

**INTERCITY TRANSIT
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA
April 21, 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>Kelly Von Holtz</i>) | |
| III. | MEETING ATTENDANCE | 3 min. |
| | A. May 7, 2025, ITA Meeting – (<i>Rachel Weber</i>) | |
| | B. May 21, 2025, ITA Meeting – (<i>Rachel Wilson</i>) | |
| | C. June 4, 2025, ITA Meeting – (<i>Garrett Fuelling</i>) | |
| IV. | APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 17, 2025. | 1 min. |
| V. | NEW BUSINESS | |
| | A. State Legislative Update (<i>Joanna Grist and David Foster</i>) | 30 min. |
| | B. Winter Bicycle Community Challenge & May Ride (<i>Duncan Green</i>) | 15 min. |
| | C. Capital Improvement Plan Draft Review (<i>Jana Brown</i>) | 20 min. |
| VI. | CONSUMER ISSUES – All | 15 min. |
| VII. | REPORTS | 20 min. |
| | A. March 19, 2025, ITA Report (<i>Harrison Ashby</i>) | |
| | B. April 2, 2025, ITA Report (<i>JoAnn Scott</i>) | |
| | C. April 16, 2025, ITA Report (<i>Margaret Janis</i>) | |
| | D. Collaboration Sub-Committee Report (<i>Shawn Sandquist</i>) | |
| | E. General Manager’s Report (<i>Emily Bergkamp</i>) | |
| VIII. | NEXT MEETING – May 19, 2025. | 1 min. |
| IX. | ADJOURNMENT | 1 min. |

Attendance Report Attached.

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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
March 17, 2025 – Hybrid Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Weber called the hybrid March 17, 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, and Garrett Fuelling.

Staff and Guests Present: Amanda Collins, Daniel Van Horn, Emily Bergkamp, Nicole Jones, Rob LaFontaine, and Sue Pierce-ITA.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/S/A by JOANN SCOTT and SHAWN SANDQUIST

INTRODUCTIONS

Wilson introduced Authority member, Sue Pierce, as the ITA representative attending the meeting.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

- A. March 19, 2025, ITA Meeting – Ty Flint**
- B. April 2, 2025, ITA Meeting – Margaret Janis**
- C. April 16, 2025, ITA Meeting – Michael Gray**

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY AND CORRECTION OF JANUARY MINUTES

Wilson stated that the January minutes were corrected to include the introduction of CAC member **SUZANNE SIMONS**. No further discussion.

Michael Gray asked about the accuracy of the Network Restructure timeline in the minutes due to recent changes. Amanda Collins responded that the minutes reflect what was discussed during the meeting. Margaret Janis motioned to approve of the minutes as written.

M/S/A by JANIS and BOURGEOIS

OLD BUSINESS

A. Network Restructure Timeline Update– *(Rob LaFontaine)*

Rob LaFontaine, Planning Deputy Director at Intercity Transit, explained the reasons behind the decision to adjust the timeline for its network restructuring. The initial plan included a public hearing on March 19th for a September service change and redesign, but this hearing was canceled. Intercity Transit is now working to ensure that stakeholders understand the changes and to address any questions.

Several factors have contributed to the timeline adjustment. One major factor is the uncertainty surrounding the state budget, which affects multiple interests, including three pending grant applications that directly impact service. These grant applications are:

1. Lacey Express commuter service from the Lacey Transit Center to JBLM and Lakewood.
2. Corridor Express, with a larger schedule, more trips, and a bigger geographic area than current One route pilot.
3. A joint partnership with SPSCC to redo the bus zone at the SPSCC main campus in Olympia.

The agency is also monitoring other federal interests. The complexity of these moving pieces and the closing window for implementation necessitated a revised timeline.

Timeline Adjustments:

- May 2025: Service changes will proceed as planned, with an additional span to include more trips into the evening.
- September 2025: The significant service change that was originally planned for September 2025 is now uncertain. Changes may be limited to the commuter express service, pending the approval of the Lacey Express grant application.
- May 2026: The broader network restructuring changes will now be implemented in May 2026.

