

Minutes
INTERCITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Regular Meeting
July 17, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gilman called the July 17, 2024, meeting of the Intercity Transit Authority to order at 5:30 p.m. This was a hybrid meeting held at the Pattison Street facility.

Members Present: Chair and City of Olympia Councilmember Clark Gilman; Vice Chair and Thurston County Commissioner Carolina Mejia; City of Lacey Councilmember Carolyn Cox; City of Tumwater Mayor Debbie Sullivan; City of Yelm Councilmember Brian Hess; Community Representative Sue Pierce; Community Representative Justin Belk; Community Representative Don Melnick.

Members Excused: Mark Neuville, Labor Representative.

Staff Present: Brian Nagel; Dena Withrow; Jana Brown; Jessica Gould; Jonathon Yee; Katie Cunningham; Michael Maverick; Nick Demerice; Noelle Gordon; Pat Messmer; Peter Stackpole; Ramon Beltran; Tammy Ferris; Matt Kenney; Drew Goffeney; Rob LaFontaine; Duncan Green; Lynne Cunningham; Kerri Wilson; Marianne Copene; Kyle McPherson; Steve Swan; Thera Black.

Others Present: Jeff Myers, Legal Counsel; Ursula Euler, Community Advisory Committee.

STAFF INTRODUCTION

A. Kerri Wilson introduced Marianne Copene, Walk N Roll Program Representative

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was M/S/A by Mejia and Cox to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Draft 2023 Annual Report and 2024-2029 Transit Development Plan. Rob LaFontaine, Deputy Director of Planning, said there was one official comment received that specifically addressed the TDP. It's a resident interested in express service to Tacoma with 30-minute frequency until 11 p.m. The comment includes operating The One as well as extending service eastward into east Lacey. The comment addresses interest in operating Route 13 with 15-minute frequency beyond what we currently do now, which is further into the evenings as well as offering 15-minute frequency on the weekends. The comment also addresses a desire to have better coordination and perhaps more trips connecting both Grays Harbor and Mason counties with more coordination on the part of Mason Transit and Grays Harbor Transit. The comment provided kind words about the quality of IT's service specifically the wonderful Operators and the cleanliness of the buses and our facilities.

LaFontaine reviewed comments received to date, that were not part of this specific public comment period but were received over the last 12 months that are relevant to the Transit Development Plan or the Title VI Program.

One comment suggests our inbound Olympia Express buses not use the direct access ramp that was recently constructed at the Martin Park and Ride because it takes an increase of time to get into that left turn lane and reenter the park and ride.

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Another comment is about the May 2024 schedule that was implemented that said while it improved connections elsewhere, it broke the connection, which is an informal one between our routes 12 and 68 and Tumwater. If a passenger boarded a bus in west Tumwater, on Littlerock Road, and their destination is somewhere in Lacey, and the commenter is describing how that's a difficult connection to make, and if we adjust schedules to remedy that it's breaking connections elsewhere.

We received comments specifically requesting later span of service on the Route 60; a comment requesting a direct express service to SeaTac. Weekend service on the route 42 which operates in west Olympia and that's part of our plans for service coming up later in 2024; and then we received comments specific to the concept roundabout at Martin Way and Meridian and opposition to that.

LaFontaine said there have been a variety of comments related to expanded service in west Olympia, Hanson Elementary and Route 65 by Marshall Middle School; Capital Campus, not only Dash, but Jefferson; a couple of comments specific to service down in the Black Lake neighborhoods; Kane Road in Olympia; three specific comments for Henderson Boulevard; the Olympia Airport; Intelco Loop at Lacey Corporate Center; the new WSDOT Olympic Region building up in the Hawks Prairie area; service to Dupont, JBLM and SeaTac. Comments that address changes to existing service, increased span on the Route 94; late night service; extended trips on our Route 620 Olympia Express on the weekend; a comment suggesting we operate like TriMet and provide service 24/7; improved connections between the 12 and the 68 and Tumwater as well as improved connections between the Route 64 and College Street and the 62 at the Lacey Transit Center.

