

REVISED

AGENDA
INTERCITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
WORK SESSION
March 18, 2015
5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

- | | | |
|----|---|---------|
| 1) | APPROVAL OF AGENDA | 1 min. |
| 2) | INTRODUCTIONS
A. Grace Arnis, Citizen Advisory Committee (<i>Nathaniel Jones</i>) | 1 min. |
| 3) | PUBLIC COMMENT
<i>Public Comment Note: This is the place on the agenda where the public is invited to address the Authority on any issue. The person speaking is asked to sign-in on the General Public Comment Form for submittal to the Clerk of the Board. Please include your first and last name, a mailing address or a phone number (in the event we need to contact you). When your name is called, step up to the podium and give your name for the audio record. If you are unable to utilize the podium, you will be provided a microphone at your seat. Citizens testifying are asked to limit testimony to three minutes.</i>

<i>The Authority will not typically respond to your comments this same evening; however, they may ask some clarifying questions.</i> | 10 min. |
| 4) | I-5 at JBLM STUDY (<i>Bill Elliott, WSDOT</i>) | 40 min. |
| 5) | CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT (<i>Grace Arnis</i>) | 3 min. |
| 6) | GRANT APPLICATIONS UPDATE (<i>Ann Freeman-Manzanares</i>) | 10 min. |
| 7) | WALK N'ROLL YOUTH PROGRAM UPDATE (<i>Erin Scheel</i>) | 30 min. |
| 8) | GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT | 30 min. |
| 9) | AUTHORITY ISSUES | 10 min. |

ADJOURNMENT

Notice: The Authority will conduct a discussion following the work session, pursuant to RCW 42.30.140 (4) (b) to discuss the ATU Local 1765 negotiations.

Intercity Transit is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of its transit services on the basis of race, color, or national origin consistent with requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Federal Transit Administration guidance in FTA Circular 4702.

For questions regarding Intercity Transit's Title VI Program, you may contact the agency's Title VI Officer at (360) 705-5885 or bholman@intercitytransit.com.

If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please call us at (360) 705-5860 three days prior to the meeting.

For TDD users, please use the state's toll-free relay service, 711 and ask the operator to dial (360) 705-5860.

Please consider using an alternate mode to attend this meeting: bike, walk, bus, carpool, or vanpool. This facility is served by Routes 62A, 62B (on Martin Way), and 66 (on Pacific Avenue).

**INTERCITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
WORK SESSION
AGENDA ITEM NO. 4
MEETING DATE: March 18, 2015**

FOR: Intercity Transit Authority

FROM: Bill Elliott, WSDOT Project Manager

SUBJECT: I-5 at JBLM Study

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- 1) **The Issue:** Learn about the study and recommendations associated with a WSDOT led project focused on improving I-5 mobility in the vicinity of Joint Base Lewis-McChord.
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- 2) **Recommended Action:** For information and discussion.
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- 3) **Policy Analysis:** N/A.
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- 4) **Background:** WSDOT has been coordinating a study to evaluate alternatives and develop a recommended strategy for improving I-5 mobility in the vicinity of Joint Base Lewis-McChord. This briefing will provide an update, including measures used in the evaluation, lane configuration options proposed for further analysis, and next steps in this project of regional and statewide significance.
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- 5) **Alternatives:** N/A.
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- 6) **Budget Notes:** N/A.
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- 7) **Goal Reference:** N/A.
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- 8) **References:** N/A.

**INTERCITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
WORK SESSION
AGENDA ITEM NO. 6
MEETING DATE: March 18, 2015**

FOR: Intercity Transit Authority

FROM: Ann Freeman-Manzanares, 705-5838

SUBJECT: Grant Applications

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- 1) **The Issue:** Staff will provide details regarding pending applications for Surface Transportation Program (STP), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds.
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- 2) **Recommended Action:** For information and discussion.
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- 3) **Policy Analysis:** The Authority is responsible for budget approval for projects including local match.
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- 4) **Background:** The Thurston Regional Planning Council issued a call for projects for transportation funding opportunities on March 9, 2015, with a due date of April 5, 2015. Staff will provide information on proposed grant applications at the meeting.
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- 5) **Alternatives:** N/A.
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- 6) **Budget Notes:** Proposed match requirements will be identified at the meeting.
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- 7) **Goal Reference:** N/A.
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- 8) **References:** N/A.

**INTERCITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
WORK SESSION
AGENDA ITEM NO. 7
MEETING DATE: March 18, 2015**

FOR: Intercity Transit Authority

FROM: Erin Scheel, Youth Education Specialist, 705-5836

SUBJECT: Walk N'Roll Youth Program Update

1) **The Issue:** To highlight the work of the agency's Walk N'Roll Youth Education Program.