The delay aims to allow for a more thorough process and to incorporate feedback and adjustments. The agency has been conducting ride-alongs with stakeholders to gather input and make necessary tweaks to the service.

LaFontaine has also been communicating updates to the committee through email, including a new Remix link for an interactive map of the latest version of the proposed changes. He also shared articles published by Jolt to keep the Community Advisory Committee informed.

The agency has scheduled additional ride-alongs for continued engagement and welcomes participation. They are open to providing accommodation to ensure everyone can participate.

Q&A on May 2025 Change of Service

- Will there be more morning trips too or just evening trips?
 - The focus is on weekends and evenings. There is a concern about connections to the Sounder for Seattle commuter service. The target for reworking the 620 and the new Lacey Express to facilitate better connections is September 2025.
 - Will Route 47 still be extended in May?
 - In September 2025, the only expansion will be express service to Pierce County.
-

Q&A on the Delay

- How come we tend to delay rather than expedite?
 - This is due to the need for funding and constraints set by the Operator bidding structure that happens twice per year.
 - Large Operator Classes align with more service, but service is now reduced. How does this impact new hires?
 - The agency provides a service that matches resources which are moving targets. The current operator count is 306, with 293 available in total. The budgeted target is 325.
 - Supporting a slower rollout, is it possible to better divide the rollout so all changes do not fall into 2026 helping the community become familiar with the changes over time?
 - It is not possible. Phasing in larger changes would be very complex and may result in duplicate service.
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Q&A on Funding

- Can you explain Intercity Transit's federal funding situation?
 - The agency planned to use a large, currently unobligated federal grant for enhanced bus stops. However, the status of this grant is uncertain. There's a possibility Intercity Transit might not receive those federal

funds, which would impact our ability to complete the planned bus stop enhancements. The bus stop program was funded through discretionary funding secured by Congresswoman Strickland's office. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Region 10 office, which serves Washington state and surrounding states and is located in Seattle, has experienced staffing reductions. This has resulted in slower processing of reimbursements. Intercity Transit no longer has a specific point of contact for our grant, and we've been instructed to use a general email address. There were also environmental factors unrelated to the recent federal changes that have contributed to delays in moving forward with the bus stop project.

Additionally, reimbursement for the Pattison base remodel is still pending. If there are delays in receiving this reimbursement, the agency would have to cover those expenses with local funds, such as sales tax dollars. Essentially, the issue is that if expected federal funds are not received, the agency will have to use local funds to cover those costs, which could affect their overall budget.

A Department of Transportation grant, called the Smart Grant, for \$2,000,000, will assist with the transit signal priority program. This is a new grant awarded at the end of the year. The agency also receives federal funding through the Puget Sound Regional Council. We plan to use some of that funding to replace seven fixed-route coaches in 2025 and 2026.

To date, we haven't expended any funds from this grant.

- Can the federal funding that you guys were awarded be revoked by the federal government?
 - It's uncertain at this point. The Washington State Transit Association informed the agency that the USDOT is reviewing all grants. Other transit agencies are also concerned about losing funding. Agency leadership believes that at this point it is a waiting game. Although award letters have been received, there's still uncertainty.

There is also a question of the constitutionality of some federal actions. Specifically, there are concerns about the federal government requiring grantees and contractors to certify they don't have diversity, equity, and inclusion programs. There is a concern that if a grantee certifies they don't have such a program but actually do, the federal government will take back the funding and impose a penalty of three times that amount. However, there has been no confirmation from the FTA or USDOT about any of these potential changes.