LaFontaine said there were comments specific to bus stops - to install a shelter at the Amazon Distribution Center in Hawks Prairie; be mindful of the absence of sidewalks in certain locations where we have bus stops; and a couple of comments and opposition to the Flyer stop that was recently constructed on the northbound onramp adjacent to the Martin Way park and ride.

LaFontaine said although we don't get an overwhelming number of comments, IT does have constant communication with our customers, and we do receive a variety of input. Many of these comments have influenced the draft TDP and influenced the draft Title VI Program.

Chair Gilman opened the public hearing at 5:46 p.m.

With no one from the public giving testimony, Chair Gilman closed the public hearing at 5:49 p.m.

- B. Draft 2024-2027 Title VI Program.** Rob LaFontaine, Deputy Director of Planning, Rob LaFontaine said officially, no comments were received that pertain to the Title VI Program, and that doesn't surprise him. He said although we hope to see public comment about our definitions of a major service change or the thresholds that we're using to measure disparity. He said there's been discussion over the last few weeks about this being a new chapter for Intercity Transit and we might be able to continue to

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evolve and come up with innovative ways to get these definitions presented in a way that resonates with the average person.

Despite not having any formal comments, LaFontaine summarized a few comments he felt were germane to fairness, equity and accessibility for transit service. LaFontaine said within the comment period, there were two comments that came in, both very similar. The first referenced where IT adjusted the location of a bus stop in west Olympia near the intersection of Cooper Point Road and Harrison, and both of the comments expressed the same concern, "many handicapped people use that stop to go shopping at Safeway and Rite Aid and have to walk another 300 yards in today's heat or driving rainstorm with no cover is unacceptable." LaFontaine shared a few more comments - a request to install a shelter on 5th Avenue in Olympia near Sylvester Street; two more comments regarding that particular stop on Cooper Point Road for a total of four. There was a request to move a stop on 10th Avenue in Olympia and a rather troublesome story accompanies that. There is a resident in Olympia who experienced a home break-in and it was their perception their home is at above average risk because the home is adjacent to the bus stop; there was a comment suggesting we do more with Braille, namely place the stop numbers at each of the stops, and there was a similar comment about adding or updating Braille at the bays at the transit centers. LaFontaine said staff is working on that. LaFontaine shared a philosophical comment suggesting that if we're not already, that we should look to meet the needs of those who depend on the bus, and he said IT is doing that very thing.

LaFontaine said as with the TDP, at the conclusion of the formal public hearing, we will ready the document for the Board's final consideration for final adoption at the August 7 meeting.

Chair Gilman opened the public hearing at 5:54 p.m.

With no one from the public giving testimony, Chair Gilman closed the public hearing at 5:55 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

It was M/S/A by Cox and Melnick to adopt the consent agenda as presented.

- A. Minutes** – May 10, 2024, Planning Session; June 5, 2024, and June 19, 2024
- B. Payroll June:** \$3,398,804.75
- C. Accounts Payable June:** \$3,780,538.56
 - Warrants: \$3,766,838.79
 - ACH Payments: \$13,699.77

NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2024 Bicycle Community Challenge Update.** Duncan Green, BCC Specialist, provided the results of the 2024 Bicycle Community Challenge (BCC). Green noted this was the BCC's 37th consecutive year, encouraging community members to ride their bikes for public health and well-being.

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Green said it all begins with the Winter Bicycle Challenge which runs the entire month of February and brings out the hardiest and most enthusiastic riders in Thurston County. This year, 354 participants logged rides. Green said things get hopping when the sun comes out and we celebrate Earth Day with a ride to the Farmer's Market. Over 180 riders showed up this year, and Bergkamp was on hand to give a rousing welcome.

Green explained teams and individual participants log their bike rides throughout the month of May, and this year, 715 people logged rides in the BCC, covering over 74,000 miles and collectively riding a total of 6,829 days.

Bike To Work (or anywhere) Day is an early morning chance for riders to stop on their way and get treats and coffee and mingle with other people on bikes. There were six bike refresher stations, and over 300 people participated. The event is a continually evolving effort between state and local agencies to offer a fun lunchtime ride on Bike to Workday with snacks and prizes. With a brief hiatus during the pandemic, this ride has been going for nearly 20 years, and the BCC supports with communications and prize items. Everyone who logs at least one ride in May receives our coupons, and many participants receive prizes - anything from a small bike bell to an actual bike.

