

**Authority Meeting Highlights**  
***a brief recap of the May 18, 2022, Authority Meeting***

The meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act guidelines in the Governor's Proclamation [20.28.15](#).

**Wednesday night, the Authority:**

- Authorized the General Manager to approve funding in the amount of \$179,470 to have DES enter into a contract for roof and gutter upgrades on the Lacey Transit Center shelter stations with Emtech, LLC. *(Tammy Ferris)*
- Authorized the General Manager to execute an 18-month contract, with four one-year renewal options, with PalAmerican to provide Transit Center Security Services in the amount of \$1,530,000. *(Katie Cunningham)*
- Adopted the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for projects with anticipated Federal funding. *(Eric Phillips)*

**Other Items of Interest:**

- Recognized **Dial-A-Lift driver Dan Savage** for taking second place at the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) Roadeo last week in Louisville, Kentucky. Savage competed in the Body-on-Chassis/Paratransit Division against 50 competitors from 48 transit agencies across the country. The Roadeo tests the drivers' skills and abilities with a primary focus on safe operations and passenger sensitivity.
- Welcomed **Vehicle Detailers Tina Gese, Dylan AINU'u, Tony Houdyshell, and Mason Kuenstler; Walk N Roll Program Representative A Puri; HR Manager, Alana Neal; Lead Accounting Specialist, Bill Nevue.**
- Allison Osterberg from TRPC gave a presentation on the Martin Way Corridor Study.

**General Manager's Report:**

The Pattison Street North Parcel Construction Project continues to go well, as does the design work for the remainder of the project, referred to as the South Parcel. There is a lot of activity, and IT has a great team comprised of Intercity Transit staff, Forma, Stantec and DES. Another tour of the facility is planned sometime in June.

Freeman-Manzanares thanked the TRPC staff (Allison Osterberg, Aiden Dixon, Katrina Van Every and Karen Parkhurst) for presenting and being present at both the CAC and ITA meetings to share important information about the Martin Way Corridor study. We encourage everyone to take part in the survey.

A new class of Operators begin training June 6, 2022.

Freeman-Manzanares gave a shout-out to Authority member, Councilmember Brian Hess from Yelm. He has been chatting with folks associated with JBLM who are preparing to transition to civilian life and staying in the area, and recommending they get their CDL from Troops into

Transportation and apply to Intercity Transit to be a bus driver. This is very much appreciated as we need additional staff to be able to support service on the street, and it's imperative that we recruit additional individuals so IT can fulfill the promises made in Proposition 1 and fulfill the Authority-approved Strategic Plan. It is incredibly frustrating and disappointing to have the funding to deliver more service but simply do not have enough people to deliver that service.

The State Audit process has begun, and we thank Chair Gilman for taking care of the entry audit conversation. Suzanne Coit, Chief Financial Officer, is retiring in July and she requested we get on the state audit schedule as quickly as possible so we could complete our audit before she leaves. The Olympia office typically does our audit, but had no availability, however, the audits are being done remotely, and Coit asked if it was possible to look for a team in another part of the state to get this done as quickly as possible.

Staff will present a Resolution before the Authority in June to comply with new state funding requirements for individuals 18 and under to ride transit for free. Intercity Transit has a resolution for zero fare on bus and paratransit service, however, do not currently have such a policy for vanpool, and without that, IT is not eligible for state funding. Currently, we do not have riders who are 18 and under.

Within the next month staff will reach out to the CAC and the Authority for feedback about IT's "going digital" campaign. IT stopped printing bus schedule books during COVID because bus schedules were changing quickly and IT continues to experience change, and is approaching another change trigger point, which is the construction season. Going digital will allow IT to be more nimble with scheduling and be more environmentally friendly. Since December 2021, staff has been talking to passengers about going digital effective September 2022. This will allow us and the community to take advantage of the investment in our website, GovDelivery and the new CAD/AVL system, which is in the final installation process. There is a new app that comes along with that, which is far more accurate than what we are utilizing today. Intercity Transit does not intend to leave anyone behind and staff has been working with individuals who might have difficulty accessing the information, and has been training with social service agencies and schools.

The website allows for printing the schedule(s) one might need, rather than requiring everyone take the entire booklet, and we are printing schedules for those who still need them. We are looking at videos to teach individuals how to utilize the system and utilize focus groups to test. We are looking forward to getting feedback and ensuring our staff and customers gain the benefits of the investments we are making.

We recognized Dan Savage this evening for taking second place in the National CTAA Rodeo competition in Louisville Kentucky. The Rodeo is meant to test all the skills a driver possesses and enhances our focus on safety.

It's worth mentioning the depth of talent within Intercity Transit. In 2019, in addition to Savage taking first in BOC, Operators David Randall took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 35' coach category, Rob Wood took 1<sup>st</sup> in 40' coach, and our Maintenance Team (Joe Bell, Grant Swidecki and James Bush) took 1<sup>st</sup> place. Because of all this success, Intercity Transit was awarded the Grand Champion designation for the fifth year in a row. At the last APTA International competition held in 2019, our Maintenance Team took 13<sup>th</sup> in North America, and Rob Wood took the 40' coach competitor, and won the title of the Best Driver in North America. IT's combined score earned

second place for overall achievement in North America between much larger systems like Oakland and Dallas.

Staff is in the process of applying for the APTA Outstanding Public Transportation System Award. The Authority, the CAC, the community, and staff have set IT up as an organization for success. Freeman-Manzanares is proud to look at the application materials and knows that while we don't have the space to include everything IT has done, our accomplishments are many and very impressive. APTA will announce the award at their Fall conference being held in Seattle.

On Monday, May 16, 2022, we were notified by Congresswoman Strickland's office that IT's Zero Fare Bus Stop Access Improvements grant application was selected as part of the fifteen submissions for the FY 2023 Community Project Funding (CPF) request. Those applications will go before the House Appropriations Committee, and we expect to hear something anytime between three and nine months.

Prepared May 19, 2022  
Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board