

INTERCITY TRANSIT  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
AGENDA

March 17, 2025 – Olympia Transit Center  
5:30 PM

Join on your computer: [Click here to join the meeting](#). The meeting ID: 211 318 368 200  
Passcode: m5MK3hy9 or call in (audio only) +1 929-229-5501, 358342910# United States,  
New York City Phone Conference ID: 358 342 910#

CALL TO ORDER

- |       |  |         |
|-------|--|---------|
| I.    | APPROVE AGENDA   | 1 min.  |
| II.   | INTRODUCTIONS  | 1 min.  |
|       | A. Intercity Transit Authority Representative ( <i>Sue Pierce</i> )                    |         |
| III.  | MEETING ATTENDANCE   | 3 min.  |
|       | A. March 19, 2025, ITA Meeting – ( <i>JoAnn Scott</i> )                                |         |
|       | B. April 2, 2025, ITA Meeting – ( <i>Margaret Janis</i> )                              |         |
|       | C. April 16, 2025, ITA Meeting – ( <i>Michael Gray</i> )                               |         |
| IV.   | APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 24, 2025.   | 1 min.  |
|       | <i>*Note, January Minutes were corrected to include Suzanne Simons as a new member</i> |         |
| V.    | NEW BUSINESS   |         |
|       | A. Network Restructure Timeline Update ( <i>Rob LaFontaine</i> )                       | 20 min. |
|       | B. Collaborating with Other Transits Subcommittee ( <i>Amanda Collins</i> )            | 15 min. |
| VI.   | CONSUMER ISSUES – All  | 15 min. |
| VII.  | REPORTS  | 10 min. |
|       | A. March 5, 2025, ITA Report ( <i>Harrison Ashby</i> )                                 |         |
|       | B. General Manager’s Report ( <i>Emily Bergkamp</i> )                                  |         |
| VIII. | NEXT MEETING – April 21, 2025.   | 1 min.  |
| IX.   | ADJOURNMENT  | 1 min.  |

**Attendance Report Attached.**

*Intercity Transit assures nondiscrimination in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information, see our [Non-Discrimination Policy](#).*

*Committee materials are available at <https://www.intercitytransit.com/agency/community-advisory-committee>. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for meetings should call us at (360) 786-8585 three days prior to the meeting. For TDD users, please use the state’s toll-free relay service, 711 and ask the operator to dial (360) 786-8585.*

*Please consider using an alternate mode to attend this meeting: bike, walk, bus, carpool, or vanpool. For assistance, contact Customer Service 360-786-1881.*

**Minutes**  
**INTERCITY TRANSIT**  
**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**February 24, 2025 - Hybrid Meeting**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Weber called the hybrid February 24, 2025, meeting of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Members Present:** Brandon Mixon, Clair Bourgeois, Dara Dotson, Doug Riddels, Hallie Sutter, Harrison Ashby, JoAnn Scott, JP Fox- Seidel, Julian Preston, Margret Janis, Michael Gray, Rachel Weber, Rachel Wilson, Shawn Sandquist, Suzanne Simons, and Ty Flint.

**Absent:** David Payton, Eliane Wilson, Garrett Fuelling, and ITA representative and ATU President Mark Neuville.

**Staff Present:** Amanda Collins, Daniel Van Horn, Emily Bergkamp, Nicole Jones, and Rob LaFontaine.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**M/S/A by RACHEL WILSON and CLAIR BOURGEOIS**

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Wilson introduced Authority member, Mark Neuville, as the ITA representative attending the meeting, but Neuville was not in attendance.

**MEETING ATTENDANCE**

- A. March 5, 2025, ITA Meeting - Harrison Ashby**
- B. March 19, 2024, ITA Meeting - Ty Flint**
- C. April 2, 2024, ITA Meeting - Margaret Janis**

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES**

**M/S/A by JOHN PAUL FOX-SEIDEL and SHAWN SANDQUIST**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. September 2025 Network Restructure Follow Up-** *(Rob LaFontaine)*

Rob LaFontaine outlined the proposed redesign of Intercity Transit's fixed route system, scheduled for implementation in September 2025. The redesign aims to enhance efficiency, improve connectivity, and provide a more robust public transportation system in response to community feedback and evolving transit needs.