Q&A on Public Engagement and Implementation

- CAC Member *Margaret Janis* noted that she heard from several members of the public who read the JOLT article about the proposed Network Restructuring and Service Changes.
 - Any update on public engagement timeline?
 - Currently, the agency is providing general updates about the upcoming service change. Staff have presented overviews to the Thurston Regional Planning Council and the Transportation Policy Board, which include policy decision-makers from local municipalities and territories. This outreach is currently focused on a high-level overview, rather than detailed specifics. More detailed public information, including website updates, is planned for release in the May rider news. The agency's communication team is holding on to the detailed information due to the uncertainty surrounding the service changes.
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NEW BUSINESS

B. Transit Collaboration Sub Committee- (*Amanda Collins*)

Amanda Collins, CAC Staff Liaison introduced the issue of whether to create a subcommittee to explore collaboration ideas with other transit agencies.

Collins provided some background about that idea that originated from CAC Vice Chair, Claire Bourgeois, who suggested meeting jointly with other transit agency advisory committees for collaboration purposes. Emily Bergkamp thought it would be a good idea to bring this to the Washington State Transit Association's Clerk's Committee, which includes clerks representing transit agencies across the state. Staff also discussed it internally and consulted with Pat Messmer, Intercity Transit's Clerk of the Board. Messmer provided documentation showing that similar meetings were held annually in the early 2000s. While the documentation is incomplete, staff know that Intercity Transit hosted meetings in 2004 and 2008.

Based on the available information, it appears that other transit agencies took turns hosting these meetings, which typically involved participation from local and state representatives, transit agency staff (particularly CEOs), advisory volunteers, and board members. The meetings covered various discussion topics. In 2008, topics included the future of transportation in Washington State, how to advocate for public transportation, agency reports on successes and challenges, and GPS, radio,

and camera demonstrations. The agenda includes additional details about the 2008 conference and its goals.

Based on the Clerk's Committee's reception, there's a lot of interest, but also a lot of competing priorities. Many committees, including the Clerk's Committee, are focused on the likely addition of community representatives on Transit Authority boards. Intercity Transit is already ahead of the curve on that, but many clerks are focused on upcoming changes and figuring out how to integrate new community representatives onto their governing boards. However, there was definite interest from clerks who thought their advisory committees would like to connect with our committee.

Intercity Transit's recommended action would be to select three members for an ad hoc subcommittee to further explore collaboration opportunities with other transit agencies. While this doesn't commit us to any specific action, Collins shared that to be realistic, there probably won't be a major statewide event this year. These events take time, energy, and buy-in from other agencies, and the level of interest isn't quite there yet for this year. However, it is worthwhile continuing the discussion and determining how we want to proceed.

Collins opened the floor for questions, comments, and thoughts.

Discussion

- CAC member *Michael Gray* presented an idea of using annual Rodeo competitions as an anchor event. Several Rodeos are hosted regionally throughout the year to qualify for state and international events. The State Rodeo is held in conjunction with an Annual Statewide Transit Conference.
- ITA member *Sue Pierce* explained that the Rodeo's are usually held over the weekend with one practice day and one competition day. Adding an additional component to the event would be challenging due to the busy schedule.
- CAC member *Doug Riddels* agreed that the idea of utilizing an event that brings a lot of transit agencies together could kickstart the goal of advisory committee collaboration.
- CAC member *Margaret Janis* clarified if Intercity Transit won the International Rodeo in 2024. Bergkamp explained that our combined scores between the maintenance and driving divisions led Intercity Transit to become International Champions.

- CAC member *Brandon Mixon* asked what agencies the CAC would like to reach out to and brainstormed Mason Transit, Grays Harbor Transit, Lewis Transit, Kitsap Transit, and Rural Transit as obvious partners due to regional proximity.
- CAC member *Doug Riddels* commented that there is a lot of interest and excitement in putting this together and the first step is likely to approve the subcommittee.

APPROVAL OF SUBCOMMITTEE TO EXPLORE COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES WITH OTHER TRANSIT AGENCIES

M/S/A by DOUG RIDDELS and CLAIR BOURGEOIS

A call was made for three volunteers who wish to serve on the subcommittee and three were selected: **Dara Dotson, Michael Gray, and Shawn Sandquist.**

CONSUMER ISSUES

Michael Gray shared a new application he discovered that tracks Intercity Transit buses called Pantograph.

