

Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# High Capacity Transit System Plan

Metro Council Work Session

December 16, 2008



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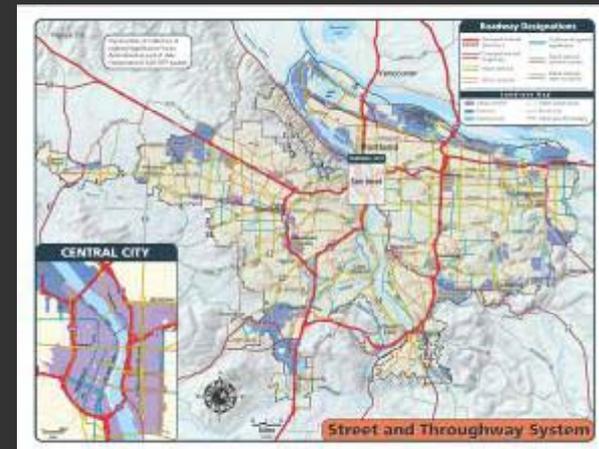
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# Regional Transportation Plan

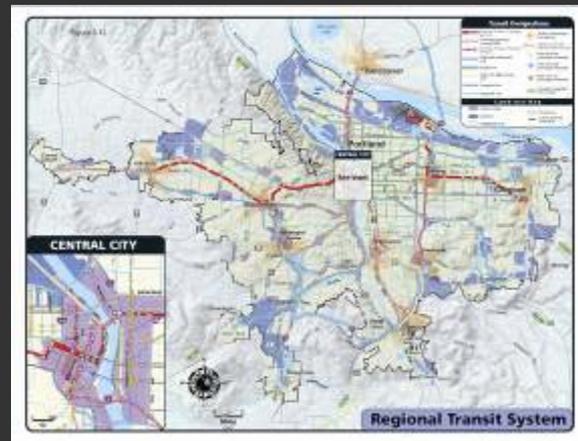
Pedestrian



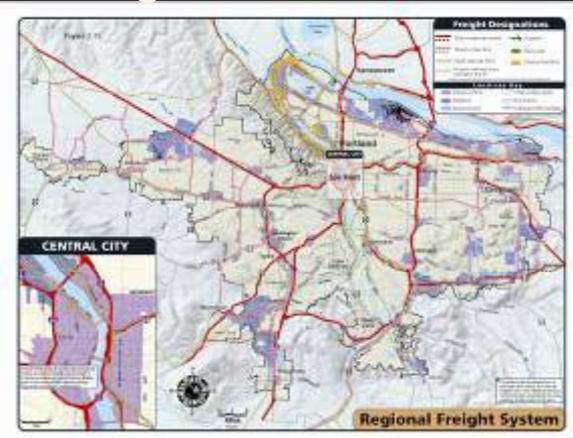
Streets



Transit



Freight



Bicycle



## Complete Transit System

### Local Transit

(Local Bus, Regional Bus, Frequent Bus, Paratransit)

