

Authority Meeting Highlights
a brief recap of the October 20, 2021, Authority Meeting

The meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act guidelines in the Governor's Proclamation [20.28.14](#).

Wednesday night, the Authority:

- Approved Resolution 04-2021 extending the five-year, zero-fare demonstration project for a period of three additional years beginning on the date Fixed-Route and Dial-A-Lift services return to March 2020 service levels or January 1, 2028, whichever is later. *(Ann Freeman-Manzanas)*
- Authorized the General Manager to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Thurston County identifying processes, roles and responsibilities related to the implementation of Transit Signal Priority and Smart Corridors. *(Eric Phillips)*
- Authorized the General Manager to execute Task Order 1 with Iteris, Inc. for a total not-to-exceed value of \$140,780 for engineering and consulting services supporting implementation of Transit Signal Priority and Thurston Smart Corridors. *(Eric Phillips)*
- Directed staff to interview all ten applicants who applied for the Community Advisory Committee open positions.

Other items of interest:

- Cameron Crass introduced **Lyle Gilbertson, Operations Scheduling Coordinator**
- Jonathon Yee introduced **Kayla Cranor, Auto Technician**
- Julie DeRuwe introduced **Beau Fahr, Facilities Specialist**
- The Authority received an update from Jonathon Yee about staff's recommended path and plans toward a zero-emission fleet.

General Manager's Report:

- Today, Authority and Community Advisory Committee members toured the new Pattison Street facility with the contractors from Forma Construction and members from the StanTech design team. The next tour is anticipated for Monday, January 31, 2022, at 3:30. An invitation has also been extended to the Thurston Regional Planning Council and members of the Transportation Policy Board.
- Monday, October 18 was the deadline for staff to submit verification of their COVID-19 vaccination. Currently, 96% of staff meet the requirement, allowing IT to maintain current levels of service that is approximately 79% of our pre-COVID levels of service. We continue to struggle with having enough staff, due to individuals needing to quarantine or isolate. We hope everybody in the community does their part to remain healthy so IT can get back to the pre-COVID level of service.

- Staff developed a matrix for contractors, vendors, and consultants to ensure that staff and passengers are as safe as possible when interacting with those we hire.
- Staff conducted another outreach campaign for the Surplus Van Grant Program and received 17 surplus van grant applications. This demonstrates the need in the community and provides tremendous insight into the work that many governmental entities and non-profits are accomplishing in the community. The review process was completed yesterday, and staff intends to bring a recommendation to the Authority for review at their November 3, 2021, meeting. Staff hopes the selected applicants can attend the December 1, 2021, Authority meeting to talk about their mission and how they intend to utilize the van granted to them by the Authority.
- The 2022 Budget and Strategic Plan are out on the street for public comment. The Strategic Plan and Budget are following the elements derived from the two-year public outreach process and Intercity Transit's Proposition 1, approved in November 2018.
- Freeman-Manzanares reported the Walk N Roll building was broken into, and bikes were stolen. That area has been reinforced, however, unfortunately bikes that would have been dedicated to local youth can no longer be utilized for that purpose. Staff will continue to get the Youth Education Program back up and running so bikes that are available can be given to youth to use as a transportation source.
- There continues to be interest in zero-fare, and Freeman-Manzanares was asked to present at the State Conference. She continues to receive calls, the latest from Maryland. They heard what IT achieved after starting the program in January 2020. They are also interested in the process that led up to the decision by the Authority to go with the five-year zero fare demonstration program. It's exciting to know that others throughout the nation are looking at the possibility of zero-fare.

Prepared October 21, 2021

Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board