Julian Preston Added that Google Maps is another real-time tracking for Intercity Transit.

Brandon Mixon shared a concern that bus stop spacing for the more urban parts of Yelm is too far apart. Mixon thinks the service change and network restructuring may be an opportunity to condense the stops or pull them closer together. He also shared that a bus stop on Route 94 outbound (Union and Eastside) has a very difficult turn to get out of, especially after pulling away from the stop. Drivers comment that it is more difficult to make their turn when they must service the stop too.

Bergkamp agrees this is the most challenging turnout in the system. It has been previously discussed with Intercity Transit's Operator's Communication and Policy Committee (OCPC), and she can bring it up again for further discussion.

Nicole Jones shared that improvements have been made to the stop which has been moved back. However, experienced drivers struggle with the turn.

Rachel Wilson volunteers at Walk N Roll and reported that she noticed loitering and illicit drug use at the stop across the street from Pattison shop during Saturday afternoons.

Bergkamp Agreed that there is an uptick of folks that are loitering near those bus stops. There have been additional people in the area due to new buildings that have drop-in services for the houseless community. Staff will explore options, such as asking security officers to roam and monitor the area or contacting the local Crisis Response Unit from the Olympia Police Department to increase patrols.

Margaret Janis added that the solution shouldn't be removing the shelters or benches. She expressed concern that this seems to be happening often, and it makes it difficult for those with physical disabilities to utilize fixed routes.

Shawn Sandquist shared gratitude for facilities staff who support the regular power washing and maintenance of bus stops.

Clair Bourgeois shared that she felt empowered to educate a fellow community member and explain the value of transit when she heard a comment that buses appear to be running empty.

Bergkamp agreed that the value of service isn't solely based on frequency of use. i.e. a fire station would not be criticized if there were less emergencies to respond to. *Bergkamp* plans to send out some additional comparisons to help with these conversations.

JoAnn Scott shared that while some routes vary in ridership, the 62A is always very popular

Julian Preston commented that sometimes, you just wait until the next stop and the bus can fill up.

REPORTS

- **March 5, 2025, ITA Report** – Harrison Ashby attended the meeting and provided an update to the committee:
 - Declaring a VP vehicle as surplus
 - Canceling the April public hearing for the September service change
 - Lots of public comment related to ATU contract negotiations in favor of the wage increases requested.
 - Presentation from Jana Brown, Intercity Transit CFO and John Lee, Summit Law Attorney and Lead Negotiator, about the economic impacts of proposed labor contracts.
 - Presentation from Justin Leighton, WSTA Executive Director, regarding state funding impacts from the Climate Commitment Act (CCA) and Multi-modal (MMA) accounts.

- **General Manager's Report** – Bergkamp provided the General Manager's report including:

Orientation for New Board Members

Staff spent time with new ITA members Robert Vanderpool and Kelly Von Holtz on March 10. Robert and Kelly will receive an agency overview with various directors and senior staff. All were happy to welcome them both!

Visits with State Legislators

Intercity Transit state advocates David Foster and Joanna Grist recently facilitated meetings with 22nd Legislative District Representatives Lisa Parshley. We 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. IT is respectfully requesting 50% of estimated operating costs over the coming biennium (\$1,225,000).

March 17 Operator Class 25-01

Operator Class 25-01 started today with 20 people, 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.

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

- **ADJOURNMENT at 7:15 pm.**

Prepared by Amanda Collins

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**INTERCITY TRANSIT
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA ITEM NO. 5-A
MEETING DATE: April 21, 2025**

FOR: Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Emily Bergkamp, General Manager, 360-705-5889

SUBJECT: Update on State Advocacy Activity

1) **The Issue:** David Foster and Joanna Grist, our state advocates from Foster Government Relations and Grist Public Affairs, LLC will provide the CAC an update on activities affecting public transportation in the Washington State Legislature.