High  
Capacity  
Transit

TriMet

SMART

Metro

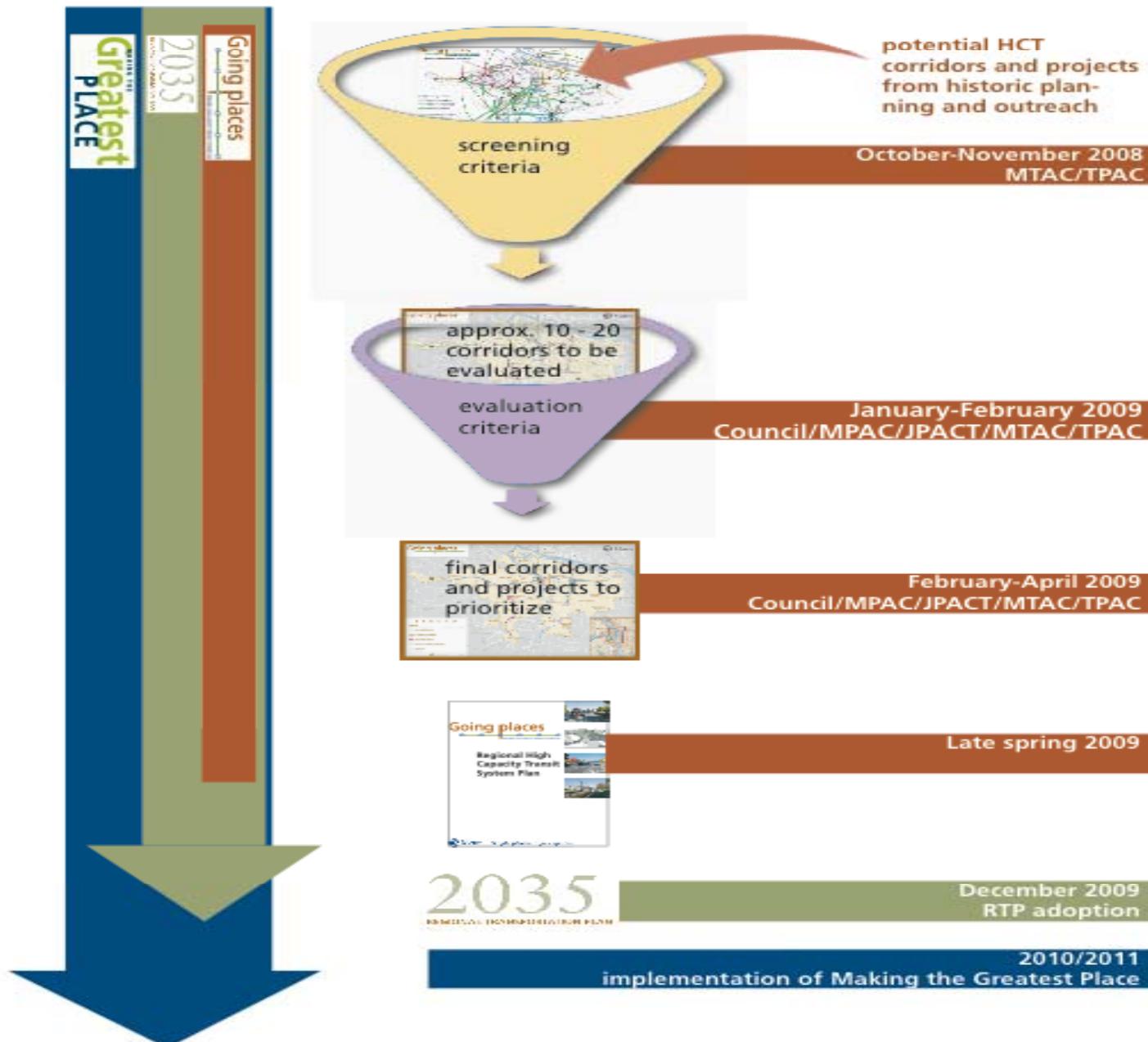


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Figure 2

# High Capacity Transit System Plan Evaluation framework



# High Capacity Transit System Plan Evaluation timeframe

Tasks	Timeframe					
	October 2008	November 2008	December 2008	January 2009	February-April 2009	April-June 2009
Confirm screening criteria	TPAC	MTAC				
Apply screening criteria and confirm initial set of screened corridors and projects		TPAC MTAC	TPAC MTAC MPAC JPACT	MPAC JPACT Metro Council	Metro Council	
Confirm evaluation criteria		TPAC MTAC	TPAC MTAC MPAC JPACT	MPAC JPACT Metro Council	Metro Council	
Review initial evaluation of corridors and projects					TPAC MTAC	
Approve prioritized corridors and projects and adopt plan						TPAC MTAC MPAC JPACT Metro Council



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# Evaluation Criteria Development



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# Planning for high capacity transit in the region