The BCC engages a large community of people, some of whom might not otherwise interact with Intercity Transit. This year, along with the over 700 riders, 26 people volunteered to help us put on our events, 40 sponsors offered coupons, prize items and event support, and 3 jurisdictions proclaimed May as their local Bike Month. The BCC collaborated with TRPC, multiple state agencies and the Walk N Roll program here at Intercity Transit, with mutual support and event planning, production and volunteers.

B. Vanpool Customer Incentive Policy VP-6501. Vanpool Manager, Lynne Cunningham, presented the Vanpool Customer Incentive Policy for adoption. Cunningham said traditionally, incentives have played an important role in attracting and retaining vanpool customers and the reasons for this include a very independent society; we love our cars; and it's a habit.

Cunningham said it can be a challenge to attract new customers by coaxing them out of their cars to try vanpooling. This is true now more than ever since commuting patterns changed during the pandemic. But once a person experiences the many benefits of vanpooling for themselves, they often decide to make vanpooling a healthy new habit.

With Intercity Transit's first month free incentive, we have attracted 220 new vanpool riders so far in 2024. Vanpool incentives also help to strengthen customer loyalty by reminding vanpoolers of why they vanpool. Our referral incentive awards vanpoolers who share the benefits of vanpooling with others and recruit them to join a vanpool. In 2024, 118 vanpoolers qualified for this incentive by referring others to use our service, and vanpool incentives increase our engagement with customers, enhancing their satisfaction thereby helping to retain them as customers.

Cunningham said knowing incentives play an important role in attracting and retaining customers, and in reviewing our incentives program, we saw the opportunity to create a framework for our incentives program and put a policy in place to govern these improvements. It is best practice to have a policy in place over these types of programs to

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ensure accurate tracking and that eligibility criteria are met so we have greater accountability over those incentives.

In January 2023, staff implemented process improvements that align with this policy. For example, our referral incentive now requires the following:

- Information is now entered in a cross-check process that requires validation by two staff members.
- In addition, we limited the referral incentives to three per year per participant.

Staff is now formalizing those improvements through a policy we will use when developing and conducting future incentives.

It was M/S/A by Sullivan and Mejia to authorize the General Manager to adopt Vanpool Customer Incentives Policy VP-6501.

- C. Property Acquisition of 210 Olympia Ave. NE.** Deputy Director of Procurement and Capital Development, Michael Maverick, requested authorization for the General Manager to execute closing documents on the noted property.

The property is a 7,200 SF parking lot at 210 Olympia Avenue NE, adjacent to the Olympia Transit Center (OTC) that recently became available. On February 21, 2024, the General Manager requested and received ITA approval to negotiate a sale for this property which will prove invaluable to Intercity Transit for use by our fixed-route relief vehicles (vans), supervisory and maintenance vehicles. Negotiations, property and environmental surveys were favorable and we're ready to complete the sale.

Besides serving as our primary passenger transfer station, the Olympia Transit Center (OTC) serves as a hub for both our vehicles and those of our partners, such as Greyhound, Flix, and neighboring public transit providers like Mason, Gray's Harbor, and Lewis County Transit. Additionally, the OTC serves as a primary relief point for our Operators. Consequently, the OTC needs to accommodate several relief vehicles daily to transport Operators to and from the Pattison Base. Currently, relief vehicles park streetside, which presents challenges due to congestion and limited curb space.

Following ITA approval, Intercity Transit hired the Department of Enterprise Services, Real Estate Services (DES-RES) to assist us with the potential purchase. DES-RES recommended and facilitated an appraisal, property survey to ensure clear title, and several environmental surveys and tests, all of which yielded favorable results. The final step is to execute the closing, which will transfer ownership to Intercity Transit.

It was M/S/A by Melnick and Cox to authorize the General Manager to execute closing documents regarding the property at 210 Olympia Avenue NE, in the amount of \$240,000, which will transfer ownership to Intercity Transit.

- D. Vanpool Vehicle Purchase.** Procurement and Project Management Coordinator, Noelle Gordon, presented the purchase of replacement vehicles for the Vanpool program.