2) **Recommended Action:** This is an informational item.

3) **Policy Analysis:** Policy EX-0008 “Establishing Organization Relationships” asserts Intercity Transit shall maintain and strengthen relationships with jurisdictions to ensure Intercity Transit takes advantage of the resources made available by, and the experience of, federal, state, and regional transportation agencies. Intercity Transit employs Foster Government Relations and Grist Public Affairs, LLC to assist staff in keeping up to date with Washington State Legislature activities.

4) **Background:** David Foster and Joanna Grist, our state advocates from Foster Government Relations and Grist Public Affairs, LLC will discuss the current issues facing the Washington State Legislature and the Governor’s Office and how they relate to Intercity Transit. They will focus on current and future State funding issues involving the Washington State Department of Transportation, and other State agencies. They will also discuss current and future State policies that have an impact on our ability to partner with state government. In addition, they will briefly address how Intercity Transit can maintain connection with our state legislators.

Intercity Transit has contracted with Foster Government Relations and Grist Public Affairs, LLC since 2016. David Foster and Joanna Grist are our primary contacts with the firms.

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

6) **Budget Notes:** Intercity Transit’s contract with Foster Government Relations and Grist Public Affairs, LLC is \$48,000 a year.

7) **Goal Reference:** Consistent advocacy with the Washington State Legislature will help achieve all goals of the agency.

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

**INTERCITY TRANSIT
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA ITEM 5-B
MEETING DATE: April 21, 2025**

FOR: COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FROM: Duncan Green, Bicycle Community Challenge Representative

SUBJECT: 2025 Winter Bicycle Challenge and BCC Update

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- 1) **The Issue:** Brief the CAC on the results of the 2025 Winter Bicycle Challenge, and progress on the 38th Annual Bicycle Commuter Challenge coming up in May.

 - 2) **Recommended Action:** For information and discussion.

 - 3) **Policy Analysis:** Intercity Transit made encouragement and promotion of transportation options a key part of its mission. This includes non-motorized alternatives like bicycling. The agency took over the administration of the Bicycle Commuter Contest in 2006.

 - 4) **Background:** The Winter Bicycle Challenge (WBC), which runs the full month of February, had good participation again in 2025, despite some seriously wintry weather! This year, 270 people participated in the event. We rode nearly 19,000 miles on a total of 1,787 days, introducing many people to the benefits of bicycling even in winter, and adding to participants' and our community's health and well-being .Forty people won prizes in random drawings held each week during the event.

Preparations are ongoing for the 38th Annual BCC in May, including our kick-off event, the Earth Day Market Ride, on Saturday, April 19 this year, and Bike to Work Day on Thursday, May 15. This year's theme for the BCC is "Be a Beacon for Bicycling!"

Bicycling is a significant element in Thurston County, and Intercity Transit's incorporation of bicycling into its trip reduction and alternative commute promotion has been well received. Under the agency's guidance, the program has seen increasing participation, enthusiastic sponsorship, strong event attendance and media attention. The BCC broadened and sustained successful partnerships between Intercity Transit, local jurisdictions, the business community, and the general public as well as generated public goodwill.

This is Intercity Transit's twentieth year administering this countywide event. For the seventeenth consecutive year, Duncan Green is coordinating the BCC and related efforts. He receives assistance from the other members of Intercity Transit's Marketing and Communications staff.

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

6) **Budget Notes:** The cost of the Bicycle Community Challenge is largely staff time for one position. The annual budget for the BCC is \$25,000.

