

Authority Meeting Highlights
a brief recap of the Authority Meeting October 7, 2020

In order to comply with the Governor's guidance to "Stay Home and Stay Healthy" and in keeping with the Governor's Proclamation 20-28 Open Public Meetings Act, this meeting was held remotely.

Action Items

Wednesday night, the Authority:

- Adopted the 2019 Annual Report and 2020-2025 Transit Development Plan.
- Authorized the General Manager to execute a contract amendment with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs to renew the contract for Federal Advocacy Services for a period of one year in the amount of \$84,000.
- Authorized the General Manager to approve funding for DES On-Call Contracts with GeoEngineers, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$198,400; Keithly Barber Associates (KBA), for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$269,330; and Material Testing and Consulting, Inc. (MTC), for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$196,891.
- Allowed those serving on the Community Advisory Committee to extend their commitment by one year.
- Set a public hearing for 5:30 p.m. on November 4, 2020, to receive comments on the 2021-2026 Draft Strategic Plan.

Other Items of Interest

- Introduced Kasey Scott, Service Worker.

General Manager's Report:

- Staff is working to open the transit island and transit lanes at the Olympia Transit Center in November. All departments are working together to define a specific date. Some areas will continue to be fenced to allow work to continue.
- IT does not anticipate the customer service office will open due to staff availability. Staffing continues to be a bit of a revolving door. Much of that continues to be related to COVID, and some of it is unrelated life circumstances
- We believe IT will be in position to take another step towards service restoration in early December. However, not yet certain if DASH or Express Service will be restored between Pierce and Thurston Counties.
- Staff is communicating with Thurston County Public Health and administrators of the House and Senate who advised they will not likely make a decision regarding the legislative session, and the number of people on campus, until after Thanksgiving.

- Operations Director, Emily Bergkamp attended the yearly coordination meeting with staff from the Capitol campus and local jurisdictions, and everyone is working together on winter plans. A La Nina winter is expected, which means a wetter, colder season and possibly “snowmagedon.” Staff is taking the necessary steps to be prepared.
- Staff is paying attention to conversations about the potential resurgence and the confluence of COVID cases and the flu and making sure IT is prepared in terms of PPE and sanitizing products. IT is hoping all employees stay safe and healthy.
- The traffic signal at Martin Way and Pattison Street is complete and the Interlocal Cost Sharing Agreement for that project has been accepted by the City of Olympia.
- Sales tax has been impossible to predict. However, the July numbers, which were received at the end of September, were 18.94% higher than the year prior. In March the numbers were 20.55% lower than the year prior. In April, they were 7.13% lower than the year prior. In May and June numbers were up 10.93% and 8.6%. Note – July Sales Tax \$6,767,110.
- Applications are being accepted for the Surplus Van Grant Program through October 23. The jurisdictions are encouraged to notify governmental or non-profit organizations about the program, who are within IT’s service area, and whose clients would benefit by providing transportation. Application packets are available on the IT website. Anyone needing additional information about the grant program can call 360-786-8800 or email vans@intercitytransit.com. To date, the Authority awarded 65 vehicles to meet the transportation needs of local organizations. (Coastal Community Action, Veterans for Suicide Prevention, Kokua Services and Wa-Ya Outdoor Institute).
- Applications for the ITA Citizen Representative position and the Community Advisory Committee positions are due October 14. These positions were advertised in Thurston Talks and the Olympian.
- Congress and the Trump Administration reached agreement to extend the Surface Transportation Authorization Act, securing funding for transit investments over the next year. This provides us with some certainty regarding funding in FY 2021. This does not, however, address funds that would support transit systems nationwide through the pandemic. IT will continue to work with APTA and the Bus Coalition to press that issue.
- Freeman-Manzanares congratulated Dial-A-Lift Manager, Kevin Karkoski, on his graduation from the Leadership Thurston County program. Representing IT in the upcoming year are Cameron Crass, Fixed-Route Manager and Nicky Upson, Marketing/Communications Coordinator.

Prepared October 8, 2020
Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board