Between 2016 and 2018, Intercity Transit conducted extensive outreach called "Intercity Transit Road Trip." The results showed strong public support for more frequent and widespread transit service. In November 2018, Proposition 1 was approved, enabling an increase in local sales tax to fund transit system improvements. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 significantly disrupted transit operations, resulting in decreased service levels. Over the past few years, staffing levels have been restored, allowing for the planned redesign to proceed.

LaFontaine clarified key components of the redesign and route modifications. The proposed timeline includes community engagement during public meetings with City Councils, School Boards, and Community Stakeholders in winter and through spring 2025. Staff will present the major service change summary and equity analysis to the Authority Board for review and approval in April 2025. Then, enhancements of signage and bus stop upgrades, driver training and operational adjustments, and launch of a public education campaign including travel training and community outreach in September 2025.

CAC members had the opportunity to ask questions and voice concerns.

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### **Q&A on Route and Service Changes**

- Will buses operate earlier or later on College Street?
    - The general service span (6 AM - 10/11 PM) will remain the same, but some routes (e.g., 64 and 16) will have extended evening service starting in May.
  - Will Amtrak be served by two bus routes as it is now?
    - No, there will be only one route serving Amtrak, but it will run every 30 minutes and extend later into the evening.
  - Will there still be a bus route from Yelm to Olympia?
    - The Yelm route will now terminate at the Lacey Transit Center instead of Olympia. From there, passengers will transfer to frequent service along the main corridor.
  - Won't this change make travel longer for Yelm riders who need to get to Olympia?
    - Possibly. However, the Lacey Transit Center will have more frequent connections, reducing overall travel delay
- 

### **Q&A on Safety and Accessibility**

- Riders are worried about safety when making transfers outside of transit centers. Will this be addressed?
    - Nearly every route will still terminate at a transit center, allowing passengers to choose a safer transfer location if needed.
  - Will there be more covered bus stops?
    - While not every stop can have a shelter, new stops are being designed with shelter-ready concrete pads. However, shelters can attract vandalism and loitering, so placement will be strategic.
- 

### **Q&A on Infrastructure and Transit Planning**

- Is Lacey working on more crosswalks, like Olympia?
    - Yes, crosswalk planning is part of a joint project with the Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC), focusing on the Martin Way corridor.
  - Why are some bus stop shelters facing away from the road?
    - Placement depends on the available space and safety concerns. Facing away helps prevent passengers from being too close to the road or getting splashed by passing vehicles.
  - Will transit-friendly infrastructure improvements be made, like protected left turns?
    - While improvements like priority left turns could help, they depend on city infrastructure and traffic regulations, not just transit decisions.
- 

### **Q&A on Public Engagement and Implementation**

- When will the public engagement schedule be available?
  - The outreach schedule is being finalized. The official website will soon provide details.
- When will open houses for public feedback be held?
  - After the Intercity Transit Authority Board approves the plan in April.
- Will the Citizens Advisory Committee get access to the public education plan?
  - Yes, once it's finalized, it will be shared with the committee.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **B. Agenda Collaboration–** *(Emily Bergkamp)*

Emily Bergkamp led the CAC in a discussion of various topics to be covered throughout the year during meetings. CAC members were encouraged to provide input on other topics of interest.

Suggestions included:

- **Transit Advocacy (Rachel Wilson)**
  - Bergkamp suggested we schedule an update from Intercity Transit's federal and state advocates. She explained that current issues include uncertainty around changes at the federal level and state budget shortfalls impacting our grant funding, which comprises about 30% of our revenues. The public transit industry may need to decide how to prioritize overall funding state-wide.
- **Advisory Committee Collaboration with other Transits (Clair Bourgeois)**
  - Bergkamp suggested Amanda Collins bring this up with the WSTA Clerk's Committee to gauge interest.
  - CAC members noted that Intercity Transit is located as a bridge between rural and urbanized systems.
  - Collins suggested setting up a subcommittee to continue the conversation about a regional or invitational meeting.
- **Examples of Micro-Transit (Clair Bourgeois)**
  - Bergkamp explained that Intercity Transit is not ready to share specific micro transit plan but can talk about the industry concept and examples. She shared that Yelm could be a future area to test micro transit.
- **Labor Relations and Union Contract for ATU (Margaret Janis)**
  - Bergkamp shared that Intercity Transit work with two labor unions, IAM and ATU. She plans to provide a contract update in her General Manager's report.
  - Suzanne Simons suggested including Union Representatives in a future presentation.
- **Infrastructure Planning and Capital Projects (Michael Gray)**
  - Bergkamp stated that Development Director Peter Stackpole would be a good fit to present on this topic.
- **Events and Outreach (Hallie Sutter)**
  - Bergkamp thanked Sutter for this suggestion and explained that marketing staff gear up for community events over the summer months. Volunteer opportunities will be available to table at festivals, serve food for employee appreciation events, and ride the bus in parades.

