

Authority Meeting Highlights
a brief recap of the Authority Meeting of April 3, 2013

Action Items

Wednesday night, the Authority:

- Authorized the General Manager to enter into a one-year contract renewal with Sound Landscape Professionals in an amount not-to-exceed \$45,000.00, including taxes. (*Erin Hamilton*)
- Authorized the General Manager to enter into a one-year agreement, with the option of four one-year options to extend, with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs to provide federal advocacy services on a retainer basis of \$6,000 per month. (*Marilyn Hemmann*)

Other Items of Interest

- New Employee **Christine Kahana**, Accounting Assistant, was introduced.
- Received an update on the **General Manager hiring process**. The interview process will take place over May 29 and May 30. May 29 will consist of a system tour. At 4:00 p.m., candidates will meet with employees in the Maintenance Rebuild Room for a question and answer session. At 5:30 p.m. they will participate in an external stakeholder reception. On May 30, candidates will participate in three different panels as well as receive a facility tour. At the end of the day, the Authority will participate in a debrief and walk through a consensus process.
- Members received an update on the **Citizen Advisory Committee recruitment process**. Staff will send application packets to vanpool users and DAL clients. An ad will be placed in the Olympian, (and the on-line version), Fort Lewis Ranger, Business Examiner, Olympia Power & Light, and the Nisqually Valley News. Staff put posters and Rider Alerts on the buses, in schools, libraries and various locations where youth access facilities. It's on social media outlets as well. There are nine positions available; five current members can seek reappointment.
- **Fixed Route Ridership** was 388,526 in March, down slightly for the month, yet about half a percent up for 2013.
- **Dash Ridership** is down about 3.3%.
- **Vanpool** had a record ridership in 2012 of **740,794 passenger trips**, which was up 9.1% over 2011. We had a record number of miles traveled at 3,470,209, which was up 8.29% from 2011. We currently have 210 vanpools with three forming.
- **Ten expansion vanpools** arrived with staff preparing them for new groups.

- Pierce Transit will consider their vanpools at a meeting on Monday, April 8. If they decide the vanpools must begin or end within their current boundaries, it will displace 78 existing vanpools; Intercity Transit can assist 6 of those and we've been talking with those 6 already.
- State Farm may be adding 2,000 employees to a Tacoma campus. We will assist their Employee Transportation Coordinator and attend events to assist employees at their DuPont campus.
- The Federal government is moving from paper vouchers to debit cards for subsidizing vanpools. We currently do not accept debit cards; however, staff is working to find a way to accept and process debit and credit cards for the future.
- Our **Youth Education staff** is transitioning from supporting STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) classes during the day at Michael T. Simmons Elementary in Tumwater to an afterschool series. The Spring Bike Partners program starts at Garfield Elementary in west Olympia the week of April 8. And we are partnering with TCTV to make short movies about kids and their built environment.
- The **Bicycle Commuter Contest** registration opened this week and to date, we have over 60 people registered. Events begin this month with the Market Ride April 20, and Chair Thies kicking off the event. April 26 is the Wrencher's Ball.
- The Senate Transportation Committee released its **proposed budget** today which basically looks as if it will maintain existing funding levels. It appears there may be a reduction for the Regional Mobility Grant program. It appears they propose to remove the JBLM restriction of the purchase and use of vanpools.

Rhodetta Seward

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