2) **Recommended Action:** For information and discussion.

3) **Policy Analysis:** The Authority supports marketing and outreach to youth as part of the agency's overall objective to increase ridership, raise awareness of alternative transportation modes and support community sustainability.

4) **Background:** Intercity Transit began a youth education program in mid-2007 as a strategic element to expand the agency's outreach, education and marketing to a key audience - youth. The Walk N'Roll program, as it is called, was also intended to expand Intercity Transit's partnerships, and most importantly, raise awareness and use of alternative transportation within our community.

The program reaches thousands of students across Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater, and Yelm each year, as well as many teachers, school administrators, community representatives and parents. Activities include on-bus "rolling classroom" demonstrations, Walk to School Day, the Earn-a-Bike program, Bicycle and Pedestrian Education in PE classes at schools, Safe Routes to School grant work, the Healthy Kids - Safe Streets Action Plan, and community events.

Staff will present information on progress made during the 2014-2015 school year.

5) **Alternatives:** N/A.

6) **Budget Notes:** This work is supported by a permanent position within the Marketing & Communications division, and by WSDOT and Transportation

Alternatives Program (TAP) grant partnerships with the City of Olympia and the Thurston Regional Planning Council.

- 7) **Goal Reference:** **Goal #1:** *“Assess the transportation needs of our community.”* **Goal #2:** *“Provide outstanding customer service.”* **Goal #3:** *“Maintain a safe and secure operating system.”* **Goal #4:** *“Provide responsive transportation option.”* **Goal #5:** *“Align best practices and support agency sustainable technologies and activities.”*
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- 8) **References:** Healthy Kids – Safe Streets Action Plan.

Testimonials

"This is really good because we need to get our kids healthy and doing active things at home and at school."

-Elementary school parent on International Walk to School Day

"It was a wonderful morning for the two of us to have the time to walk and notice the little things in the neighborhood."

-Elementary school parent

"We rode our bikes this morning. It was freezing, but it was great fun!"

-Madison Elementary parent on a Walking & Wheeling Wednesday

Did You Know...

40 years ago, 50% of students walked or rode bikes to school. Today fewer than 15% travel on their own steam.

Over the last 40 years, childhood obesity has gone from 4% to 17% (2008 figure). In the last decade, obesity in youth has doubled.

By the end of the Walk & Roll program's first year, 57% of students walked or cycled to school and only 17% arrived by car. At the beginning of the year 47% arrived by car and only 24% walked or cycled.

Partnerships and Success Stories

Problem: How to build a generation of safe and healthy walkers, bike riders and bus riders

Action Taken:

Walk & Roll school-based encouragement demonstration programs at three elementary schools included: monthly flyers with walk/bike safety tips; "Walking & Wheeling Wednesday" encouragement, prizes for participation, contests, safety assemblies.



Walk & Roll Program Partnership included Thurston Regional Planning Council, Intercity Transit, Olympia School District and Madison, Roosevelt, and Pioneer elementary schools, Safe Kids, City of Olympia, State Department of Transportation - Highways and Local Programs – Safe Routes to School, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and State Department of Health.

Problem: Overcoming barriers regarding student travel to school

Safety Issue

Action Taken:

- "Stranger danger" fears addressed at two Walk & Roll sponsored "Safety Without Fear" interactive forums with a child development specialist.
- Pedestrian and bike safety education through monthly Walk & Roll event flyers, special walk/bike safety classes for students and parents, school safety assemblies with visits by police and Intercity Transit Youth Program coordinator.
- New "Pace Car" and Anti-Idling pledge program to slow driving speeds and promote clean air.
- Initiation of Walking School Bus with several parents walking with a group of students to and from school.
- Identification of infrastructure safety issues.

Distance Issue (i.e. too far to walk/bike)

Action Taken:

- Walk & Roll program focuses on urban schools and students living within a mile of school.
- Walk & Roll program addresses issues and supports a culture of changed attitudes toward student travel to school throughout the school community.
- Walk & Roll program encourages:
 - students traveling by bus to take the long way around the block to get to and from the bus stop;
 - students who must be driven encouraged to park several blocks from school and walk in.
- Action Plan recognizes the importance of school siting. The Plan recommends that school site cost/benefit analysis consider long term student transportation costs and the benefits of making walking and biking to school possible for more students.



Weather Issue

Action Taken:

- Walk & Roll encouragement programs, prizes and contests resulted in participation no matter what kind of weather. Ongoing survey data continues to inform the process.



