

**INTERCITY TRANSIT
RESOLUTION NO. 04-2021**

**EXTENDING THE SUSPENSION OF FARE COLLECTION FOR FIXED-ROUTE
AND DIAL-A-LIFT SERVICES AND EXTENDING THE “ZERO-FARE”
DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM**

A **RESOLUTION** extending the demonstration program and suspension of fare collection for Fixed-Route and Dial-A-Lift services, implementing an interim change in fare collection policy, extending the five-year demonstration program to evaluate the benefits of “Zero-Fare,” establishing review procedures and setting the effective date as January 1, 2020.

WHEREAS, Intercity Transit is a public transportation benefit area created under Chap. 36.57A RCW; and

WHEREAS, Intercity Transit provides public transportation services to Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater, Yelm and the urban growth boundaries of Thurston County; and

WHEREAS, Intercity Transit’s mission is to provide and promote public transportation choices that support an accessible, sustainable, livable, healthy, prosperous community; and

WHEREAS, Thurston County voters approved Proposition 1, November 2018, supporting a “transformational” transit system and consideration of the current fare collection system; and

WHEREAS, during 2019 the Intercity Transit Authority solicited and reviewed a technical analysis of the existing fare collection system, capital and operating costs, future revenue considerations, and options to the current system that would provide a range of community benefits as documented during the two-year public engagement process - “Road Trip;” and

WHEREAS, Intercity Transit’s 2020 *Strategic Plan* provides policy direction to implement a “Zero-Fare” demonstration program; and

WHEREAS, the Authority wishes to evaluate the community benefits of a “Zero-Fare” demonstration program; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 03-2019 established a five-year “Zero-Fare” demonstration program effective January 1, 2020 and continuing through January 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the state of emergency declared in the United States, the State of Washington and Thurston County due to the global COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the ability of Intercity Transit to provide services to the public and collect necessary data to conduct the technical analysis of the “Zero-Fare” demonstration program; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to extend the “Zero-Fare” demonstration program for a period of time to reflect the disruption to Intercity Transit’s Fixed-Route and Dial-A-Lift services;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE INTERCITY TRANSIT
AUTHORITY AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Five-year “Zero-Fare” demonstration extended. Intercity Transit will continue to suspend fare collections as authorized under Resolution 03-2019 on all Fixed-Route and Dial-A-Lift in accordance with the “Zero-Fare” demonstration program policy, set forth in the agency’s *Strategic Plan* for a period of three additional years, beginning on the date that the General Manager determines such Fixed-Route and Dial-A-Lift services have returned to normal service levels existing in March 2020, or until January 1, 2028, whichever is later. The demonstration program shall be subject to annual review by the Intercity Transit Authority, as part of the *Strategic Plan* and annual Budget process.

Section 2. Fares Suspended during “Zero-Fare” demonstration. During the Zero-Fare demonstration period the underlying fares and fare categories established under Resolution 02-2012 will remain in place until completion of the Zero-Fare demonstration period or replaced or modified by separate action of the Authority.


Section 3. Authority Review of “Zero-Fare” demonstration. Annual review of the Zero-Fare demonstration policy shall continue to occur with the review and updates of the *Strategic Plan* and annual Budget process; provided, the Authority may review the “Zero-Fare” demonstration policy at any time in accordance with applicable procedures, including a public hearing as may be required in accordance with the Intercity Transit Bylaws.

Section 4. Future Federal Compliance. Intercity Transit is a “small” urban system with less than 200,000 population. In the event that Intercity is designated as a “large” urban system at or prior to the expiration of the “Zero-Fare” demonstration, a Fare Equity Analysis may be required to be performed prior to reinstatement or changes to the fare structure and types (reserved under Resolution 02-2012) in accordance with FTA requirements and Intercity transits current Title VI plan.

Section 5. Excludes Vanpool. The suspension of fare collection under the “Zero-Fare” demonstration period does not apply to Vanpool fares as established, separately, under Resolution 02-2021.


ADOPTED: This 20th day of October 2021

INTERCITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY



Carolyn Cox, Chair

ATTEST:



Pat Messmer
Executive Assistant/
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Jeffrey S. Myers
Legal Counsel