Authority Meeting Highlights a brief recap of the September 15, 2021, ITA/CAC Joint Meeting

The meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act guidelines in the Governor's Proclamation 20.28.14.

Wednesday night, the Authority:

- Hosted the first remote Joint Meeting of the Authority and the Community Advisory Committee since the start of the COVID pandemic.
- Received an introduction to the proposed 2022 Draft Budget.
- Authorized the General Manager to execute a consultant services contract with Iteris, Inc. to perform engineering and support services for the implementation of transit signal priority and similar strategies consistent with the regional smart corridors project. (Jeff Peterson)
- Adopted Resolution 02-2021 implementing the five-year, flat rate vanpool fare structure demonstration project. (Cindy Waterhouse)
- Authorized the General Manager to execute a purchase order to SHI International Corp. in an amount not-to-exceed \$289,102.38, excluding tax, for implementation and one-year of maintenance, reporting, and hosting. (*Jeff Peterson*)

Other items of interest:

- Intercity Transit's Federal Advocate, Dale Learn, of Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs, provided an update on activities affecting public transportation in Washington D. C.
- Nicky Upson and Rob Rinehart provided an update on the agency's website enhancement project.

General Manager's Report:

- Freeman-Manzanares acknowledged an event that took place on September 4, 2021, resulting in a shooting at the Olympia Transit Center. Fortunately, no staff or passengers were directly involved or injured. No one should ever have to deal with individuals placing others in danger as they attempt to use public transportation. Staff responded well to this frightening event taking care of themselves and our passengers. We offered staff our Employee Assistance Program, which provides counseling services for anyone struggling with the event. There may be another event in town this weekend, and we are hoping that is not the case. However, Operations are preparing and sharing best practices just in case.
- The Pattison Project is going well, and the contractor is focusing on making sure the building is watertight as winter approaches. Freeman-Manzanares said the forecast predicts about 2" of rain this weekend.

- Staff is recruiting for the Community Advisory Committee and applications are due October 8, 2021.
- Staff is accepting applications for the Surplus Van Grant Program for non-profit organizations and agencies. Applications are due Wednesday, October 13, 2021. The program is in its 18th year and thus far the Authority has awarded 68 vehicles to meet the transportation needs of local organizations. Most recently: Behavioral Health Resources, Catholic Community Services, Innovations Human Trafficking Collaboration, Interfaith Works, Sacred Heart, SafePlace, and Thurston County Food Bank.

Application packets are available online at the <u>Intercity Transit website</u>, by calling 360.786.8800, or by emailing <u>vans@intercitytransit.com</u>. For more information about the Surplus Van Grant program, contact Cindy Fisher Waterhouse, Vanpool Program Manager at 360.705.5829 or Riley White, Commuter Services Assistant at 360.705.5847.

 Freeman-Manzanares recognized that the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted the Zero-Fare Demonstration Program, and she asked the Authority about their desire to extend the demonstration project beyond COVID. With direction from the Authority, staff and legal counsel would move forward to amend the original resolution to reflect this. The Authority supported Freeman-Manzanares' suggestion to amend the resolution.

Prepared September 16, 2021 Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board