Intercity Transit received a Public Transit Rideshare grant award from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to replace rideshare vehicles to support our

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Vanpool program which have reached their useful life. To utilize this award, Intercity Transit seeks to purchase a combination of Toyota Sienna hybrids and Camry hybrids from Toyota of Yakima under Washington State Department of Enterprise Services (DES) Contract 05916 to serve as replacement vehicles.

Over the last few years, ordering and production has been extremely limited for Intercity Transit's usual vanpool vehicle, the Toyota Sienna hybrid minivan. Therefore, staff have carefully reviewed the option to incorporate the hybrid Toyota Camry into the fleet. This will allow participants in smaller groups to use fuel efficient vehicles, reserving use of vans for groups of five (5) or more riders.

The total order value will not exceed the budgeted amount of \$923,498. Staff is working diligently to finalize order details and seize this ordering opportunity.

As a member of the Washington State Purchasing Cooperative, Intercity Transit is eligible to purchase from DES Contract 05916, which was competitively awarded to Toyota of Yakima for these vehicle classes. Staff concurs with DES's assessment regarding fair and reasonable pricing and Toyota of Yakima's ability to perform. Based on our past experience with Toyota of Yakima and Toyota vehicles, staff is confident these vehicles are mechanically sound and will serve our agency and vanpool program well.

It was M/S/A by Sullivan and Mejia to authorize the General Manager, pursuant to Washington State Contract 05916, to purchase replacement vehicles to support our Vanpool program from Toyota of Yakima in the amount not-to-exceed \$923,498.

- E. Janitorial Services and Supplies Contract.** Procurement and Project Management Coordinator, Noelle Gordon, presented a one-year contract for CW Janitorial Service for janitorial services and supplies at Intercity Transit facilities.

Intercity Transit's current Janitorial Services and Supplies contract is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2024. To ensure our facilities are consistently cleaned to Intercity Transit standards, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Janitorial Services and Supplies was advertised on May 09, 2024. The RFP specified required Janitorial Services and Supplies at the following Intercity Transit facilities: the Administration Operations (AdOps) Building, Maintenance Facility, Olympia Transit Center, Lacey Transit Center, Fuel Wash Facility, Walk-N-Roll Bike Shop, Amtrak Station and the new Martin Way Park and Ride facility.

A total of sixteen (16) proposals were received by the submittal deadline of May 31, 2024. Based on the RFP evaluation process, which consisted of review of non-cost proposal factors, cost proposal factors, and proposer interviews, Intercity Transit determined that CW Janitorial Service is the responsible proposer who best meets all RFP requirements and is the most advantageous to Intercity Transit in providing Janitorial Services and Supplies.

CW Janitorial Service has successfully maintained Intercity Transit facilities for the past five (5) years and have proven their experience and reputation of performance. Staff remain confident that the firm will continue to provide high quality services which enhance and maintain the cleanliness of our facilities and recommends that the contract award to CW Janitorial Services is approved.

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It was M/S/A by Cox and Melnick to authorize the General Manager to execute a one-year contract, with four one-year renewal options, with CW Janitorial Service to provide Janitorial Services and Supplies at Intercity Transit facilities in an amount not-to-exceed \$572,595, including sales tax on supplies

- F. CAC Recruitment Ad-hoc Committee Selection.** Chair Gilman presented the process and timeline for the fall recruitment for the selection of new members for the Community Advisory Committee. The CAC members serve three-year terms and may serve no more than two consecutive three-year terms. The exception is the youth position which is a one-year term.

The proposed timeframe for recruitment and the selection process is:

- Recruitment is scheduled for September 2, 2024, through October 2, 2024.
- The Authority selects those to be interviewed at the October 16, 2022, Board meeting.
- Interviews are proposed for Wednesday, November 6, 2024.
- Candidate selection is proposed for November 20, 2024, with December 4 as a back-up date. The new members would begin their term on January 1, 2024.

There is a six-member ad-hoc committee, consisting of three Authority members and three CAC members who interview and make recommendations to the full Authority for consideration. Staff requested the Authority identify three members and an alternate for the ad-hoc selection committee.

