

There is \$5M identified for the rehabilitation of Intercity Transit's maintenance building in addition to supporting a myriad of other transportation and active transportation programs. We are hopeful and will continue to follow this along. The House will hold a hearing on February 17 at 3:30 p.m.

Five brand new buses were delivered over the last week, and we are expecting five more within the month. This will conclude the order of 63 buses that were ordered after the successful ballot measure in 2018. Intercity Transit is definitely in a "state of good repair."

There was a fire in an apartment building early on the morning of Saturday, February 12 and the Olympia Fire Department contacted Intercity Transit for assistance. There was an individual in that building refusing to allow OFD entry and wielding a knife. While OFD called in assistance from the SWAT team to address the situation, they evacuated the remainder of the building and IT served as a warming station for those individuals and transported them to the fire station until the situation was resolved.

Thank you to all who joined the tour of the Pattison Street construction site on January 31. We'll plan another tour, likely in the second quarter of the year.

Intercity Transit is in the midst of the Winter Bicycle Challenge, and we are hosting a Walk N Roll Winter Scavenger Hunt. The scavenger hunt is fun for the entire family and all Thurston County residents are invited to participate. If you ride your bike, you can log your rides in the [Winter Bicycle Challenge](#)! Get started by downloading your [scavenger hunt](#).

IT Operator, Leata Roberts, who assisted an individual contemplating jumping off of the Sleater-Kinney overpass is being presented with a Challenge Coin from the Olympia Police Department on Friday, February 18 at 10:30 a.m. at the Pattison Street Facility. This is a very nice recognition of her bravery and compassion for helping this individual. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The number of staff needing to either isolate or quarantine due to COVID is trending downward. IT was hit very hard in January which challenges our ability to keep service on the street. We are keeping our fingers crossed that the trend continues...forever. We, like so many others, are focusing heavily on recruiting great co-workers interested in serving the community. We could use everyone's assistance in that recruitment effort so we can get back to our pre-COVID levels of service then focus on expanding service. If you know of someone, please send them our way.

An important reminder to the Board and the community - as many are contemplating dropping masking requirements, Intercity Transit is still under a federal masking mandate at transit facilities and on transit vehicles. The Transportation Security Administration Masking Mandate is effective through March 18th.

Prepared February 17, 2022
Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board