

Intercity Transit Authority Meeting Highlights/Summary
A brief recap of February 18, 2026, Intercity Transit Authority Meeting

Wednesday night, the ITA:

- Authorized the General Manager to execute a contract with Vector Electrical Group, LLC, in the amount of \$509,167, including a 10% contingency. (Jonathan Martin)
- Authorized the General Manager, pursuant to Washington State Contract 28423, to purchase a Chevrolet Work Truck from Bud Clary Chevrolet in the amount of \$101,000 including sales tax. (Noelle Gordon)
- Approved Resolution 01-2026 amending ITA Bylaws, paragraph 5.1 to change the ITA meeting frequency from twice per month, to once per month effective April 1, 2026. (Emily Bergkamp)
- Approved the biennial performance evaluation during an executive session at the March 4, 2026, meeting. (Emily Bergkamp)

Other Items of Interest:

- Cameron Crass provided an update on the Ambassador Program.

General Manager's Report

- Digital Schedules and maps are now online at <https://www.intercitytransit.com/>, and work has started on new transit guides which will be available well in advance of the May service redesign. A temporary trip planner will be available soon.

We also have outreach planned at several locations over the next few weeks to educate riders about the changes coming.

- The 2026 Winter Bicycle Challenge is here! Intercity Transit's annual Winter Bicycle Challenge encourages all Thurston County residents to bike for any reason. This fun and free event runs throughout the month of February and is open to people of all ages. Those interested can sign up at <https://bcc.intercitytransit.com/>.
- Bergkamp and Chief Marketing, Communications, and Outreach Officer Nick Demerice were interviewed for the Olympia Standard Podcast by co-host Daniel Garcia to chat about the upcoming May Service Redesign. The episode is posted at their website <https://theolympiastandard.com/>.
- Bergkamp, Dial-A-Lift Manager Kevin Karkoski, Human Resources Deputy Director Alana Neal, and Chief Communications, External Relations Officer Nick Demerice attended Leadership Thurston County's Distinguished Leadership Awards. TVW, Katie McMurray founder of Sensory Tool House, and the Squaxin Island Tribe were honored for demonstrating outstanding initiative, inspiring others, and making a significant impact in our community beyond their organizations, exemplified through their community support and involvement.

Bergkamp discussed riding the bus to the event, which was an enjoyable trip to and from on a lovely, dry, evening!

- Bergkamp shared information about Intercity Transit's role during World Cup Festivities at the February 11 Transportation Policy Board meeting presentation by Jennie Foglia-Jones, the consultant working on local events for the Thurston County Chamber. IT is eligible for funding through WSDOT to increase route frequency by 1,500 service hours locally (24, 51, 14) for a Fan Zone event planned for June 19, 2026, at The Port of Olympia, and regionally on Seattle Match dates (route 600). World Cup attendees often book hotel rooms up to three hours away from the venue. Some of the local routes mentioned are being implemented with our service redesign going into effect May 3, 2026.

Event organizers are exploring event parking at South Puget Sound Community College, and there is usually ample parking along Deschutes Pkwy. for good access to Route 24, and at the Martin Way Park-and-Ride and Hawks Prairie Park-and-Ride for 15-minute service on new Route 9x to OTC where fans can connect with Route 24.

The local expanded service will be open to everyone riding transit the dates the fan zone is active, as will regional service for Seattle match dates.

Intercity Transit will also be working with the event organizer to promote using transit for the SEA-WIN app activities encouraging visitors to frequent locations in Olympia/Lacey for chances to win fan gear.

- Wednesday, March 18 is National Transit Employee Appreciation Day. This annual celebration is recognized across the transit industry to recognize and honor its workforce, specifically frontline employees, trades technicians, and essential workers who continuously strive to deliver vital transportation options that serve as a lifeline for our community.

Our Coach and Dial-A-Lift (DAL) Operators, Operations Supervisors, DAL Supervisors and Dispatch Specialists, Maintenance, Facilities and Inventory teams, Customer Service Representatives, Transit Ambassadors, Travel Trainers, Village Vans, Walk N' Roll, and Vanpool program staff go above and beyond to keep us moving. Our agency event planners have some fun ways to honor these Transit Heroes on March 18 and the surrounding days.

- IT completed the first full year of our Stipend program for CAC participation. Attendance increased by 32% YOY. The 2024 average attendance across all members and all months was about 60%. The 2025 average attendance across all members and all months was 92%.
 - Year 1- 50% enrollment in stipend from CAC members.
- We are currently recruiting for a Chief of Staff (COS), which was crafted to replace the budgeted FTE position of Director of Strategic Programs, previously held by retiree Eric Phillips. The COS will serve as a strategic and trusted advisor to the General Manager. This role offers a unique opportunity to advance the Agency's mission and vision by promoting a unified framework for colleagues at all levels to understand their role in shaping the present and future success of Intercity Transit. The COS will play a pivotal role in supporting the development and sustainability of our robust, inclusive transit system that meets the evolving needs of our community.

Visit our website to apply. Applicants need to include a letter of interest and a resume. Letters of interest should explain how candidates meet the skills and qualifications for this position. **Completed applications must be submitted in NEOGOV by 5 p.m., Wednesday, March 25, 2026.**

If ITA members know of anyone who might be interested, the Clerk can forward the information to you.

Prepared February 19, 2026, Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board