

Authority Meeting Highlights
a brief recap of the March 15, 2023, Intercity Transit Authority Meeting

Wednesday night, the Authority:

- Declared the Administration building, building components, and any remaining contents as surplus with an estimated value of \$3,424,621.

Other Items of Interest:

- Cameron Crass introduced **Operator Class 23-01**.
- Joy Gerchak introduced **Jane Denicola, Customer Service Supervisor**.
- Cameron Crass provided an overview of Intercity Transit's mobile camera systems and shared footage highlighting "a day in the life" of an Operator.
- Cindy Waterhouse provided an update on the Vanpool program and services.
- Duncan Green briefed the Authority on the results of the 2023 Winter Bicycle Challenge and progress on the 36th Annual Bicycle Commuter Challenge coming up in May.
- The Authority bid farewell to Ann Freeman-Manzanares, who will retire effective March 31, 2023, after 30 years of service with Intercity Transit.

General Manager's Report:

The Washington State Transit Association is hosting a statewide leadership program for its third year entitled, "Transit's Next Leader Institute" and the kick-off for the class of 2023 was held today. Participating in the program are Katie Cunningham, Procurement Coordinator, Dan MacMillan, Maintenance Supervisor and Kiera Maryott, Finance Supervisor. Intercity Transit has been fortunate to have multiple individuals participate in the first two years of the program: Jason Aguero, Chief Information Officer, Joy Gerchak, Customer Service Manager graduated in 2021; Nicky Upson, Senior MC&O Coordinator and Cameron Crass, Fixed-Route Manager are 2022 graduates.

There is a service change effective on March 19, and IT is adding about 11,000 hours, which is an increase of about 5 ½ %. We will be at approximately 78% of pre-COVID levels of service. Route 64 is increasing service from 60 minutes to 30 minutes. The new schedule will also include evening enhancements, and we are returning Route 60 to Ensign Road given the improved safety conditions. This service change also involves many adjustments to timepoints to enhance accuracy.

We are still seeing the positive results of zero fare and speeding up our routes, and also seeing the results of changed usage based on COVID ridership changes which also impacts travel times. Staff continues to monitor those activities to enhance accuracy.

Our online trip planner is only partially working. We uploaded the GTFS feed for the new March schedule, and it unexpectedly interrupted the feed. Staff re-entered the March schedule and now waiting Google to grab it and go live.

Transit Driver Appreciation Day is Saturday, March 18 and we took the opportunity to highlight our Operators through the videos presented this evening. Beginning Thursday morning, the Operators,

along with our Maintenance and Facilities staff, will be greeted with chocolate treats, e-cards of appreciation and social media ads.

Expect to see a press release in the coming weeks regarding the \$1.8M federal grant Intercity Transit received for the Zero Fare Bus Stop Access Improvement Project. This includes renovating 145 frequently used bus stops to increase operating efficiency, reduce passenger travel times and increase passenger safety and access. Thank you to Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland for her assistance throughout this process and her support.

There is a lot going on with the next phase of the Pattison project. We hope to be cleared out of the old admin building by mid-April and have everyone settled into the ADOPS and new Fuel and Wash facility building by the end of April. We hope to have permits the beginning of April and construction is targeted mid to late April.

Phase 1 includes trenching and getting power and utilities to their permanent location, currently attached to our existing building. That will take about three months.

Phase II includes building and bridge demolition, stormwater and building out the employee parking lot. This is expected to take approximately six months and carry through to the beginning of 2024.

Phase III includes adding more stormwater detention in the yard and building a metal structure for the temporary maintenance shop, anticipated to take approximately eight months through the Fall of 2024.

Last Phase includes the full remodel of the maintenance building and remainder of site concrete work, with completion by the end of 2025.

Intercity Transit finally received the Redesignation Letter from the feds designating Intercity Transit as a large urban transit system come FFY 2024. We've been trying to get ahead of the curve but there is a lot of work that needs to be accomplished in terms of policy and procedures, and staff is prepared and will continue to be educated and share information with the Authority as it becomes available.

The Department of Labor and Industries' filming crew were on site last week to feature Intercity Transit in their video highlighting the benefits of L&I's "Stay at Work Program." Thank you to Operator, David Dunbar and Emily Bergkamp for their participation. It will make a great recruiting video for IT.

IT finally received notice of Dial-A-Lift production dates for 28 DAL vehicles. We've been waiting for two years due to a supply chain issue. The first vehicles are expected to go into production in July 2023, and the last one starting on the line mid-August, and hopefully by the end of the year there will be 28 new DAL vehicles.

Prepared March 16, 2023
Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board