

Intercity Transit Authority Meeting Highlights/Summary
A brief recap of the September 16, 2026, ITA / CAC Joint Meeting

Wednesday night, the ITA:

- Authorized the General Manager to execute a contract amendment with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Relations to renew the contract for Federal Advocacy Services for a period of one year in the amount of \$96,000. (Noelle Gordon)
- Authorized the General Manager to execute a five-year contract, with five one-year renewal options, with Powertech USA, Inc. (Powertech) to provide Hydrogen Tube Trailers and associated services in the amount of \$4,780,950, which includes sales tax and an approximate 10% contingency. (Brenden Houx)
- Authorized the General Manager, pursuant to Washington State Contract 28423, to purchase replacement Vanpool and staff vehicles in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,030,000. (Noelle Gordon)

Other Items of Interest:

- Michael Midstokke introduced Operator Class 26-03.
- David Chaffee introduced Zachary Irving, Technician and Nathan Foisy, Service Worker.
- Alejandro Soto introduced William Rice, Inventory Specialist.
- Jonathon Yee introduced Amanda Caskin, Maintenance Assistant.
- Staci Revel introduced Karl Hug, Facilities Supervisor.
- CAC, ITA and staff recognized and celebrated the achievements of the **2026 State Rodeo Participants**.
- Nordstrom reviewed the 2026 CAC Self-Assessment.
- Bergkamp provided a 2027-2032 Strategic Plan Concept review.

General Manager's Report

- Bergkamp shared awareness that Intercity Transit is extending the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with Thurston County for continued work and partnership on our Transit Signal Priority project.
- Special thanks to Clerk to the Board Pat Messmer, PRO/CAC Liaison Amanda Collins, Executive Assistant Nikki Jones, Intern Ray Valasquez, Chief of Staff Jill Nordstrom and Information Systems Staff Jesse Eckstrom and Nathan Davis for all their planning and coordination for the joint ITA/CAC meeting, including a special meal, ensuring there was enough room for the large group, seamless technology, presenting CAC self-evaluation information. Bergkamp was thankful to be able to go on her trip to D.C. without worrying about the need to be in two places at once.

- Bergkamp and Grants Manager Jessica Gould were in Washington, D.C. September 15-17 with APTA staff and colleagues for a Legislative Fly-In to advocate for public transit and passenger rail. IT's Federal advocate Dale Learn from Gordon Thomas Honeywell coordinated in-person meetings on Capitol Hill with Senator Patty Murray's Office, Congresswoman Strickland's Office, Congresswoman Marie Gluskamp-Perez's Office, and Senator Maria Cantwell's Office. This advocacy visit is on the heels of the U.S. House of Representatives passing a [Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act](#) that funds the federal government—including FTA, FRA, and USDOT programs—extending the Surface Transportation Authorization through December 11, 2026. However, the bill cuts federal public transit investment by **20 percent** from current funding levels; cuts passenger rail investment by **81 percent**; and passenger rail receives no guaranteed funding.

Bergkamp and Gould attended this event to thank these legislators for their continued support of IT's federally funded capital projects such as the Pattison Base project and coach purchases, and to provide a general agency update. They also advocated for the return of advance appropriations in any subsequent CR's prior to a new surface transportation bill (aka BUILD America 250 Act) and to match previous surface transportation bill (aka Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding levels, rather than the 14% reduction currently in the draft. Several benefits to transit are in the draft too, including doing away with FTA's mandatory 20% spare ratio, the National Environmental Protections Act (NEPA) requirement evaluations being made before transits can purchase property if they plan to use federal funding for projects on the property.

Prepared September 17, 2026, Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board