

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

Wednesday night, the Authority:

- Conducted a public hearing on the 2024-2029 Draft Strategic Plan. *(Emily Bergkamp)*
- Declared Dial-A-Lift vehicles as surplus with an estimated fair market value of \$135,000. *(Noelle Gordon)*
- Received a presentation from Izi LeMay on the Village Vans Program.
- Received a presentation from Kylie McChord from CTE on the Zero Emissions Analysis Final Report.
- Approved a contract of employment with Emily Bergkamp for the position of General Manager.
- Conducted a Closed session authorized by RCW 42.30.140(4) (b) to discuss strategies and review proposals related to collective bargaining for the International Association of Machinists District Lodge 160.

General Manager's Report:

Class 23-05 took their test to achieve their Commercial Driver's License on and all twelve new Operators passed. Congratulations to these Operators, and a big kudos to Operations, Core and Route and Revenue Trainers, to ensure the class was successful in achieving their status as professional drivers.

The construction work on the new employee parking lot is paused indefinitely because the infiltration gallery in that area, a structure that collects groundwater from subsurface water levels, is not allowing water to drain at a rate needed to maintain the structural integrity of the parking lot. Further engineering is needed to resolve the issue. To avoid needless costs from a pause in work staff worked tirelessly over the past two weeks to plan to pivot to allow contractor FORMA to start on other work earlier than planned, beginning with demolition and excavation of a large portion of the southeast bus yard. This will cause significant disruption to normal activities within the bus yard and unfortunately, one of the major impacts is the elimination of employee parking within the bus yard.

To ensure all frontline staff in Operations and Maintenance have access to parking nearest the building, other staff are asked to park at the Martin Way Park-and-Ride and take the 62 buses to get to/from Pattison or use the temporary employee shuttle. Staff are coming up with creative ways to get to Pattison - Facilities staff formed a vanpool, many, including Bergkamp are taking the bus, and others are walking, biking, or carpooling to work. It's a good opportunity for all of us as transit professionals to walk the walk and leave our cars at home. Frontline staff have the parking they need, and administrative staff are learning new habits for commute trip reduction.

Key staff received an overview of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software market and options from the consultants, Intueor. This work will aid Intercity Transit in researching ERP products that best meet our needs.

Bergkamp attended the fourth quarter Washington State Transit Association (WSTA) Board meeting along with other General Managers of Transit Systems from around the state. State Representative Rick Larsen, from the 2nd Congressional District, and the ranking minority member on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and co-chair of the Congressional Bus Caucus, and Dave Paul from the 10th Legislative District, and vice chair of the House Transportation Committee & Deputy Majority Floor Leader attended the meeting. The Board received a Federal update by Simon and Co., and a presentation on Washington State Transit's Hydrogen Future by Twin Transit Executive Director, Joe Clark. Justin Leighton WSTA Executive Director shared WSTA's 2024 Legislative Priorities, which include preserving, maintaining, and increasing public transit investments, addressing transit workforce challenges, incentivize transition to zero-emission fleets, support efforts for behavioral health treatment funding and services, and protecting the effective and efficient delivery of public transit. Susan Fletcher, FTA Region 10 Administrator provided an FTA Region 10 update, and Firas Makhoulouf – Capital Projects and Funding Manager, provided a WSDOT update.

Intercity Transit, the City of Olympia, Waunch Construction and Department of Enterprise Services were part of a \$90,000 settlement agreement related to alleged property damages to adjacent business Aztec Lanes during and following construction to install the traffic signal at Martin Way and Pattison. Intercity Transit entered into the settlement agreement without any admission of fault. The settlement amount was agreed upon and distributed as follows: \$25,000 from the City of Olympia, \$20,000 from Intercity Transit through our insurance carrier WSTIP, and \$45,000 from Waunch/DES. Intercity Transit's Legal Counsel, Jeff Myers, assisted with the settlement process, and Intercity Transit is thankful this issue is resolved, so we can return to more productive interactions with our neighbors moving forward.

Intercity Transit leadership is participating in positive and productive contract negotiations with International Association of Machinists District Lodge 160.

Fleet, Facilities and Maintenance Director, Jonathon Yee and Bergkamp met with LOTT Executive Director Matt Kennelly to discuss areas of partnership and took a tour of LOTT's incredible facility.

*Prepared November 16, 2023
Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board*