

**Authority Meeting Highlights**  
***a brief recap of the March 1, 2023, Intercity Transit Authority Meeting***

**Wednesday night, the Authority:**

- Authorized the General Manager to execute a contract with Law, Lyman, Daniel, Kamerrer & Bogdanovich to represent Intercity Transit for a period of one year, with options to renew annually for a total contract period not-to-exceed March 31, 2028.
- Authorized the General Manager to purchase additional transit signal priority equipment utilizing the existing contract with ACT Traffic Solutions Inc., providing an additional \$140,000 for new purchases, inclusive of taxes, to the previously approved contract authority.
- Received a presentation from Kevin Karkoski on the DAL/Travel Training/Bus Buddy Programs
- Received a presentation from Eric Phillips on the Martin Way Park-and-Ride Direct Access Project.
- Conducted an Executive Session to discuss the qualifications of an applicant for public employment as allowed by RCW 42.30.110(1)(g).
- Selected a GM Recruitment Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Justin Belk, Don Melnick, Debbie Sullivan and Robin Vazquez; and selected Operations Director, Emily Bergkamp, to serve as Interim General Manager effective April 1, 2023.

**Other Items of Interest:**

- Ann Freeman-Manzanares introduced **Amanda Collins, Executive Assistant, Public Records Officer.**
- Heather Stafford Smith introduced **Taylor Slobojan, HR Administrative Assistant.**

**General Manager's Report:**

Nicky Upson and Ally McPherson attended the American Public Transit Association Marketing and Communications Conference and shared that the keynote speaker highlighted Intercity Transit in his presentation sharing a photo of a bus at the Olympia Transit Center and the Zero Fare Just Get On and Go head sign. It is a compliment when others share good words about positive things happening at Intercity Transit and in our community.

Staff has been successfully navigating the snowy and icy days. There were zero vehicular accidents, however, there were some slips and falls and we don't want to minimize that. Snow and ice are tricky, and frequently presents differently from one event to another. Freeman-Manzanares expressed thanks to the Operations and Fleet and Facilities Maintenance groups for their outstanding response.

Intercity Transit has been asked to participate in a video highlighting the benefits of L&I's "Stay at Work Program." This Program reimburses employers for some of their costs when they provide temporary, light-duty jobs for workers while they heal. Research shows that the longer

an injured employee remains away from work, the longer their healing process and the harder it is for them to return. We are happy to be recognized by the Department of Labor and Industries as great partners in this program and look forward to seeing the promotional video about their Stay at Work program featuring IT employees filmed onsite at IT.

IT participated in the WorkSource for a Coach Operator Recruitment last week and we are very pleased with the outcome. IT advertised the event via radio, at movie theaters and in print ads. Freeman-Manzanares gave a big shout out to the Human Resources team: Amy Zurfluh, Hannah Toulme, Amy Meierhoff, Alana Neal, Pam Hayes, Taylor Slobojan and Heather Smith; and the Operations team: Emily Bergkamp, Dena Withrow, Cameron Crass, Kevin Karkoski, Benny Sandberg and Gavin Kramer for working so hard to make this event happen. With this event and direct applications, there were 70 candidates.

Classes are scheduled in April and June, and the more Operators we can hire, the sooner we return to pre-COVID levels of service and move forward with the expansion of service the community desired as part of Proposition 1. If you know of anyone looking for a terrific job serving the community, with good pay and benefits, refer them to [www.intercitytransit.com](http://www.intercitytransit.com).

February 28 was the last day of the Winter Bicycle Challenge, and now staff prepares for the Bicycle Community Challenge in May.

The Youth Education Walk N Roll Open House is on March 7 from 3:30 to 6 p.m. at our Walk N Roll Education Center located on Martin Way near Pattison Street.

Freeman-Manzanares had the opportunity to meet with Congresswoman Strickland's staff March 1 and we are thankful for her and her staff's support. IT is receiving a \$1.8M grant to enhance rear door bus stop access. This project will enhance accessibility and safety for everyone and has the benefit of increasing the speed and reliability of our service.

Prepared March 2, 2023  
Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board