restoring weekday bus service

On August 31, TriMet took its first step toward restoring weekday bus service. Service levels are now about 90% of where we were before the COVID-19 pandemic. Regular weekday service returned to 20 TriMet bus lines starting Monday, Aug. 31. Among these 20, the main East county (and/or East Portland) Lines returning to regular weekday service are Lines 9, 15, 17, 21, 77,

More information is available here:

<https://news.trimet.org/2020/08/trimet-begins-restoring-weekday-bus-service/>

#### TriMet resuming cash fares

TriMet riders will once again be able to pay their fare on buses using cash beginning Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020. We suspended cash fares on buses beginning March 26, 2020, as a safety precaution. The idea was to limit the time our bus operators and riders were close to each other while riders boarded the bus during the COVID-19 pandemic. Now that we have several safety measures in place—a mask requirement, on-board limits and physical distancing, hand sanitizer dispensers and soon, a safety panel next to the operator's seat on all our buses—we will once again accept cash on buses. However, we will encourage riders to continue paying using the Hop Fastpass® for both safety and ease.

For more information, please see:

<https://news.trimet.org/2020/09/trimet-to-reinstate-cash-fare-payments-on-buses-on-oct-1-2020/>