



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING

2051 KAEN ROAD | OREGON CITY, OR 97045

MEMORANDUM

TO: Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Commissioner Paul Savas
RE: TriMet District 7 Nomination Letter of Support
DATE: January 12, 2026

REQUEST: Board endorsement of Jeff Gudman as nominee for the TriMet Board of Directors District 7 seat.

BACKGROUND: TriMet's Board of Directors, appointed by the Governor, has a vacancy in District 7 with the November 2025 resignation of Kathy Wei. District 7 largely covers Clackamas County within the TriMet boundaries, with the general exception of Milwaukie. Local city leaders are circulating the attached letter endorsing Jeff Gudman for the position.

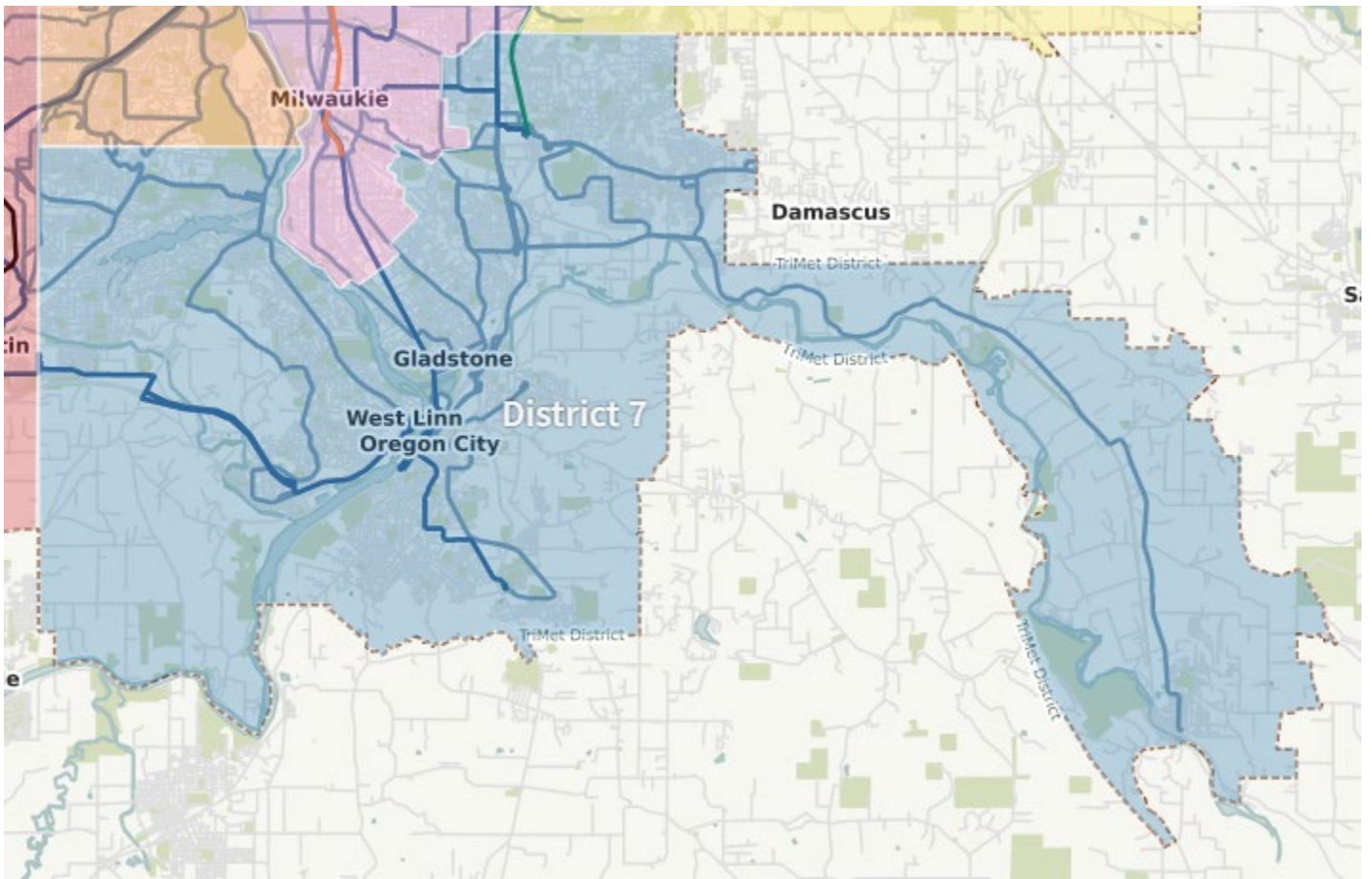
Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Savas,
Commissioner

Attachments:

#1: District 7 Map
#2: Draft Letter of Support

TriMet District 7



DRAFT

The Honorable Tina Kotek
Governor of Oregon
900 Court Street NE, Suite 254
Salem, OR 97301-4047

Dear Governor Kotek,

We write collectively as city and county leaders within **TriMet District 7** to nominate and strongly endorse **Jeff Gudman** for appointment to the TriMet Board of Directors representing District 7.

Jeff Gudman brings a rare and timely combination of professional expertise, financial acumen, and deep civic engagement that is especially well-suited to TriMet's current moment. As the agency confronts significant fiscal and operational challenges, we believe Jeff's background and temperament would be an asset to both the Board and the communities TriMet serves.

Professionally, Jeff has built a career rooted in financial management, strategic planning, and organizational leadership. He is experienced in evaluating complex budgets, understanding long-term financial risk, and making disciplined decisions in constrained environments—skills that are essential as TriMet works to stabilize its finances while continuing to provide reliable, equitable transit service across the region.

Equally important is Jeff's longstanding civic involvement. He has consistently demonstrated a commitment to public service and community problem-solving, working constructively with elected officials, civic leaders, and community stakeholders. His approach is thoughtful, pragmatic, and collaborative—qualities that will serve the TriMet Board well as it balances regional priorities, rider needs, labor considerations, and fiscal responsibility.

Jeff is also deeply connected to the communities of Clackamas County, where he has lived, worked, and volunteered for many years. He understands the unique transportation needs of District 7, including the perspectives of suburban and growing communities that rely on TriMet for access to employment, education, and essential services. Just as importantly, he has a proven ability to listen to and connect with city and civic leaders, ensuring that local voices are meaningfully represented in regional decision-making.

We are confident that Jeff Gudman would serve as a steady, credible, and community-grounded director on the TriMet Board—one who brings both financial rigor and a strong commitment to public engagement. His appointment would strengthen the Board at a critical time and help reinforce trust between TriMet and the communities it serves.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss Jeff's qualifications further and are confident he would serve with distinction.

Respectfully submitted,

<<TBD>>