7) **Goal Reference:** **Goal #2:** *"Provide outstanding customer service."* **Goal #4:** *"Provide responsive transportation options within financial limitations."*

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

**INTERCITY TRANSIT
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA ITEM NO. 5-C
MEETING DATE: April 21, 2025**

FOR: Intercity Transit Authority

FROM: Jana Brown, Deputy-Director Chief Financial Officer, 360-705-5816

SUBJECT: Draft Capital Improvement Plan 2026-2030

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- 1) **The Issue:** Present the Draft Intercity Transit Capital Improvement Plan 2026-2030.
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- 2) **Recommended Action:** For information and discussion only.
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- 3) **Policy Analysis:** The Intercity Transit Authority is committed to reviewing and considering CAC feedback before adopting any official plan, particularly those that guide the annual budget process. Both the Capital Improvement Plan and budget documents outline the expenditures required to maintain the level of services defined in the Authority-approved Strategic Plan.
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- 4) **Background:** Intercity Transit has consistently developed and maintained plans for implementing capital projects. These plans are integrated into our Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Transportation Development Plan (TDP), and annual budgeting process. The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) serves as a strategic tool to further detail these plans, unifying them for better coordination with the operating budget. Annually updated, the CIP is incorporated into the budget process for discussions and approvals. It is designed to remain fiscally constrained while ensuring all assets are kept in a state of good repair, thereby safeguarding Intercity Transit's capital investments and reducing future maintenance and replacement costs. Additionally, five-year forecasts help address the challenges of applying a one-year budget to multi-year projects, while supporting long-range financial planning.
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- 5) **Alternatives:** N/A.
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- 6) **Budget Notes:** In October, will present the Draft Budget, which will include all capital costs identified in the CIP. A public hearing will be held again in November for additional comments and adjustments on the Draft Budget which will include all operating and capital costs. Lastly, the total budget (including capital costs) will come before the Authority for final adoption in December 2025.
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- 7) **Goal Reference:** The annual budget impacts all agency goals.
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- 8) **References:** [Draft Capital Improvement Plan 2026-2030](#)

Intercity Transit Authority Meeting Highlights/Summary
A brief recap of March 19, 2025, Intercity Transit Authority Meeting

Wednesday night, the ITA:

- Authorized the General Manager to execute a contract amendment with Law, Lyman, Daniel, Kamerrer & Bogdanovich to renew our legal services contract through March 31, 2026, and adjust the hourly rates. *(Jeff Peterson)*
- Authorized the General Manager, pursuant to Washington State Contract 06719, to purchase seventy-nine (79) Arrow driver barriers from Gillig, LLC (Gillig) in the amount of \$710,605, which includes sales tax. *(Brenden Houx)*
- Authorized the General Manager to increase KPFF's contract amount by \$374,836, for a total revised contract amount of \$546,293. *(Peter Stackpole)*

Other Items of Interest:

- Katrina Van Every from Thurston Regional Planning Council provided a briefing on an update to the Regional Transportation Plan.
- Michael Midstokke introduced **Emilio Rangel, Matt Terrell, and Jeremy Hale, Operations Supervisors.**
- Izi LeMay introduced **Rachel Permann, Village Vans Coordinator.**
- Jane Denicola introduced **Renee Fonseca, Customer Service Supervisor.**

General Manager's Report:

Bergkamp and Nick Demerice, Chief Marketing, Outreach and Communications Officer, recently presented to the Thurston Regional Planning Council and the Transportation Policy Board, providing a general agency update and conceptual overview of our bus system redesign tentatively scheduled to launch in May 2026. Bergkamp took members for a walk down memory lane of IT's 2016 public engagement campaign known as the Road Trip which identified our community's desire to have more service in the form of a transformational transit system, then Proposition 1 being approved in late 2018 to fund the elements of the transformation, the decision process of going zero-fare January 2020, the barriers COVID created, preventing completion of the transformation, how we've fought our way back to pre-pandemic service and ridership levels, and are now back on track to resume a redesign to usher in the remaining element promised with the additional funding of Proposition 1. The presentations were well received, and there was a recent JOLT article highlighting the topics we discussed.

Class 25-01 with 20 new Operators started on March 17 and we are excited to welcome them to our team!

March 18 was National Transit Employee Appreciation Day, honoring our essential workers and transit heroes – Operators, Operations Supervisors, Facilities and Maintenance staff. Executive and

Marketing staff worked hard to ensure these frontline folks are publicly honored for the work they do in our community through March 21.