## CONSUMER ISSUES

*Julian Preston* recounted an accident involving the Route 68 bus, where another vehicle collided with it near the roundabout by Carpenter. Everyone on the bus was safe, but he was unsure about the condition of those in the other vehicle. Preston recalls having to fill out a report and thinks the incident happened around September.

*Emily Bergkamp* acknowledges that they don't always receive updates about those involved in accidents, though in some cases, they do

*Brandon Mixon* shared a positive experience assisting a first-time bus rider in early February. Mixon shared that a bus driver also helped the new rider find their way at the transit center. He expressed appreciation for Intercity Transit staff, particularly those at Olympia Transit Center, for being attentive and assisting new riders, contributing to a positive transit experience.

*Ty Flint* highlighted that a bus driver on their last run back to Olympia Transit Center noticed a dog on board after letting a passenger off. When asked, a rider mentioned the dog had been on the bus for a while but wasn't theirs. The driver returned to Pattison and informed a supervisor, then took the dog home just for the night since they already had a pet. By the next morning, the supervisor had located the dog's owners, and the driver personally returned the dog to them – going above and beyond their duties to ensure the pet was safely reunited with its family.

*Suzanne Simons* shared appreciation for the vanpool service from Olympia to Grays Harbor College, mentioning a positive conversation with a regular vanpool user who praised the service. Simons also noted varying driver quality recently, which was surprising given her past positive experiences. She shared an instance a driver's fast driving style felt more suited to an empty car, while another driver delayed lowering the bus for accessibility, almost causing a trip. Additionally, she raised concerns about a flyer on Route 62A/B that stated, "Everyone's going digital," regarding online bus schedules. She felt this wording was inaccurate and potentially offensive, as not everyone is comfortable with or has access to digital resources.

*Bergkamp* acknowledged the feedback, clarifying that printed schedules are still available, and that riders can request them online for mail delivery or pick them up at customer service. She will pass the flyer feedback to the marketing team.

*Shawn Sandquist* reported an incident on Bus 430, Route 62B outbound at 1:31 PM on February 4th at the Pattison stop, where a driver failed to notice a passenger trying to board at the back door. The driver closed the door in the person's face and began driving away, only stopping after the passenger pounded on the door. Upon boarding, the passenger was lectured by the driver, even though the situation could have been avoided if the driver had been more attentive. Sandquist emphasized the need for drivers to pay attention to both front and back doors, especially since the backdoor loading policy – meant for efficiency in the zero-fare system – sometimes results in passengers being overlooked.

*Bergkamp* acknowledged the concern and agreed that while drivers are trained to be cautious, situations like this should be addressed. They noted that drivers must balance staying on schedule with ensuring passenger safety. A follow-up on the incident was encouraged, and the transit team reaffirmed their commitment to passenger safety and improving driver awareness.

*Margaret Janis* responded that most of the time drivers are very careful.

*Dara Dotson* commented on two experiences – Dotson appreciated when a bus driver on Route 64 waited for two passengers running to catch the bus. She also shared a frustrating experience while trying to transfer from Route 66 to Route 64 at Lacey Transit, Dotson had trouble communicating with the driver, who didn't seem to understand her need to make a connection.

*Rachel Wilson* expressed appreciation for the positive and inspiring slogans displayed on the buses, especially messages like "Dream Big." Wilson even took a picture of one because it stood out to her.

*Julian Preston* asked about the signboards; how they get updated and the color options.

*Bergkamp* shared that the signboards are updated wirelessly, and each LED is controllable with newer signboards having red, blue, green, amber, and white options. The front signs only are multicolored, the side signs are amber.