The Authority requested interviews be held on a different day other than that of an ITA meeting - perhaps a Friday would work with everyone's schedule. Sullivan, Mejia and Belk volunteered to participate on the ad-hoc interview panel, and Pierce will serve as an alternate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Thurston Regional Planning Council (July 12).** Sullivan said TRPC appointed members to a joint Thurston Regional Planning Council/Transportation Policy Board subcommittee, who will review draft priority issues for the 2025 State Legislative Session and represent the region's issues with legislators.

Staff presented the draft Comprehensive Plan Review and Certification Process. This process is required under RCW 47.80.023(3), which states that regional transportation planning organizations (RTPOs), including TRPC, are required to certify that transportation elements are consistent with the adopted regional transportation plan and the Growth Management Act. The draft guidance incorporates jurisdiction feedback, and uses criteria aligned with the Regional Transportation Plan. This process will come back to Council for action at the October meeting. The full presentation can be found here:

https://www.trpc.org/DocumentCenter/View/12749/A7_TRPC_Comprehensive-Plan-Review-Process_07122024.

Staff provided an overview of congestion problems and needs, highlighting safety and whether it should be removed as a focus area for the congestion management process. Councilmembers were generally in favor of safety continuing to be a primary focus area

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for the CMP. The full presentation can be found here:

https://www.trpc.org/DocumentCenter/View/12750/A8_Congestion-Management-Process.

Staff provided an overview of the Redistributed Funding Process. TRPC submitted to WSDOT a list of 8 projects requesting \$9.3 million in redistributed funding for local projects. While we won't know until the beginning of September the final list of projects receiving funding, as of July 11th, only two of the eight projects submitted (totaling \$5.7 million) are still on the state's list. The full presentation can be found here:

https://www.trpc.org/DocumentCenter/View/12748/A10_Redistributed-Projects.

The August meeting is canceled.

- B. Transportation Policy Board (July 10).** Belk said the TPB reviewed a proposed amendment to the Regional Transportation Improvement (RTIP). Thurston County requested an amendment to include the Thurston County - SR 507 and Vail Rd SE Roundabout just east of Yelm. It's a little outside IT's PTBA but it would be a good turn spot past Walmart. The Policy Board approved the amendment.

The Board appointed the TPB representation for the 2025 State Legislative Subcommittee that included our representative from Lacey, Olympia, Thurston County and one of the business reps are serving on that subcommittee.

TPB received an update from the Washington State Department of Transportation Olympic Region on the works going on for I-5 on either side of Nisqually from Mounts Road through Nisqually into Thurston County just wrapped up their Planning and Environmental Linkages study, which is a pre-stage early on planning stage that tease up what is considered in the NEPA process. They've moved on now and have kicked off the NEPA process for planning what I-5 looks like between Mounts Road and into Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater. They talked through some of their proposals and what they considered the alternatives were, but Belk thinks the two biggest high clip items that were big considerations is just working through the floodplain through the Nisqually Valley Delta area and considering all the environmental considerations there, and it's role as a transportation corridor and will get one HOV lane in each direction when that time comes.

TPB received an update on the ongoing construction project on the other side of Mounts Road into Pierce County and through the JBLM corridor. They're working from Mounts to Thorne right now, and that construction will be wrapped up in 2025, but it's essentially adding HOV lanes to that segment.

Staff provided an overview on the Congestion Management Process and the TPB opened a discussion on whether safety should be removed as a focus area for the congestion management process. The TPB took formal action to reject removing safety as a focus area for the Congestion Management Process.