Healthy Kids – Safe Streets Action Plan

Initiatives to encourage kids to walk, bike & bus to school

Goals

- Build a generation of safe and healthy walkers, bike riders, and bus riders
- Promote regular physical activity so students stay strong, healthy, and ready to learn
- Reinforce good traffic safety skills

The Problem

Too few students walk, bike, or take the bus. Too many parents drive students to school. Too few students get enough daily physical activity. *Did you know that 50 % of students living within a 1/2 mile of school are driven to school?*

The Result

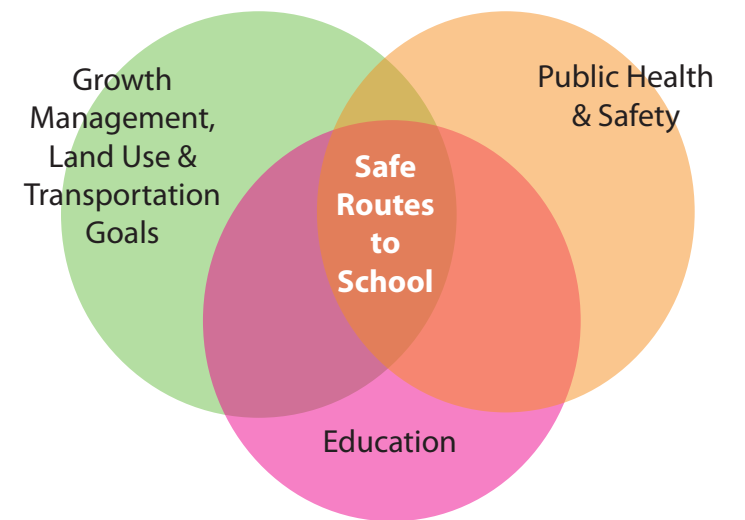
Parents driving students to school account for:

- 25% of morning peak hour traffic
- a decrease in safety, air quality, student health and readiness to learn (due to lack of exercise)
- a lack of knowledge and experience needed to be safe pedestrians and cyclists

Partners in the Plan:

- Parents
- Local School Districts & School Staff
- Intercity Transit
- Local Governments
- Thurston Regional Planning Council
- Thurston County Health & Social Services
- Olympic Region Clean Air Agency
- State Department of Transportation
- State Department of Health
- State Department of Commerce

Healthy Kids - Safe Streets Action Plan Achieves Shared Goals



For more information:

On Youth Programs, contact: **Erin Scheel**
Intercity Transit Youth Education Specialist
360-705-5839 or escheel@intercitytransit.com

On Action Plan, contact: **Kathy McCormick**
Thurston Regional Planning Council Senior Planner, AICP
360-956-7575 or mccormk@trpc.org

This Action Plan results from school and community stakeholder ideas and Walk & Roll demonstration project findings. The plan identifies strategies, programs and policies that address school, transportation, and community health issues.

Healthy Kids - Safe Streets Action Plan

Next Steps

- 1. Review of Action Plan.** Stakeholder groups commit to take action and identify advocates.
- 2. Create a Safe Routes to School Coordination Team** to advocate for the Action Plan initiatives; apply for funding to support programs and infrastructure improvements; and serve as a resource for school site analysis. Identify a facilitator for the team. Members should include at least school districts, and jurisdiction planning/public works. Adjunct representation should include Thurston County Health & Social Services, Intercity Transit and Thurston Regional Planning Council.
- 3. Identify a Safe Routes liaison within each school district** to act as a contact with school principals to develop the required Safe Routes Walking and Biking map and possible expansion of the Walk & Roll program.
- 4. Complete Safe Routes Walking and Biking Map for each school in the county.** State law requires Safe Routes maps for all schools by September 2013. Determine responsibility and most effective and efficient way to complete maps. Identify safety improvements as part of the process.

Programs to Develop or Expand

- 1. Develop Walk & Roll program template and "How To" manual** for program expansion to additional schools.
- 2. Identify ways to sustain and build Walk & Roll type school-based incentive programs at additional schools.**
- 3. Identify funds needed to support staff and program** such as stipends for school coordinators or incentive programs.

Policies to Incorporate in Plans

School District and Local Government:

- 1. Establish early communication about infrastructure improvements** to identify opportunities to collaborate, co-locate or connect facilities to encourage walking, biking, and transit use.
- 2. Consider the long range costs and benefits of school siting decisions** including long term transportation costs to the community as a whole (school districts, households), and the costs and benefits to student health.

- 3. Collaborate on school design and infrastructure improvements** at the beginning of the design process to maximize opportunities for walking, biking and transit use.