*JP Fox-Seidel* shared that he saw a bus with a new security barrier that looked sleek.

*Clair Bourgeois* commented that audio alerts on the bus did not mention transfers of The One and only mention transfers of other routes.

*Bergkamp* thanked all members for sharing.

## REPORTS

- **February 5, 2025, ITA Report** – Shawn Sandquist attended the meeting and provided an update to the committee:

The meeting welcomed a new IT board member, Olympia Council Member Robert Vanderpool. After staff introductions and agenda approval, public comments ran over, featuring various topics.

In new business, Rob LaFontaine discussed the September 25th service change and equity analysis, setting a public hearing for March 19th at 5:30 PM. The board also bid farewell to Council Member Clark Gilman, recognizing his nine years of service.

For elections and assignments:

- Carolyn Cox was elected ITA Chair.

- Sue Pierce was elected ITA Vice Chair.
- Robert Vanderpool was assigned to the Regional Planning Council, with Kelly Von Holtz as alternate.
- Justin Belk was assigned as Transportation Policy Board Rep, with Commissioner Carolina Mejia as alternate.
- Pension 401K Community Rep Sue Pierce.

The General Manager's report covered several items, including:

- South Sound Rodeo, hosted by Intercity Transit on July 12-13.
- The federal funding freeze, which was reversed.
- Updates from 22nd Legislative District Rep. Beth Doglio on transit projects.

The meeting also covered an update from Justin Belk on the ITA Transportation Policy Board and announced the APTA Legislative Conference (May 18-20, 2025, in Washington, DC).

- **February 19, 2025, ITA Report** – Hallie Sutter attended the meeting and provided an update to the committee:
  - BRT Light Planning: Presentation on the first phase, with final implementation set for March 2026.
  - Digital E-Paper Signs: Contract awarded for real-time bus arrival signs at Olympia Transit Center.
  - Committee Reports: Discussed the Road User Charge System vs. Gas Tax and an equity update on improving inclusive language.
  - Land Use Meeting: Scheduled for the next day in Olympia to discuss "Missing Middle" housing in the Triangle area near the mall.
  - Board Member Orientation
  - Collaboration with the Nisqually Tribal Council.
  - New Operator Class: Beginning next month.
- **General Manager's Report** – Bergkamp provided the General Manager's report including:

#### **Orientation for New Board Member**

Staff spent the better part of last Monday with Wendy Goodwin, Intercity Transit's newest board member. She received an agency overview with various directors and senior staff, followed by a working lunch with Vice Chair Sue Pierce. All were happy to welcome her! Another orientation is scheduled for board members Robert Vanderpool and Kelly Von Holtz on March 10.

#### **Nisqually Indian Tribe**

Last week Project Coordinator, Thera Black, Marketing, Communications and



Outreach Officer, Nick Demerice, and Bergkamp had the opportunity to visit the Nisqually Tribal Council. Staff hadn't met with the leaders of this sovereign Tribal Nation since fall 2023, and it was wonderful to renew the connection. Staff provided a general agency update and information about the upcoming bus system redesign scheduled for September. Bergkamp and staff look forward to having consistent government to government exchanges at least twice per year to sustain the connection and ensure we are collaborating with the Tribe about the transportation needs of their members and ways to enhance their already robust tribal transportation system. Bergkamp honors and acknowledges that all Intercity Transit facilities and service areas are on land that is the ancestral home of the Nisqually Indian Tribe and other Sovereign Tribal Nations. Intercity Transit is deeply appreciative of the historical stewardship of these lands by the Tribes since time immemorial and are honored by opportunities to consult with them. The Nisqually Tribal Council is doing amazing things for their membership and the broader community, that we all benefit from. Having support from the Nisqually Indian Tribe, also known as People of the River, People of the Grass, is invaluable.

### **Visits with State Legislators**

Intercity Transit state advocates David Foster and Joanna Grist recently facilitated meetings with 2nd Legislative District Representatives Matthew Marshall and Andrew Barkis. Bergkamp and staff gave a general agency update and discussed Intercity Transit's projects prioritized by WSDOT for funding consideration in the 2025-2027 biennium including:

- Battery Electric Coach Replacement Project
- Corridor Express Introducing New Limited-Stop Service from West Olympia to East Lacey
- Lacey Express Introducing I-5 Service from Lacey Transit Center to Sounder Station via Hawks Prairie and JBLM,
- Crosby Loop at SPSCC Improvements

Staff also discussed possible funding of Intercity Transit's new route 14, which is taking the place of previous DASH service, by serving the Capitol Campus region and downtown Olympia with service to the Farmer's Market. Intercity Transit is respectfully requesting 50% of estimated operating costs over the coming biennium (\$1,225,000).