The TPB had a robust discussion about what the primary goals and considerations should be for that congestion management process. The federally required process is meant to define congestion, study and measure it and come up with ways to address

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congestion and very traditional measures such as freight mobility and level of service, and congestion-oriented things will certainly be considered and are required. The question was whether or not safety would be a consideration in this specific study, and the tech had met prior to this, and agency staff determined that all of the local agencies have a lot of good things already, either completed safety studies or there's overarching plans to integrate everyone's safety studies. It's not as though we're not doing a lot in the name of traffic safety. They proposed dropping it from the congestion management process, but we received public comment and had some discussion as the Policy Board, and we made the recommendation that they actually do continue to include safety as a consideration. Maybe it's at a higher clip or a little different level of looking at it and some of the reasoning for that was mainly these are our most congested corridors, they are all busy roads and arterials where speeds are highest and speeds are related to higher risk for more serious collisions, especially when vulnerable users are involved. In the congestion management process, transit plays a role in how we manage congestion and how do people typically arrive to transit? They're on foot, on bike and have to walk at some point. Belk said TPB didn't want them to forget about those vulnerable users, even in the congestion management process. Belk made a follow up point that when incidents occur when collisions disrupt the system and there's detours that need to go in place that impacts everybody and only makes congestion worse. Those disruptions are commonly incidents that have some type of collision involved and we should be looking at that because it affects congestion in its own way. TPB hopes they continue to acknowledge and look at safety at some level in that plan.

- C. **Community Advisory Committee (July 15).** Ursula Euler said the CAC received the update from Duncan Green about the Bicycle Community Challenge. Vanpool Manager, Lynn Cunningham provided an update on the Vanpool Program. The CAC members really appreciated the information. Two consumer issues were discussed. The first was about downtown employees who would like to take the bus to work but they can't get back home due to their schedule. The second was a question about bus schedules being up to date at the bus stops. Dena Withrow who was filling in for Bergkamp reminded the CAC about Transit Appreciation Day and spoke about many of the transit awards that Intercity Transit received during the regional rodeo.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Peter Stackpole, sitting in for Emily Bergkamp, provided the GM Report.

Latest Call for Projects - Our Grants team, alongside subject matter experts, has been hard at work, submitting seven grant applications. Here's a quick rundown:

1. **Regional Mobility Grants:** We've applied for two Regional Mobility Grants through WSDOT Public Transportation Division, seeking \$17.1 million. These grants will support the operations and marketing of two new services, tentatively named Lacey Express and Corridor Express.
2. **USDOT Smart Grant:** We're requesting \$2 million in new funding. Partnering with the City of Lacey, this project aims to install smart sensors at selected intersections. These sensors will identify traffic conflicts and help manage signals around the Lacey Transit Center and SPSCC campus, improving transit reliability and performance. We'll also implement an integrated data management dashboard.

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TRPC's 2024 Call for Projects: If selected, these projects could secure \$3.9 million.

We're seeking funding for:

- Walk N Roll operations
- Electric Dial-A-Lift vehicles and charging equipment
- Smart Corridors Phase 4

3. **New Funding Opportunity:** Thanks to Kerri Wilson's collaboration with the Cascade Bicycle Club, we were awarded \$347,000. This funding will support a new staff member to expand the Earn-A-Bike program, encouraging more people to bike safely.

In summary, our team prepared seven projects, potentially securing \$23 million in grant funding.

South Sound Regional Rodeo Results - On June 30, we hosted the South Sound Regional Rodeo, and our team achieved outstanding results:

- **Body on Chassis (BOC) Division:**
 - 1st Place: Dan Savage - Congrats Dan!
- **Maintenance Competition:**
 - 1st Place: Richelle Loken, Sean Malay, and Jonathan Reynolds - Congrats team!
- **Pre-trip Inspection:**
 - 1st Place: Janet Depoe - Amazing job, especially for her first Rodeo!

Local Rodeo Winners:

- **40 Foot Coach Division:**
 - 1st Place: Clinton Jimenez
 - 2nd Place: Fred Sombrano
 - 3rd Place: Doug Turner
- **BOC Division:**
 - 1st Place: Dan Savage
 - 2nd Place: Rachael Allen
 - 3rd Place: Jeana Allen

Thank you to all Intercity Transit staff, Rodeo Committee members, competitors, judges, volunteers, and our Maintenance & Facilities Crew for their hard work in making this event a success.

Lastly, mark your calendars for Transit Appreciation Day on July 31. We'll be celebrating with a summer beach party theme at AdOps and OTC. Join us to appreciate all the good work transit does!

