## Authority Meeting Highlights a brief recap of the May 5, 2021 Authority Meeting

This meeting was held remotely in accordance with <u>SCR 8402</u> extending certain gubernatorial orders issued in response to the COVID-19 state of emergency.

## Wednesday night, the Authority:

 Reviewed the Mission and Vision statements; existing Goals and End Policies and the Plan Policy Positions in the 2021-2026 Strategic Plan to determine if they remain relevant or need updating for the 2022-2027 Strategic Plan.

## **General Manager's Report:**

The Transportation Security Administration extended the Federal Face Mask Requirements from May 11, 2021 to September 13, 2021. Intercity Transit follows these guidelines.

Intercity Transit anticipates opening the Olympia Transit Center 2 facility on June 1, 2021. The public will have access to Customer Service and public restrooms.

Staff is in the process of finalizing background checks for the next Operator class which is scheduled to start May 24.

The State Legislature concluded its session. Intercity Transit requested approximately half of the DASH Operating Budget at \$750,000 for the biennium. IT has a line item for \$150,000 in the State Budget. Although disappointed in the level of state support for that service, we are glad, during this time of COVID, to have retained the line item.

IT was awarded \$2,275,344 towards the replacement of 18 Dial-A-Lift vehicles through the State Consolidated Grant Program.

IT applied for Olympia Express Service to Pierce County. There was some question as to whether or not we would qualify for such a grant but there really isn't another source at the State. Our Regional Mobility Grant expires June 30, 2021. IT requested \$3.25M to support that service. We anticipate continuing to provide Express Service and are cooperating with Thurston County Public Health in regards to returning inter-county service, and staff will likely suggest some changes to that service. The issue will be brought before the Authority at a future meeting.

IT was awarded four Regional Mobility Grants which is excellent news. We dedicated:

- \$220,000 to the promotion of vanpool and creating a program that is replicable for the remainder of the State.
- \$1,440,000 for the continued operation of The One.
- \$2,152,800 for the Martin Way Park-and-Ride and I-5 Northbound Ramp Access.
- \$684,800 for Bus Rapid Transit Development and Station Construction. This is another positive step forward in our quest to acquire a federal funding package in support of creating a BRT line for our community.

February 2021 sales tax, which was reported at the end of April, was 17.7% higher than the February 2020 sales tax.

Staff is kicking off the CAD/AVL Project with Avail Technology this month. We are meeting with TCOMM to discuss how to move forward in a way that both supports their radio project as well as our CAD/AVL project. The agreement for leased communications services ends at the end of this year. We reached out asking for an extension to allow for adequate time to roll-out and test our system before cutting over. However, TCOMM informed IT that it wasn't in their best interest to extend our lease, so we will meet and gain a better understanding of their needs and hopefully can come up with a solution that serves both organizations and our community well.

Freeman-Manzanares encourages everyone to get outside during the month of May and enjoy biking and participate in the Bicycle Commuter Challenge.

Prepared May 6, 2021
Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board