

Intercity Transit Authority Meeting Highlights/Summary
A brief recap of October 15, 2025, Intercity Transit Authority Meeting

Wednesday night, the ITA:

- Directed staff to schedule CAC interviews on November 7 based on the recommendations of the ad-hoc committee. The ad-hoc committee recommends interviewing a portion of applicants versus all applicants, and select applicants based on thoroughness of responses and committee needs. The ad-hoc committee prepared a list of 18 short-list applicants (3 per vacancy) and 5 standby applicants, and the recommendation includes interviewing all youth applicants. *(Emily Bergkamp)*
- Authorized the General Manager, pursuant to Washington State Contract 03424, to purchase as-needed uniform items from Galls, LLC (Galls) in an amount not-to-exceed \$225,000 per year, including sales tax. *(Noelle Gordon)*
- Scheduled a public hearing for the 2026 draft budget for 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 5, 2025. Final adoption is proposed for December 3, 2025. *(Jana Brown)*
- Declared items as Surplus Property
 - A. **Bus Shelter.** Donate a surplus bus shelter to the City of Bucoda. The estimated value of the surplus bus shelter is \$500. *(Noelle Gordon)*
 - B. **Vehicles.** Declared the Vanpool and Facilities vehicles listed in Exhibit A as surplus. Intercity Transit received replacements for these vehicles which have exceeded their useful life and are surplus to our needs. In accordance with Intercity Transit's process, once declared surplus the non-federally funded vehicles will be offered for direct purchase by other public agencies. The total value of the vehicles listed in Exhibit A is estimated at \$116,250. *(Noelle Gordon)*

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.
- Matthew Branson, WSTIP Executive Director, presented Intercity Transit with the **WSTIP 2024 Safety Star Award**.
- David Chaffee introduced **Ted Blankenship, Technician**.

General Manager's Report

- Bergkamp gave a brief update on former ITA member Don Melnick, who applied to be on the CAC. Bergkamp said to capitalize on his vast experience, particularly his knowledge bridging the CAC and ITA, the ad-hoc committee will create an emeritus role for Don so he can assist with being an ambassador for the committee.

- IT's Grant Program Manager, Jessica Gould, applied for the WSDOT Active Transportation grant. The grant request is for \$147,657 for the purchase of 9 e-bikes (3 cargo bikes, 5 commuter bikes and 1 adaptive trike), supportive equipment, and a part-time program coordinator who would manage all aspects of the e-bike lending library. The design of the project and number of bikes was determined by the IT employee survey (over 100 responses!) which showed tremendous interest and support for this project. Kerri Wilson brought the opportunity and the vision to apply for an e-bike lending library for IT employees. With help from the following individuals, we put together a very strong application:
 - Kerri—vision and a fully formed Project Implementation Plan
 - Thera—editing for word limits, content enhancement, and letter of support drafts
 - Drew—updated map of service area
 - Heather and Ally—employee survey assistance
 - Peter and the Cut Commute Committee—Letter of support and encouragement
 - Mark Neuville—Letter of support from ATU
 - Jana—liaison with WSTIP on insurance questions

- In celebration of October's National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), the DEI committee hosted a special presentation by Steve Ferreira, founder of *Beyond Disabilities*, on Monday, October 6th. Ferreira is a dynamic and inspiring motivational speaker who has shared his story over 1,000 times across the U.S. and internationally. Born with cerebral palsy, Steve brings a powerful message about overcoming limitations, embracing differences, and living life beyond disability. His presentations offer a fresh perspective on inclusion, accessibility, and the value of diverse experiences in the workplace.

In addition to his speaking career, Ferreira is an accomplished athlete, a TEDx presenter, and a certified ADA consultant. His organization, *Beyond Disabilities*, advocates for people with disabilities and encourages communities to recognize that disability is simply a different way of living—not a limitation. To learn more about Steve, visit his website [Beyond Disabilities | Motivational Speaker | United States](#).

- Customer Service Manager Jane Denicola and the Customer Service Team celebrated Customer Service Week October 6-10 with the theme of Mission: Possible. The work group enjoyed a group lunch out and held an Open House for all IT employees with refreshments, games and fun, and enjoyed a breakfast made by Denicola, Supervisors Russ Gilsdorf and Renee Fonseca. Thank you, Customer Service, for all the great support you provide our agency and the folks who count on us, our customers.

Prepared October 16, 2025
Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board