

Intercity Transit Authority Meeting Highlights/Summary
A brief recap of March 5, 2025, Intercity Transit Authority Meeting

Wednesday night, the ITA:

- Declared Vanpool Vehicle 2205 as surplus. *(Noelle Gordon)*
- Canceled the public hearing scheduled for 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 19, 2025, on the September 2025 Major Service Change Summary and Draft Equity Analysis. *(Emily Bergkamp)*

Other Items of Interest:

- Jonathon Yee introduced Jason F. Aguero, Maintenance Administrative Assistant.
- Legal Counsel from Summit Law, John Lee and CFO Jana Brown provided an update on labor negotiations as well as the economic impact of the agency's and ATU's most recent proposal.
- Justin Leighton, Executive Director of the Washington State Transit Association provided a review of the 2025-2027 biennium legislative session and the possible impacts of projected budget shortfalls to transit funding.
- Members of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1765 and the general public gave public comments regarding wages and benefits being considered in Intercity Transit's current contract negotiations with ATU Local 1765. ATU is the labor union representing Operators, Customer Service Representatives and Dial-A-Lift Dispatch Specialists.

General Manager's Report:

On Monday, March 10, 2025, new ITA members Robert Vanderpool and Kelly Von Holtz will be onsite to receive an agency overview about Intercity Transit from the various Directors and senior staff.

State advocates David Foster and Joanna Grist recently facilitated meetings with 22nd Legislative District Representative Lisa Parshley. They provided a general agency update and discussed Intercity Transit's projects prioritized by WSDOT for funding consideration in the 2025-2027 biennium including:

- Battery Electric Coach Replacement Project
- Corridor Express Introducing New Limited-Stop Service from West Olympia to East Lacey
- Lacey Express Introducing I-5 Service from Lacey Transit Center to Sounder Station via Hawks Prairie and JBLM,
- Crosby Loop at SPSCC Improvements

Also discussed was possible funding of Intercity Transit's new route 14, which is taking the place of previous DASH service, by serving the Capitol Campus region and downtown Olympia with service to the Farmer's Market. IT is requesting 50% of estimated operating costs over the coming biennium (\$1,225,000).

We are on track and excited to welcome the Operator Class 25-01 on March 17.

March 18 is National Transit Employee Appreciation Day, when we honor our essential workers and transit heroes – Operators, Operations Supervisors, Facilities and Maintenance staff. Executive and Marketing staff are partnering to ensure these frontline folks are publicly honored on this very special day for the work they do. The Board and CAC members will have an opportunity to share their gratitude, so keep an eye out for an email message from Clerk of the Board, Pat Messmer on how to participate.

Newly appointed ITA Board member, Wendy Goodwin, received the Distinguished Public Service Award from the City of Lacey for her time as a Commissioner on the Parks, Cultural, and Recreation Board. Wendy accomplished a lot during her brief time as the Chair of the Commission - a leadership role she held for two years. She advocated for a bus stop improvement at the RAC in Lacey which Intercity Transit agreed to provide. She worked in collaboration with the Commission on Equity to update vendor applications which communicated the City of Lacey's stance as a compassionate and equitable community and vendors are expected to respect that at community events. She worked with our federal partners on new ways of educating park visitors in Lacey. She was working with an advisory group, outside of the Commission, which explored new ways to fund our parks and brought their conclusions to the Lacey City Council. In her last acting role as Chair, Wendy was in front of Council endorsing that group's plan. Congrats Wendy!

Owing to the uncertainty in State and Federal funding, the Planning staff is re-evaluating the timeline for the bus system redesign, which is why the public hearing scheduled for March 19 was cancelled. Once we have a better idea of possible changes, Planning staff will return and give an update to the Board.

Prepared March 6, 2025

Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board