### **March 17 Operator Class 25-01**

Intercity Transit made 32 contingent job offers to candidates for the March 17 Operator Class 25-01 and we are excited to welcome them to our team!

### **National Transit Employee Appreciation Day**

March 18 is National Transit Employee Appreciation Day, when we honor our essential workers and transit heroes – Operators, Operations Supervisors, Facilities and Maintenance staff. Executive and Marketing staff are partnering to ensure these frontline folks are publicly honored for the work they do on this very special day. Board and CAC members will have opportunities to share their gratitude – keep an eye on your emails for message from Pat Messmer on how to participate.

### **Federal Changes**

Since January 20, President Trump has issued almost 100 Executive Orders, Memoranda, and Proclamations to carry out his Administration's policy goals and agenda. Many of these directives, together with U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) actions, directly impact the public transportation industry. These Executive Orders and other directives pause some transportation funding; terminate diversity, equity, and inclusion programs; impose new tariffs; and establish priorities for competitive DOT grants.

Development Director Peter Stackpole and Grants Program Manager Jessica Gould have been tracking possible impacts of these Executive Orders on Intercity Transit. They have been hearing we need to be prepared for Federal funding communication and coordination delays due to lack of staffing, a hiring freeze, probationary employees being let go, Return to Work impacts and Office of Personnel Management Resignation Buyouts for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) staff. We also received an email from Susan Fletcher, Region 10 Administrator with FTA confirming they were affected by the termination of probationary employees last Friday. They anticipate additional staff reductions relatively soon. At this time, they are still working on determining critical workflow within FTA organization and will communicate changes to that workflow once known.

APTA has added functionality to their website that is essentially an Executive and Regulatory Actions Tracker and is hosting a webinar tomorrow on this topic. The webinar will provide an overview of these Executive Orders and Actions and discuss the impacts of Executive actions on public transportation agencies, funding, current projects, and more. Several staff are tuning in and will keep the Board and CAC apprised of any impacts specific to Intercity Transit.

### **ATU Negotiations**

Over the past few weeks, Intercity Transit and the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 1765 contract negotiation teams have met on two occasions making substantial progress, with another negotiation session scheduled for February 25. As you know, ATU is the union that negotiates on behalf of our Coach Operators, Customer Service Representatives, and Dial-A-Lift Dispatch Specialists. Since contract negotiations began in November, the sentiments that my Operator

coworkers have shared during public comment like not always being able to make ends meet, maintaining a work-life balance, and the challenging responsibilities they manage during their workday have also been voiced during open negotiation sessions between Intercity Transit and ATU. Open negotiations allow observers outside the negotiation teams to attend bargaining sessions, which has been a new experience for all of us. Union contract negotiations in general resemble a back-and-forth dialogue, with one team initially proposing solutions to issues, after which the other team does the same.

This process continues with the goal of co-creating a contract that ideally meets the interests of both parties. For example, wage proposals that take into consideration the impact of inflation on employees' lives while balancing Intercity Transit's responsibility of being able to financially provide public transportation to our community now and in the future, with a now uncertain Federal and State funding landscape, accounting for about 30% of our revenue. The Intercity Transit negotiating team is doing their best to propose meaningful solutions to address ATU members' concerns. Plus, this process is an immense amount of work for both teams with discussions that are deeply personal. Trusting in the process of negotiations is essential to their successful outcomes and Bergkamp thanks these teams for their continued work towards this shared goal.

