

**Minutes**  
**INTERCITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Held Remotely**  
**December 15, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Cox called the December 15, 2021, meeting of the Intercity Transit Authority to order at 5:30 p.m. This meeting was held remotely in accordance with Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-28.15 Safe Start/Roadmap to Recovery.

**Members Present:** Chair and City of Lacey Councilmember Carolyn Cox; Vice Chair and City of Olympia Mayor Pro-Tem Clark Gilman; City of Tumwater Mayor-Elect Debbie Sullivan; Thurston County Commissioner Carolina Mejia; Citizen Representative Don Melnick; Citizen Representative Sue Pierce; Citizen Representative Justin Belk; Labor Representative David Sharwark.

**Staff Present:** Ann Freeman-Manzanares; Jason Aguero; Jessica Gould; Steve Krueger; Ally McPherson; Pat Messmer; Eric Phillips; Heather Stafford; Daniel Van Horn; Brian Nagel; Roshan KC; Lee Peterson; Alex Auty; Jonathon Yee; Emily Bergkamp; Nicky Upson.

**Others Present:** Legal Counsel, Jeff Myers and Ursula Euler, Community Advisory Committee.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**It was M/S/A by Sullivan and Melnick to approve the agenda.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Thurston Regional Planning Council.** Cox said TRPC met December 3. John Wynands from the WSDOT Olympic Region and Stan Suchan, from WSDOT's Public Transportation Division provided a virtual presentation on their new headquarters building in Lacey. It showed all of the wonderful design innovations they've incorporated into that building. Anyone interested in looking over the presentation can find a link on the TRPC website.

Members also had fun with the 2021 Profile: Data, Trends, and Analysis for Thurston County. It's anything and everything you would want to know about the county in one big publication and true to TRPC form, they tried to make it fun making a big game out of it by competing in multiple choice questions to see who could guess the correct answer.

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TRPC bid farewell to outgoing Chair, JW Foster, Vice Chair, Cynthia Pratt, and Councilmembers Alan Carr and EJ Zita. Clark Gilman agreed to Chair the TRPC January meeting, and the Board will decide new officers in February 2022.

**Transportation Policy Board.** Melnick said TPB met December 8. Marc Daily reminded TPB they were about to kick off recruitment for community and business representatives and needed TPB's help in getting the word out to potential candidates.

TPB were given a one-page handout on the Thurston Region State Legislative Priorities and Daily thanked the committee for their work in creating a short concise list. The legislature gives some administrative note for the broadband coordination, which Melnick thinks is a federal funding project, but there's no apparent funding for administration. TRPC will petition the legislature to seek help.

Paul Brewster gave a presentation about the Grand Mound Rochester Trail Feasibility Study which explores connecting Grand Mound, Rochester and the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation.

Daily updated the TPB on the state and federal legislation. Federal will be a little while coming because of the work that has to be done first before we get through that.

Daily briefed TPB on the future of Logistics and Next Steps for Autonomous Vehicles. It seems the Washington State Transportation Commission devoted a day and a half meeting to discuss this. Anybody can access this information through TVW because it was recorded.

TPB bid farewell to outgoing members Tumwater Mayor Pete Kmet, Yelm City Councilmember Tracey Wood, and WSDOT Regional Administrator John Wynands. Dani Madrone will be the Representative on the Puget Sound Regional Council and Carolina Mejia will be alternate. Graeme Sackrison is retiring from the TPB.

Ursula Euler asked if the TPB or TRPC received any presentations or information about the Commercial Aviation Coordinating Committee (CAC) and WSDOT regarding Thurston County's participation in expanding the Olympia Regional Airport. Mejia said the County Commission reached out to the CAC and asked them if Thurston County was up for consideration and were told they are not.

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Freeman-Manzanares reported there was a large fire in downtown Olympia this morning (Wednesday), which required rerouting all of our service away from the Olympia Transit Center and we were in position to evacuate nearby buildings if that became necessary. She wanted to recognize and applauded the excellent work of our Operation Dispatcher/Supervisors, Operators and all of the

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Operations staff who jumped in to provide assistance, Customer Service, our Marketing and Communications team and our Maintenance Department. That was a huge effort, and they did an outstanding job.

- In the midst of all of this activity, some of the coaches which were piloting the new CAD/AVL (Computer Automated Dispatch/ Automated Vehicle Locator) system) experienced a hiccup and weren't working properly. Everyone rolled with it and made it work. This whole experience is one more situation that exemplifies the resilience of the organization, their can-do perspective and positive attitude.
- Staff moved forward to meet the needs of the community and utilized every situation as an opportunity to test IT's backup Emergency Communication System and ensure we could pivot and respond to whatever challenges that came before IT.
- Freeman-Manzanares said we have amazing staff, and therefore has the confidence to respond no matter the situation. We are looking forward to assisting with the update for the countywide Hazard Mitigation Plan and fulfilling our role as the lead emergency transportation provider in Thurston County. Emily Bergkamp, Operations Director, will represent IT on the update team.

### **AUTHORITY ISSUES**

Cox invited everyone to take a cruise through Hunter Moore Park in Lacey. The whole park will be lit up and it is just gorgeous. It's a quick, easy tour to brighten the holiday spirit.

**CLOSED SESSION - Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1765.** The Intercity Transit Authority conducted a closed session authorized by RCW 42.30.140 (4) (b) to allow Authority members and necessary staff to discuss whether to approve a collective bargaining agreement between Intercity Transit and the ATU.

*Chair Cox recessed to a closed session at 5:45 p.m.*

*Chair Cox reconvened to a regular meeting at 5:58 p.m.*

**Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1765 (ATU).** Heather Stafford-Smith, Administrative Services Director, presented for consideration a request to ratify a three-year collective bargaining agreement between Intercity Transit and the ATU.

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The contract represents roughly 296 employees in the positions of Operator, Customer Service Representative, and Dial-A-Lift Dispatch Specialist. The current collective bargaining agreement will expire on December 31, 2021, and parties were successful at agreeing or tentatively agreeing to a successor agreement, which would cover a three-year period beginning January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2024.

**It was M/S/A by Belk and Melnick to approve the collective bargaining agreement between Intercity Transit and Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1765.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to come before the Authority, Chair Cox adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.**

**INTERCITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

*Clark Gilman*

Clark Gilman, Vice Chair

**ATTEST**

*Patricia Messmer*

Pat Messmer

Clerk to the Authority

**Date Approved: January 5, 2022**

Prepared by Pat Messmer, Clerk of the Board/  
Executive Assistant, Intercity Transit