## Goals Framework

Greatest Place

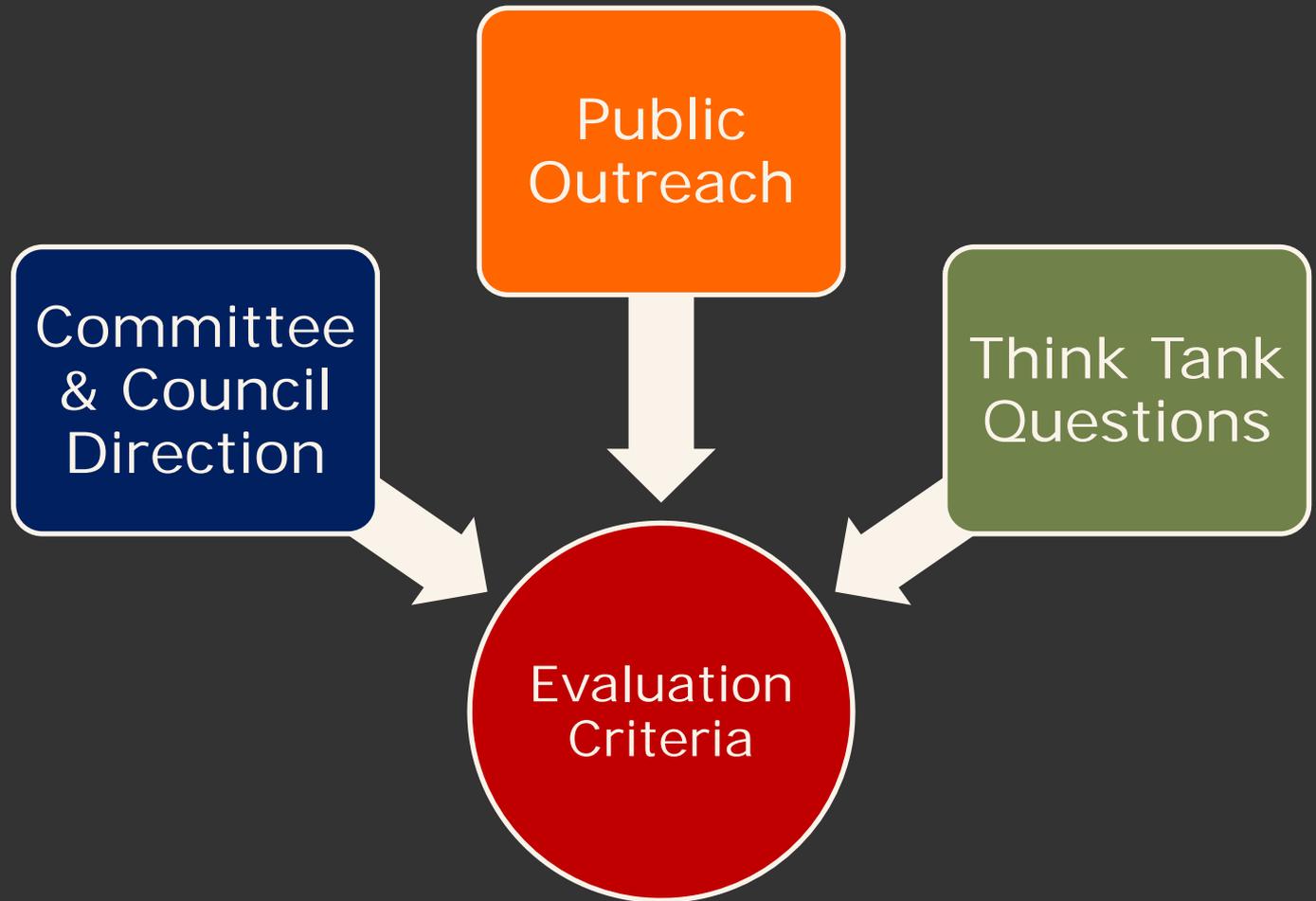
Regional  
Transportation Plan

High Capacity  
Transit System Plan



# Planning for high capacity transit in the region

## Evaluation Criteria Development



## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Putting it all together

Vision, Values, & Goals

Evaluation Framework

Corridor Evaluation

System Considerations

Financial Considerations

Other Items Heard



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## Outreach leading to Evaluation Criteria:

Think Tank, regional workshops,  
stakeholder interviews, and  
community events



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## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Thought provoking questions Think Tank

- What is important about the Portland metro region?
- How do we move forward and be true to ourselves?
- We must define what needs to be adjusted to get where we want to go.
- What will makes us feel good about where we live?
- How do we know when we've succeeded?



## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Thought provoking questions Think Tank

- Placemaking
  - How do we create great, cozy places?
- Access
  - How do we balance the use of fast, separated corridors with lower costs and the desire to provide transit service to the heart of the community?
- Future growth
  - How do we balance the tension between the present in individual terms and the future on community and collective terms?





## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Thought provoking questions Think Tank

- Mode
  - How do we shift cultural expectations in order to serve and balance the needs of diverse constituencies through Bus Rapid Transit like Curitiba?
- Complete System
  - How do we create a complete, integrated system with pedestrians, bicycles, and bus?



## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Thought provoking questions Think Tank

- Grids
  - Disasters in places like New Orleans and New York made it clear where redundancies and diversity in the transit network were important to the function of the system.
- Demographic Shifts
  - How will we change in the future with more people working independently, smaller family sizes, and residents accustomed to higher density environments?

## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Thought provoking questions Think Tank

- Investment Choices
  - Will investments in safety lead to a greater increase in ridership than a corresponding line extension?
  - Should shorter, low speed trips or longer, high speed trips be emphasized?



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Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Public Outreach

Results of Regional Workshops, Stakeholder Interviews, and Public Outreach Events



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## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Themes: Public Outreach

## Access

- Serve employment areas and major institutions (educational and health), shopping areas and activity centers (e.g. Oregon Zoo, OMSI, Rose Garden, parks and greenspaces) along with regional and town centers.



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## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Themes: Public Outreach

## Access

- Create links between stations and neighborhoods by integrating stations into surrounding communities, considering bike and pedestrian facilities around stations and providing good local transit service to get people to and from stations.



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## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Themes: Public Outreach

## Service and speed

- Provide more suburban-to-suburban connections and faster service through downtown Portland.
- Provide flexibility in service times and modes and improved access for transit-dependent groups (low income, elderly, etc.), especially in the suburbs.





## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Themes: Public Outreach

## Safety and security

- Improve safety on transit vehicles and at stations.
- Give special attention to crossings where transit vehicles and people or cars interact.

## Land use

- Connect land use to public transportation to create compact commercial, residential and mixed-use development.

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# RTP policy considerations

Addressing questions of the public, staff and  
policy makers



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# RTP policy considerations



- Corridors and centers
  - How should HCT balance the need to serve corridors with access and centers with speed?
- Current and future growth
  - How should HCT balance the need to serve the current population and the future growth?
- Existing and future system
  - How should HCT balance the need of improvements to the existing system and the addition of new corridors?





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## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# RTP policy considerations

- Definition of high capacity transit
  - Should HCT include rapid streetcar?
  - Levels of high capacity transit?
- Local aspirations
  - How do we account for local aspirations?
- Phasing
  - How should the region consider phasing the HCT system?



## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Draft evaluation criteria

## Community evaluation criteria

- Supportiveness of local land use and adopted local transportation plans and policies
- Acceptability to local communities
- Ridership generators



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## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Draft evaluation criteria

## Community evaluation criteria

- Support 2040
- Transportation network integration-  
Transit
- Transportation network integration-  
Roads, use of right of way
- Transportation network integration-  
Ability to avoid congestion





## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Draft evaluation criteria

## Community evaluation criteria

- Equity
- Safety
- Health (Promote physical activity)
- Housing + Transportation
- Affordability Index
- Placemaking/Urban form
- Transportation efficiency (Users)





## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Draft evaluation criteria

## Environment evaluation criteria

- Emissions and disturbance
- Natural resources
- 4(f) resources



## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Draft evaluation criteria

## Economy evaluation criteria

- Transportation efficiency (Operator)
- Economic competitiveness
- Redevelopment



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## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Draft evaluation criteria

## Deliverability evaluation criteria

- Feasibility (Construction)
- Feasibility (Operations)
- Ridership
- Funding potential



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# Planning for high capacity transit in the region

## Making the Greatest Place



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MAKING THE  
**Greatest**  
PLACE

## Planning for high capacity transit in the region

# Making the Greatest Place

What does a successful region look like?