**NEXT MEETING: April 21, 2025, at the Olympia Transit Center**

**- ADJOURNMENT at 7:36 pm.**

Prepared by Amanda Collins

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**INTERCITY TRANSIT  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
AGENDA ITEM NO. 5-A  
MEETING DATE: March 17, 2025**

**FOR:** Community Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Rob LaFontaine, Planning Deputy Director

**SUBJECT:** Network Restructure Timeline Update

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- 1) **The Issue:** Provide the CAC with an updated timeline for implementing the Network Restructure.
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- 2) **Recommended Action:** Information and discussion.
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- 3) **Policy Analysis:** As a means to improve outreach, transparency, and public involvement, staff continue to update the CAC on upcoming service changes.
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- 4) **Background:** The Authority Board took action to cancel the March 19, 2025, public hearing for the September 2025 Change Summary and Draft Equity Analysis. Canceling the public hearing provides more time for design, testing, and stakeholder engagement.
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- 5) **Alternatives:** N/A.
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- 6) **Budget Notes:** Potential impacts to funding are anticipated, pending a resolution for the State's 2025-2027 Budget. Intercity Transit has multiple projects that are affected by the State Budget, including grants for "Lacey Express", "Corridor Express", and a partnership project with SPSCC to improve the Crosby Loop.
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- 7) **Goal Reference:** **Goal #1:** *"Assess the transportation needs of our community throughout the Public Transportation Benefit Area."* **Goal #4:** *"Provide responsive transportation options within financial and staffing limitations."* **Goal #6:** *"Encourage use of our services, reduce barriers to access and increase ridership."*
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- 8) **References:** N/A

**INTERCITY TRANSIT  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
AGENDA ITEM NO. 5-B  
MEETING DATE: March 17, 2025**

**FOR:** Community Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Amanda Collins, Executive Assistant, 360-357-1532

**SUBJECT:** Advisory Committee Collaboration Subcommittee

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- 1) **The Issue:** Discuss whether to create a subcommittee to explore ideas for collaboration with other transit agencies.
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- 2) **Recommended Action:** Select three members to participate in an ad-hoc committee to discuss opportunities to collaborate with advisory volunteers from other transit agencies.
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- 3) **Policy:** Intercity Transit’s Community Advisory Committee Bylaws state the Purpose and Authority of the CAC includes: “To advise the Intercity Transit Authority concerning transportation issues, to advocate for transportation choices and to represent the public in accomplishing Intercity Transit’s mission and goals. (Amended 07/16/01; 03/05/08).”
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- 4) **Background:** During a discussion on topics of interest to the CAC, Clair Bourgeois brought up the idea of meeting jointly with other transit agency advisory committees for the purpose of collaboration.

In the early 2000’s, transit agencies hosted an Annual Statewide Joint Advisory Committee Meeting. In 2004 and 2008, Intercity Transit hosted the meeting. This involved participation from local state representatives, transit agency staff, advisory volunteers, and board members. Discussion topics included: panel discussion on the future of transportation in Washington State, how to advocate for Public Transportation, Agency Reports, and GPS/Radio/Camera demonstrations.

The goals and objectives of the 2008 conference were:

- a) To increase awareness of public transportation and the needs to continue to provide transportation throughout the state and assist to help make connections from county to county,

- b) To address funding concerns statewide, as needs for transportation and the funding for it are increasing and funding is diminishing. This has tremendously increased with the increase in fuel.
- c) To discuss the future of public transportation in Washington State and how to advocate for public transportation. To include a panel discussion from local state senators and representations as well as representatives from WSDOT and Congressman Baird's office.
- d) To share information on what Intercity Transit has achieved over the past year and learn from others on what they are doing to achieve their goals of increasing ridership while working towards a green environment.

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5) **Alternatives:** N/A.

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6) **Budget Notes:** No events were included in Intercity Transit's 2025 Operating Budget, although there is an allocation for CAC/Authority Support.

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7) **Goal References:** An engaged Community Advisory Committee supports all agency goals.

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8) **References:** N/A.

**Intercity Transit Authority Meeting Highlights/Summary**  
***A brief recap of March 5, 2025, Intercity Transit Authority Meeting***

**Wednesday night, the ITA:**

- Declared Vanpool Vehicle 2205 as surplus. *(Noelle Gordon)*
- Canceled the public hearing scheduled for 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 19, 2025, on the September 2025 Major Service Change Summary and Draft Equity Analysis. *(Emily Bergkamp)*

**Other Items of Interest:**

- Jonathon Yee introduced Jason F. Aguero, Maintenance Administrative Assistant.
- Legal Counsel from Summit Law, John Lee and CFO Jana Brown provided an update on labor negotiations as well as the economic impact of the agency's and ATU's most recent proposal.
- Justin Leighton, Executive Director of the Washington State Transit Association provided a review of the 2025-2027 biennium legislative session and the possible impacts of projected budget shortfalls to transit funding.
- Members of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1765 and the general public gave public comments regarding wages and benefits being considered in Intercity Transit's current contract negotiations with ATU Local 1765. ATU is the labor union representing Operators, Customer Service Representatives and Dial-A-Lift Dispatch Specialists.

