

Authority Meeting Highlights
a brief recap of the October 18, 2023, Intercity Transit Authority Meeting

Wednesday night, the Authority:

- Declared Coach 402 as surplus. *(Katie Cunningham)*.
- Set the public hearing for the 2024-2029 Draft Strategic Plan for 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 15, 2023. Final adoption is proposed for December 6, 2023. *(Emily Bergkamp)*
- Directed staff to conduct interviews with all candidates who applied for the Community Advisory Committee open positions. *(Emily Bergkamp)*
- Conducted an Executive Session according to RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g) to review qualifications of recommended General Manager applicants.

Other Items of Interest:

- Intercity Transit's Federal Advocate, Dale Learn, of Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs, provided an update on activities affecting public transportation in Washington D. C.
- Nick Demerice provided an update on several marketing and communications activities including a fall/winter campaign.

Interim General Manager's Report:

A new Operator class of 17 started Monday, October 9. The class includes two returning Operators who worked with us previously whose change in life circumstances luckily brought them back to us. This is a wonderful, positive group of people and they will attend a future ITA meeting for introductions.

Ridescheduling software Routematch, used for booking trips for Village Vans and DAL services, was implemented, and is going smoothly. Special thanks to DAL staff and interns for putting in many extra hours of time to make sure transportation for our most vulnerable community members doesn't miss a beat. The VIA platform is also used for micro-transit and innovative service zones in other systems, which will be helpful as we research providing similar services in the future.

The U. S. Department of Energy announced it will be awarding up to \$1 billion to fund a hydrogen hub in the Northwest. The Pacific Northwest Hydrogen Hub was one of seven Hubs awarded, out of an original applicant group of 79 proposals and a review process that started in December 2022. USDOE and the Pacific NW Hydrogen Hub Association, the organization leading the hub effort, will begin negotiations this fall to determine the final list of projects and level of funding.

The PNWH2 Hub includes the states of Washington, Oregon, and Montana. The groups participating in the Pacific Northwest Hydrogen Hub include two agencies very nearby in Lewis County: Centralia College and Twin Transit.