The Portland Transit Mall, built between 1977 and 1982, was designed by architects Michael Blackmore and Michael Maltzan. It was the first major public transit project in the United States to be developed in a mixed-use retail and office environment, with the support of a Portland business development program.

Since 1977, the building has stood on the corner of SW 5th Avenue and Salmon Street in Portland, Oregon. It is located across the street from the old Portland Union Station and next to the Burnside Bridge, making it a key transportation hub for the city. The mall was designed to be a symbol of the city's commitment to public transit and to serve as a gateway to downtown.

The mall consists of three main components: a pedestrian mall, a transit center, and retail spaces. The pedestrian mall is home to a variety of shops and restaurants, while the transit center provides a hub for public transportation, including buses and light rail. The retail spaces are occupied by a variety of businesses, including a coffee shop that has become a popular spot for locals and tourists alike.

In recent years, the Portland Transit Mall has undergone several renovations, including the removal of the original bus shelter and the addition of a new shelter designed by architect John Holmes. The new shelter features a glass roof and walls, and is designed to be a symbol of the mall's commitment to sustainability and energy efficiency.

Despite some criticism from some quarters, the Portland Transit Mall has become a symbol of the city's commitment to public transit and to the development of mixed-use transportation hubs. It has been praised for its design, its function as a transportation hub, and its role in revitalizing downtown Portland.