

Intercity Transit Authority Meeting Highlights/Summary
A brief recap of October 1, 2025, Intercity Transit Authority Meeting

Wednesday night, the ITA:

- Declared items as Surplus Property that includes various items from the Facilities, Information Systems, and Maintenance department, which are surplus to our needs. The total value of the items listed in Exhibit A is estimated at \$12,840. *(Noelle Gordon)*
- Authorized a public hearing on the 'May 2026 Major Service Change Summary and Draft Equity Analysis' for Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. *(Rob LaFontaine)*
- Received an update of Intercity Transit's 2026-2028 DBE Program and Goals. *(Peter Stackpole)*
- Conducted an Executive Session in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price.

Other Items of Interest:

- Michael Midstokkee introduced the **New Operator Class 25-03**.

General Manager's Report

Recruitment of new members for our Community Advisory Committee is going very well, with 45 general applicants for 6 general positions; 3 youth applicants for 2 youth positions and a few more days to go until the October 3 deadline. An on-line application is available on the CAC page of Intercity Transit's webpage, and printed applications are available upon request for applicants who prefer that method. Candidates selected by the ITA will be interviewed Friday, November 7, and appointments made at the ITA meeting on December 3. Since there was such a healthy response, we'll likely not be able to interview everyone, but Amanda Collins is tabulating information about the applicants to see which applicants may fill some demographic vacancies we have.

- **Timberland Regional Library** Executive Director Cheryl Heywood visited Bergkamp for a tour of our facilities this week. They've spent time getting to know each other over the past few months and sharing best practices about serving the public.
- Two teams of IT employees volunteered at the Thurston County Food Bank for the **United Way Day of Caring**: Kayla Phillips, Heidi Fox, Amanda Collins, Russ Gilsdorf, Thera Black, Alysia Bair and Bergkamp. This opportunity was made possible by our United Way Committee of Russ, Alysia and Kyle.
- Bergkamp discussed Thurston County Chamber's preliminary plans for the Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater region being a **World Cup Fan Zone** with consultant Jennie Foglia-Jones. Intercity Transit is eligible for some state funding to support additional service for those participating.

- **Week Without Driving** started on Monday, September 29 and ends Sunday, October 5. Everyone is encouraged to take the pledge and ride the bus, walk, or ride a bike instead of driving. For more information and to sign up, visit <https://weekwithoutdriving.org/>
- Congress and President Trump did not reach agreement to enact a continuing appropriations act, or Continuing Resolution (CR), and a government shutdown began today, October 1.

The impacts of a government shutdown on U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) agencies vary considerably. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) operations will continue and none of its 517 employees will be furloughed. FTA will be able to reimburse transit agencies for previously approved projects. However, it is unlikely that FTA will be able to approve new grants.

Conversely, 239 employees (23 percent) of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) are furloughed during the government shutdown. Remaining FRA personnel are focused primarily on activities necessary to protect life and property (e.g., FRA safety inspections).

Bergkamp read a compliment about IT's DAL Service. *A note from Diane, caregiver and partner to Mark who uses Dial-A-Lift wrote:*

Good afternoon to Ms. Bergkamp and the Board, I wanted to offer some feedback and a whole lot of appreciation for the people who work in the Dial-A-Lift service of Intercity Transit.

My partner is 75 with multiple health problems (MS, recent history of heart attack, chronic kidney disease and to top it off a recently diagnosed aneurysm). He walks slowly with the old fashioned Zimmer frame walker and we're in process of fitting for the right wheelchair. Needless to say, he has difficulty traveling. Dial-A-Lift has been both a life saver and a sanity saver. Because of your service Mark has some level of independence. With so many aspects of autonomy or self-reliance fading away, this has been a positive addition to the quality of his life.

Your outstanding service doesn't happen accidentally. It demonstrates leadership and dedicated staff—who must have been well recruited and trained. Each and every driver has been helpful, considerate and attentive. My guess is that each rider moves slowly and yet there's never been any indication of impatience. The drivers know how to help while also being respectful of the person's own agency.

I'd particularly like to highlight Curtis Prouty who interviewed Mark as part of a renewal assessment. We felt we were heard, and he understood what we needed. We mentioned a concern about a driveway problem and within two days he came out himself to investigate the concern. On our end we have set up an appointment for some branch trimming to make the driveway easier to navigate. Win-Win.

In my professional life I worked in the public health care section. We would often hear of the problems, but the kudos were often left in the "to do" pile. I wanted to make sure we took the time to tell you how much we appreciate Dial-A-Lift. Please share this with your board.

Bergkamp shared kudos from TRPC employee Paul Brewster who used Dial-A-Lift during his recovery from an ankle injury and he had high praise for the kindness and professionalism of the drivers and all staff. Brewster was very impressed with the service and proud to have the caliber of assistance that Dial-A-Lift provides in our community for people with disabilities.

Prepared October 2, 2025

Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board