Interior demolition of the Maintenance Facility continues and staff anticipates providing a project update and overview to the Board tentatively in June.

Bergkamp said IT receives 30% of its funding through state and federal grants with sales tax making up the remainder. For 2024 it was just under \$20M - Grant Revenue collection completed:

- Federal \$13,235,896
- State \$5,626,044

The total grant revenue collected (federal and state): \$18,861,940 directly funded:

- WNR Operations
- Ongoing Pattison Facility Construction Project
- Smart Corridors
- Replacement DAL Vehicles

Bergkamp provided an update on the Walk N Roll Program:

- The Winter Bicycle Challenge was a success with 266 participants representing over 40 BCC teams covering 18,648 miles on a combined total of 1766 days.
- Through a new community partnership, the Full Cycle program distributed 11 bikes at the Cielo Food Bank.
- Avanti Bikes! PE class has 18 students enrolled for the spring.
- Our first adult urban bike skills class opened for registration.
- Registration opened for spring and summer programs including Teen's biking to Destinations, Learn to Ride, Summer Earn-A-Bike and Bike Camp.
- WNR staff Kerri Wilson and Hana Rothner joined Cascade Bicycle Club in meetings with Representative Barkis and Senator Bateman to share information about the Teens Biking to Destinations program.

Intercity Transit is the reigning International Roadeo Grand Champion, meaning we have a title to defend! Operator Clinton Jimenez and Maintenance Team Richelle Loken, Sean Malay, and Jonathon Reynolds will be competing at the American Public Transportation Association's International Roadeo April 4-8, in Austin, Texas. The Roadeo runs concurrently with APTA's Mobility Conference April 6-9, which addresses the critical priorities and challenges facing bus and paratransit systems and explores the changing environments in which these systems operate. As a result, IT will have several staff attending both the Roadeo and the conference and will be on hand to cheer our competitors on!

Prepared March 20, 2025

Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board

Intercity Transit Authority Meeting Highlights/Summary
A brief recap of April 2, 2025, Intercity Transit Authority Meeting

Wednesday night, the ITA:

- Received an update from David Foster from Foster Government Relations and Joanna Grist from Grist Public Affairs, LLC about activities affecting public transportation in the Washington State Legislature.

Other Items of Interest:

- Duncan Green provided an update on the **2025 Winter Bicycle Commuter Challenge and progress on the 38th Annual Bicycle Commuter Challenge coming up in May.**
- Katie Cunningham introduced **Alejandro Soto, Inventory Supervisor.**

General Manager's Report:

Planning Deputy Director, Rob LaFontaine presented to the Yelm City Council this week providing a general agency update and conceptual overview of our bus system redesign tentatively scheduled to launch in May 2026. LaFontaine took members for a walk down memory lane of IT's 2016 public engagement campaign known as the Road Trip which identified our community's desire to have more service in the form of a transformational transit system, then Proposition 1 being approved in late 2018 to fund the elements of the transformation, the decision process of going zero-fare January 2020, the barriers COVID created preventing completion of the transformation, how we've fought our way back to pre-pandemic service and ridership levels, and are now back on track to resume a redesign to usher in the remaining element promised with the additional funding of Proposition 1. The presentations were well received with a steady flow of good questions.

Last weekend our amazing Maintenance team, Jonathan Reynolds, Sean Malay, and Richelle Loken participated in the Pierce Transit Maintenance Rodeo, taking the 1st place title with them! They not only scored the highest overall but by over 300 points, a remarkable accomplishment! Their hard work and ability to work together sets them apart from other Maintenance teams.

Bergkamp also thanked Joe Bell, who inspires the team and is by their side at all competitions; Bill and Shanaka Miller, and David and Lillian Dudek volunteered their time to assist in facilitating the flow of the competition; and Bryce and Annie Reinhardt judged the Bus Inspection.

