

**Authority Meeting Highlights/Summary**  
***a brief recap of the February 21, 2024, Intercity Transit Authority Meeting***

**Wednesday night, the Authority:**

- Adopted the GM Performance Measures as required and noted in Section 1 of the GM employment contract. *(Gilman)*
- Discussed/identified potential facilitators and topics to be addressed at an upcoming (early spring or summer) Authority Planning Session/Retreat. *(Bergkamp)*
- Conducted an Executive Session in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) to consider acquisition of property. A parking lot adjacent to the Olympia Transit Center is up for sale and could prove invaluable to Intercity Transit for use by fixed route relief vehicles (vans), supervisory vehicles, and maintenance vehicles. *The Authority authorized the General Manager to further explore and potentially negotiate the possible purchase of property subject to final approval by the Authority Board.*

**Other Items of Interest:**

- David Foster from Foster Government Relations and Joanna Grist from Grist Public Affairs, LLC. provided an update on activities affecting public transportation in the Washington State Legislature.
- Peter Stackpole, Development Director, provided an update on the on-call qualified vendor list and associated contracts.

**General Manager's Report:**

Fifteen Operators from Class 24-01 and three new maintenance employees achieved their Commercial Drivers Licenses. Testing took place February 8 - 10. Congratulations to these individuals for their achievement.

Last week Bergkamp presented an overview of Intercity Transit's Emergency Operation Protocols at the JBLM Joint Operations Group Meeting.

Newly appointed Thurston County Commissioner, Wayne Fournier, visited Intercity Transit last week for a tour of the Pattison Street facilities. Staff had a great visit with Commissioner Fournier and invited him to return with his stepson for a ride through the bus wash. Special thanks to Tumwater Mayor, Debbie Sullivan for helping us give a warm welcome to Commissioner Fournier and his Assistant Matt.

Lane Johnson, who volunteers at Amtrak's Centennial Station, requesting permission for his harp circle to perform for train passengers. Operations Director, Dena Withrow, coordinated his request and on February 9 from 1 to 3 p.m., Johnson and two other harpists played music for all to enjoy.

Human Resources is working hard to screen over 75 applicants for the next Operator Class 24-02 starting on March 25. They currently have three days of interviews planned to meet with these folks and determine if they are a good fit for serving the community.

Bergkamp attended the APTA CEO's conference last weekend in Savannah, Georgia. Topics of discussion included:

- Ridership: Is it "Normal Yet?"
- The ZEB Quandary: Hydrogen, Electric or Both?
- FTA Focus on Bus Manufacturing by FTA Administrator Nuria Fernandez
- Smart Cities
- Navigating an NTSB Investigation
- Capital Costs: Is it Possible to Rein in The Cost of Projects?
- Bus Manufacturing Task Force — Procurement Refresh to Enhance Competition
- Women are the Future! 50% of CEOs in attendance were women.
- CEO Journey – Positioning for Success

The Bus Buddy Program is officially 10 years old. Save-the-date for an anniversary celebration on Saturday, March 16 at the Olympia Transit Center.

Bergkamp, Nick Demerice, ITA members Chair Clark Gilman, Vice Chair Carolina Mejia and Tumwater Mayor Debbie Sullivan will attend the APTA Legislative Conference in Washington D. C. on April 6 - 9. Federal Advocate Dale Learn will facilitate the visit with Federal legislators.

Sihe (Simon) Sun, Master's in Environmental Science candidate at The Evergreen State College, is doing a Zero-Fare Bus Thesis Research project, examining factors that influence people's choice of public transit in Thurston County. He is currently distributing an online survey and has posted flyers with a QR code linking to the survey at different locations throughout the Intercity Transit system. The Marketing Department is also helping spread the word about the survey to recruit more participants to ensure the findings are directly relevant for Intercity Transit. Simon plans to share his collected data with Intercity Transit under the appropriate confidentiality protocols so we can utilize the findings for purposes of understanding the impact of zero-fare on ridership.

Intercity Transit's Deputy Director of Procurement, Steve Krueger, is retiring effective February 23. Krueger started as the Procurement and Capital Projects Manager on May 16, 2016. Since his arrival, he has shepherded many of the major projects and initiatives Intercity Transit has completed or are still in progress since this time.

Krueger came to us from the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services (DES) where he served as Policy and Protest Manager and prior to that was a Unit Manager for General Administration (before they were DES), and also served as a buyer developing master contracts for the state.

Krueger is a Washington native and graduate of Western Washington University and holds his professional certifications of Certified Public Procurement Official and Certified Public Procurement Buyer and amassed over 30 years of procurement, contracting, and marketing experience.

Krueger will fill his retirement with his love of traveling, camping, exploring and all things outdoors, including scooting around town on his newly acquired one-wheel balancing skateboard. That's the

adult equivalent of asking Santa for a Red-Rider BB gun – and we wish him fun without injuries with his new toy.

Krueger has brought a lot of kindness, enthusiasm, excitement, and experience to Procurement and we are sad to see him leave us but are so happy for his next adventure of retirement.

Bergkamp read a Proclamation of Appreciation for Krueger and his work.

*Prepared February 22, 2024  
Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board*