**General Manager's Report:**

On Monday, March 10, 2025, new ITA members Robert Vanderpool and Kelly Von Holtz will be onsite to receive an agency overview about Intercity Transit from the various Directors and senior staff.

State advocates David Foster and Joanna Grist recently facilitated meetings with 22<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District Representative Lisa Parshley. They provided a general agency update and discussed Intercity Transit's projects prioritized by WSDOT for funding consideration in the 2025-2027 biennium including:

- Battery Electric Coach Replacement Project
- Corridor Express Introducing New Limited-Stop Service from West Olympia to East Lacey
- Lacey Express Introducing I-5 Service from Lacey Transit Center to Sounder Station via Hawks Prairie and JBLM,
- Crosby Loop at SPSCC Improvements

Also discussed was possible funding of Intercity Transit's new route 14, which is taking the place of previous DASH service, by serving the Capitol Campus region and downtown Olympia with service to the Farmer's Market. IT is requesting 50% of estimated operating costs over the coming biennium (\$1,225,000).

We are on track and excited to welcome the Operator Class 25-01 on March 17.

March 18 is National Transit Employee Appreciation Day, when we honor our essential workers and transit heroes – Operators, Operations Supervisors, Facilities and Maintenance staff. Executive and Marketing staff are partnering to ensure these frontline folks are publicly honored on this very special day for the work they do. The Board and CAC members will have an opportunity to share their gratitude, so keep an eye out for an email message from Clerk of the Board, Pat Messmer on how to participate.

Newly appointed ITA Board member, Wendy Goodwin, received the Distinguished Public Service Award from the City of Lacey for her time as a Commissioner on the Parks, Cultural, and Recreation Board. Wendy accomplished a lot during her brief time as the Chair of the Commission - a leadership role she held for two years. She advocated for a bus stop improvement at the RAC in Lacey which Intercity Transit agreed to provide. She worked in collaboration with the Commission on Equity to update vendor applications which communicated the City of Lacey's stance as a compassionate and equitable community and vendors are expected to respect that at community events. She worked with our federal partners on new ways of educating park visitors in Lacey. She was working with an advisory group, outside of the Commission, which explored new ways to fund our parks and brought their conclusions to the Lacey City Council. In her last acting role as Chair, Wendy was in front of Council endorsing that group's plan. Congrats Wendy!

Owing to the uncertainty in State and Federal funding, the Planning staff is re-evaluating the timeline for the bus system redesign, which is why the public hearing scheduled for March 19 was cancelled. Once we have a better idea of possible changes, Planning staff will return and give an update to the Board.

*Prepared March 6, 2025*

*Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board*



## COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE RECORD

| CAC Members     |            | 1      | 2      | 3      | 4      | 5      | 6      | 7      | 8      | 9      | 10     | 11     | 12     |
|-----------------|------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                 |            | Jan-25 | Feb-25 | Mar-25 | Apr-25 | May-25 | Jun-25 | Jul-25 | Aug-25 | Sep-25 | Oct-25 | Nov-25 | Dec-25 |
| Brandon         | Mixon      | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Clair           | Bourgeois  | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| David           | Payton     | absent | absent |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Doug            | Riddels    | absent | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Eliane          | Wilson     | absent | absent |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Garrett         | Fuelling   | x      | absent |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Harrison        | Ashby      | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| JoAnn           | Scott      | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Hallie          | Sutter     | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Margret         | Janis      | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Michael         | Gray       | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Shawn           | Sandquist  | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Suzanne         | Simons     | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Ty              | Flint      | absent | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Rachel          | Weber      | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Rachel          | Wilson     | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Dara            | Dotson     | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| YOUTH John-Paul | Fox Seidel | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| YOUTH Julian    | Preston    | x      | x      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|                 |            |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |

**=** Joint meeting does not count against required meeting attendance