Intercity Transit is the reigning International Rodeo Grand Champion, meaning we have a title to defend! Operator Clinton Jimenez and Maintenance Team Richelle Loken, Sean Malay, and Jonathon Reynolds will compete at the American Public Transportation Association's International Rodeo April 4-8, in Austin, Texas. The Rodeo runs concurrently with APTA's Mobility Conference April 6-9. The conference addresses the critical priorities and challenges facing bus and paratransit systems and explores the changing environments in which these systems operate. As a result, several staff members will attend both the Rodeo and the conference and will be on hand to cheer our competitors on!

The Vanpool team met the goal to get all available vans on the road! We issued our last available van to a new group on March 13, which means future new groups wishing to start will be placed on a waitlist. New groups on the waitlist will complete all the onboarding steps and receive vans as they become available. Kudos to Kyle McPherson for his marketing and outreach efforts that helped make this happen, along with several new employer partners developed during the pandemic. We look forward to the road ahead and working toward our goal of increasing ridership in the remainder of the year.

Washington State Transit Insurance Pool (WSTIP) recognizes the long-term dedication and commitment to safety by awarding their annual Safety Star awards. Awards are made in three categories: Small-size agency, Medium-size agency, and Large-size agency. **This year's Large-size agency winner is Intercity Transit!** Members with the best ratio of actual auto liability losses (uncapped) relative to the Pool as a percentage of miles travelled are awarded the Safety Star Award. The 2024 award is based on the claim data/activity for the period 2019 – 2023. **Congratulations!! This is a testament to the hard work by everyone in the organization.**

Bergkamp read a compliment from EDC Executive Director, Michael Cade. Cade wrote, "Today I wanted to reach out with a note of thanks and appreciation to you and Intercity Transit. I was driving back to the office this afternoon from a series of fairly turbulent meetings and coming towards me was one of your buses. I noticed that the reader-board-sign on the front on top said, "Spread Kindness." It truly put a smile on my face. It made me so proud to live and work in a community in which the public transit system is a beacon of goodness and a spreader of the message of kindness. It truly was wonderful to see and made the difference in the rest of the day for me – and I am sure it will extend into the weekend as well and beyond. I don't know who makes the decisions for the reader board messages, but they are truly a wonderful person doing wonderful things."

The Community Transportation Association of the Northwest (CTANW) annual awards have expanded this year, and Bergkamp is very excited to announce that voting has commenced and three of our staff members, as well as our agency are nominated! There are 11 categories to vote on, however, Bergkamp is particularly focused on the following:

- Morgan Hagquist is nominated for the Frances Rankos Excellence in Travel Training award.
- Intercity Transit is nominated for Urban Transit of the Year.
- Rick Smart is nominated for Driver of the Year.
- Tom Pulling is nominated for Dispatcher/Scheduler of the Year.

The winners will be announced at the Awards Banquet on Monday, May 19 in Bremerton, Washington. This information will be forwarded to the Board members so they can cast their vote, or you can click this link: <https://www.ctanw.org/2025-ctanw-awards>

Prepared April 3, 2025

Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE RECORD

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
CAC Members		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	x									
Clair	Bourgeois	x	x	x									
David	Payton	absent	absent	absent									
Doug	Riddels	absent	x	x									
Eliane	Wilson	absent	absent	absent									
Garrett	Fuelling	x	absent	absent									
Harrison	Ashby	x	x	x									
JoAnn	Scott	x	x	x									
Hallie	Sutter	x	x	x									
Margret	Janis	x	x	x									
Michael	Gray	x	x	x									
Shawn	Sandquist	x	x	x									
Suzanne	Simons	x	x	x									
Ty	Flint	absent	x	x									
Rachel	Weber	x	x	x									
Rachel	Wilson	x	x	x									
Dara	Dotson	x	x	x									
YOUTH John-Paul	Fox Seidel	x	x	x									
YOUTH Julian	Preston	x	x	x									

= Joint meeting does not count against required meeting attendance