State:

- 1. Advocate state policy change for school siting guidelines.**
- 2. Encourage state policy change related to school retrofit and maintenance.**
- 3. Add state policy or incentive to locate schools on transit routes or within walking distance of large student populations.**
- 4. Advocate for state policy directive to contribute to infrastructure improvements and programs** targeted to students living within a mile of school – instead of yellow school bus funding in these areas.

For more information, including draft policy language, go to <http://www.trpc.org/regionalplanning/transportation/projects/Pages/HealthyKidsSafeStreets.aspx>

The "Five E's" - Strategies for Healthy Kids - Safe Streets

Education

Teach children about the broad range of transportation choices; instruct them in lifelong bicycle and walking safety skills; and launch driver safety campaigns near schools.

- Integrate bicycle, pedestrian, and transit education into school curriculum. **SD*
- Assist school districts in creating Safe Routes Walking and Biking Map for each school per state law. *SD, TRPC, CO, PTO*
- Create a community outreach plan to raise awareness and promote walking and biking to school. *SD, IT, LG, CO*
- Address parental concerns through outreach campaign. *PTO*

Encouragement

Use events and activities to promote walking and bicycling.

- Maintain and expand existing school-based encouragement programs like Walk & Roll. *SD, IT, LG, TRPC, PTO*
- Identify a leader within the school to coordinate bike and walk programs. *SD*
- Hold annual study sessions with school boards to review new walking, biking, and transit related initiatives. *SD, SRTS*
- Identify a funding source to provide subsidized transit passes for the school community. *IT, SD*
- Establish a school district policy to give physical education credits to students for walking and biking. *SD*
- Support state and local policies encouraging flexible work hours so parents can walk or bike with children. *S*

Enforcement

Partner with local law enforcement and community programs to increase awareness, slow speeds, and increase traffic safety.

- Slow speeds and reduce idling through "Pace Car" campaign. Drivers pledge to drive within the speed limit and not idle. *IT, TRPC, SD, NA, PTO*
- Initiate a Walking School Bus (either school or parent-run) to give more students an opportunity to walk with an adult leader. *SD, PTO, CO*
- Analyze the effect of shifting school start time by 15 minutes to alter traffic volume and increase safety for biking and walking. *SD, LG, CO*
- Work with high schools to develop alternatives to drive alone vehicle use and encourage closed campuses at lunch to enhance student safety. *S*

Engineering

Improve opportunities to walk & bike through school siting & design of walkways, bikeways, & street connections.

- Adopt a policy for school districts and jurisdictions on school and community facility siting and infrastructure planning and design. *SD, LG*
- Advocate changes to state policies relating to school size, school siting guidelines, and transportation funding to encourage easily accessible neighborhood schools. *SRTS*
- Make sidewalks, bike lanes, lighting and crossing improvements a high priority within 1/2 mile of schools. *S*
- Separate modes of travel at arrival points at schools to avoid bike and pedestrian conflicts with cars. *SD, LG*

Evaluation

Monitor and document trends and outcomes to identify the most effective strategies.

- Survey families annually to track successes and identify challenges. Administer the Safe Routes to School Survey through schools. *SD, PTO, SRTS*
- Engage Parent Leaders. Create a Walk & Roll Parent Steering Committee to plan and share ideas between and among schools. *PTO, SRTS*
- Seek input and leadership from school staff, parents and students to fit strategies and messages to each school's needs. *PTO, SRTS*
- Track vehicle use reductions around schools to monitor success of walking and biking initiatives. *CO, LG, SRTS*



Walk & Roll is a grant supported project demonstrating how to build and sustain partnerships that will result in a new generation of healthy

and safe walkers, cyclists and bus riders and reduce trips to and around school. "Walking & Wheeling Wednesdays" are part of the project.



* STAKEHOLDERS

CO - Community Organizations
IT - Intercity Transit
LG - Local Government
NA - Neighborhood Associations
PTO - Parent-Teacher Organizations

S - Stakeholders
SD - School District
SRTS - Safe Routes to School Coordination Team
TRPC - Thurston Regional Planning Council

WALK N ROLL

A Youth Education Program of **Intercity Transit**

In Partnership with Thurston Regional Planning Council

Program Update
Spring 2015



Intercity Transit's Youth Education Program

MISSION

To **educate** and **encourage youth** to get around by **biking, walking, and riding the bus** to foster a **healthy, active community.**