- Vibrant, walkable communities
- Sustained economic competitiveness and prosperity
- Safe and reliable transportation choices
- Minimal contributions to global warming
- Clean air, clean water, healthy ecosystems
- Benefits and burdens of growth shared throughout the region



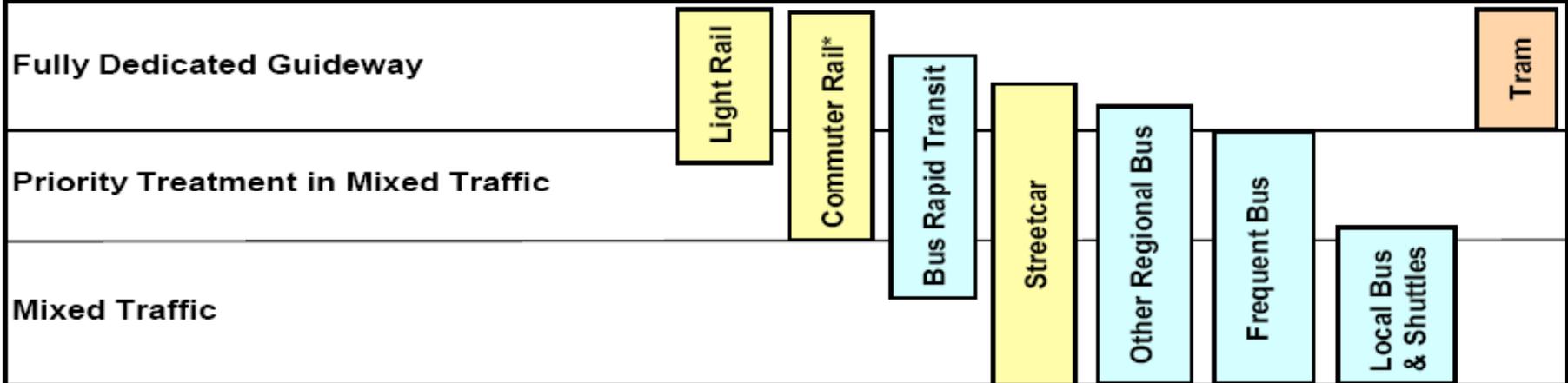
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## Regional Transit Service Types and Right-of-Way Treatment

### Typical Proportion of Right of Way Treatment Used by Transit Mode



\* Note: Commuter Rail operates in ROW separated from street traffic, but often shared with freight trains.

Please refer to the Glossary for definitions of each mode.

# Planning for high capacity transit in the region

## Relationship Between 2040 Growth Concept and Regional Transit System

		Primary Components					Secondary Components				Other Urban Components			
		Central City	Regional Centers	Industrial Areas	Intermodal Facilities		Station Communities	Town Centers	Main Streets	Corridors	Employment Areas	Inner Neighborhood	Outer Neighborhood	
					FDX	Union Station								
Service Type	Regional Transit Network	LRT	●	●		○	○	●	○					
		Commuter Rail	●	●			●		○					
		Rapid Bus	●	●			○			○				
		Streetcar & Frequent Bus	●	●				○	○	●	○			
		Regional Bus	●	●	○		○	○	●	○	●	○		
	Community Transit Network	Community Bus	○	○	●	●		○	○	○	○	●	●	○
		Mini-Bus	○	○	○			○	○	○	○	●	○	●
		Paratransit	○	○	○			○	○	○	○	○	○	○
		Park-and-Ride		●				○	○	○	○	○	○	●
	Inter-Urban Transit	Inter-urban Rail	●	○			●		○					
Inter-city Bus		●	●		○	●		○						

● Best public transportation mode(s) designed to serve growth concept land use components

○ Additional public transportation mode(s) that may serve growth concept land use components



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