AUTHORITY ISSUES

Belk said it was good to see the Olympic Region WSDOT facility on the list from LaFontaine's presentation. Belk does ride the bus to that office and last week he did so a couple times and then hearing what Euler was recapping from the CAC meeting and about downtown Olympia workers not being able to make transit work for both parts of their commute. He experienced this firsthand - he went to work via transit and then attended an after-work function at the nearby pickleball place and ended up catching the last bus out of Hawks Prairie back to

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downtown Olympia. He didn't think much about what time at night it was and when he got to downtown it was looking empty around the transit center and he asked if there were any more 40 somethings heading to the West side and was told no, that this is the last bus rolling in, so Belk figured it out from there. It wasn't even 11 o'clock yet, and downtown Olympia was full of people working and eating so he can imagine if your job is downtown Olympia, and your shift is any amount of time into the night you don't have a bus ride home. This is the comments we've been hearing from the community, and he encourages further discussion about extending service hours.

Sullivan said Tumwater received the grant for the first solar parking station and this is the first one in the state. It's going to be in Pioneer Park. This allows the ability to have vehicle charging stations in areas where there may not be the infrastructure.

Sullivan said the Capital / Trospen roundabout project is having a ribbon cutting next Wednesday which completes a long, complicated process and construction project. On Israel Road, they're still working on sidewalks and hoping to have that work complete before school begins.

Mejia reminded everyone it is construction time for all jurisdictions so plan accordingly and ride the bus as much as possible. There is construction going on everywhere and that's a great example of tax dollars at work, as we're approving all the road conditions across the county and all the different jurisdictions.

Melnick said since his wife has been ill, he's spent a lot of time trying to find a parking spot at the hospital and he was thinking about vanpools. Is there a way IT could go to Providence St. Pete's and see if they have any interest in subsidizing vanpools? He said parking is hard to find after 9 a.m. and requires a great deal of walking to the building. He said it might be worthwhile for staff to approach this as a benefit.

Lynn Cunningham, Vanpool Manager, responded that her staff has been doing outreach to the hospital. She's working with their employee transportation coordinator as recently as last week. Kyle McPherson, one of IT's senior vanpool coordinators, has been speaking with them about trying to get employee vanpools started and subsidizing vanpool. One of the issues is hospital staff works a lot of overtime, and Cunningham hopes to get nursing staff vanpools going - they do their three twelves, but they work so much overtime and it's a challenge.

Cox said Lacey received a report on their July 3rd fireworks extravaganza. The official count was at 23,000 in attendance. She said it couldn't have been done without the support of Intercity Transit. It's always been a challenge getting the public in and out from that event.

Cox said the Lacey City Council proclaimed Astro the Courthouse Service Dog for his outstanding service, dedication, and commitment to the public. Astro has touched thousands of lives and made a difference in our community. They thanked Astro and wished him a happy retirement. Astro has helped over 3,000 kids who come into the criminal justice system who go through traumatizing interviews with prosecutors, social workers, and the like.

Chair Gilman noted the next meeting of the Authority is Wednesday, August 7, 2024, so there is an extra week in between meetings.

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GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

The Clerk of the Board announced there was a remote caller wishing to give public comment. Michael Gray joined the meeting remotely and provided public comment on the following:

- He's in support of extending the One route further to the East.
- He supports the roundabout project on Martin Way/Meridian. Previously, he lived on Yelm Highway when they were in the midst of the widening project and putting in all those roundabouts, and he remembers being uncertain about the roundabouts but afterwards, his ability to get out of those neighborhoods was much improved. He thinks the concerned neighbors of the Martin Way project might benefit from seeing other places where roundabouts have gone in, or they might see their way if the roundabout goes through.
- He would like Intercity Transit to improve how projects and plans are displayed on our website. He pointed out the following issues: Broken links on the web site to resources for the Transit Development Plan (TDP); The TDP projects didn't contain summaries, and he couldn't find much in what was being proposed (besides the roundabout). He feels this is an area the marketing team could improve/assist with.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Authority, Chair Gilman adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

INTERCITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Clark Gilman

Clark Gilman, Chair

ATTEST

Patricia Messmer

**Pat Messmer
Clerk to the Authority**

Date Approved: August 21, 2024

Prepared by Pat Messmer, Clerk of the Board/Executive Assistant, Intercity Transit.