INTERCITY
TRANSIT

Intercity Transit's Youth Education Program

VISION

**Youth will access their community using
healthy, active transportation.**

INTER*city*
TRANSIT

Program Goals

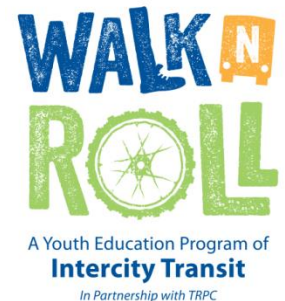
Safety – Health – Well-being – Choices

- **Promote Transit** – every bus trip begins and ends with biking or walking
- Reinforce good traffic safety skills
- **Promote regular physical activity**
- Focus safe walking and biking street improvements – specially within ½ mile of schools
- **Coordinate and partner to improve the walking, biking, and transit access for youth, through design, infrastructure, education & encouragement.**

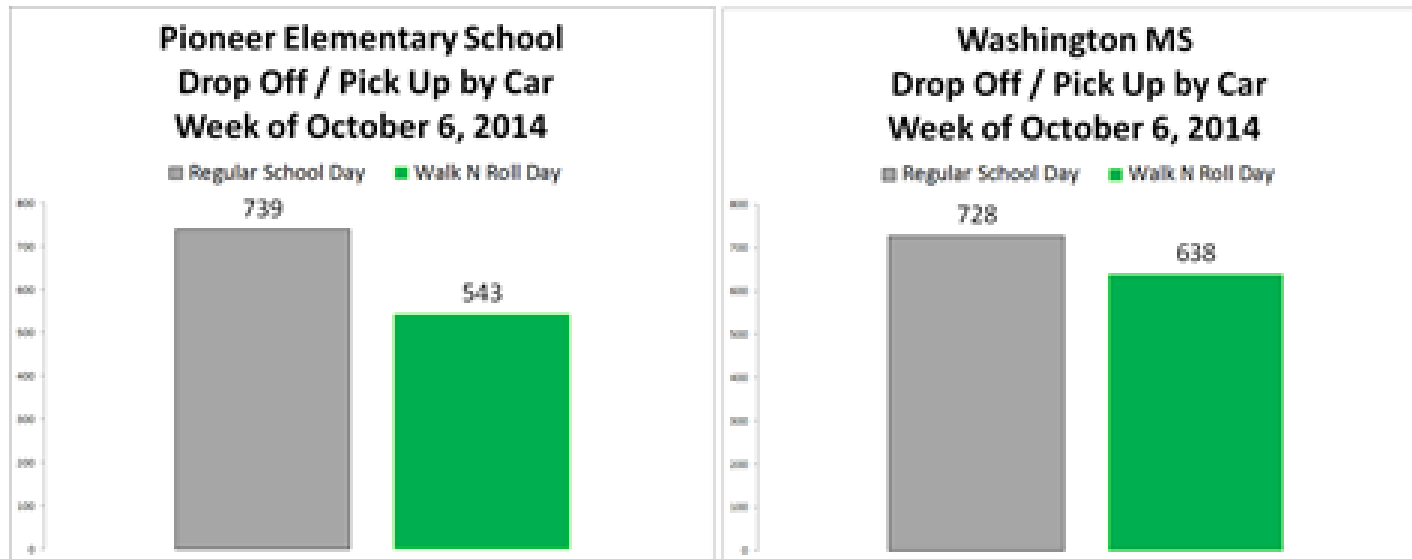


Schools & Transportation Evolution

- Community Forums
 - Health & Built Environment – 2006 (WSDOT)
 - Why Can't Kids Walk & Bike to School? – 2009 (Olympia)
- Demonstration Program
 - Walk n Roll – 2009 (TRPC/OSD/Olympia)
- Plans
 - Healthy Kids – Safe Streets Action Plan
 - Sustainable Thurston School and Transportation Panels



How is it working?



Walk to School Day

10 schools, hundreds of students



Peer Outreach Middle Schools



Kidical Mass Monthly Family Rides

Family-Friendly Bike Rides

When: 2nd Sunday of the month at 2pm

Kidical Mass Thurston County is all about family friendly bike rides that emphasize bike safety and celebrate the joy and practicality of bike riding.



Bicycle and Pedestrian Skills in PE

Over 400 5th and 6th Graders Participate



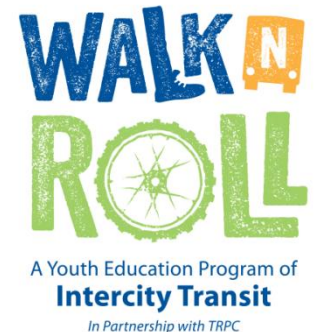
Earn-a-Bike (Bike PARTners)

75 students earn bikes every year



Looking Ahead 2013-2015

- Transpiration Alternatives Programs (TAP)
 - Continue outreach county-wide
- Safe Routes to School (SRTS)
- New workshop space for Earn-a-Bike (formerly Bike PARTners)
- Strategic Planning



Thank You



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