Thank you to everyone who joined us at the September 18, 2018, Networking Session. We hope to see you at the next Networking Session on December 4, 2018. In the meantime, here’s a summary of what you missed.

**Thurston County Bike Map Update**

Paul Brewster, Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC).

The new 6th Edition Thurston County Bike Map is ready. Paul Brewster, Senior Planner from TRPC presented the new bike map branded, “Ride Thurston County”. 20,000 copies hit the streets in early October.

In addition to updated route information, the new map has fewer background colors making the routes easier to read. The map showcases the Olympia and Lacey Bicycle Streets – routes with lower volume, slower speeds, and are clearly signed and marked for bicycling. These routes will appeal to a wide range of riders who prefer to avoid car traffic. The new map also includes more of Capitol Forest within Grays Harbor County, showcasing some of the forest’s popular mountain biking trails.

In addition to the paper version, users can visit [www.thurstonbikemap.com](http://www.thurstonbikemap.com) to find an interactive bike trip planner map to search for a suitable route based on one’s desired origin and destination. The route planner will present options and show distance, estimated travel time, and an elevation profile across the entire route. Bicyclists can also download the Avenza app for their GPS enabled smart phone and download a GPS enabled version of the bike map to always know where they are, even when wireless cell phone service is not available.

ETCs can order paper copies for worksites by contacting Burlina Montgomery at 360-956-7575 or montgomeryb@trpc.org.

**Intercity Transit Bus Route & Schedule Change**

Rob LaFontaine, Intercity Transit.

Intercity Transit is improving its bus service with revised routes. Major route changes went into affect September 23, 2018. For more information on the updated route maps and schedules visit [www.intercitytransit.com/bus/routes](http://www.intercitytransit.com/bus/routes).

**Transportation Demand Manager**

Judy Lorenzo, Department of Enterprise Services.

Holly Gilbert, TRPC, introduced Judy Lorenzo the new Transportation Demand Manager for the Department of Enterprise Services. Judy provided an update on Capitol Campus parking.

**Wheel Options 2018**

**Wheel Options Love Your Commute!**

Log your trips at [www.wheeloptions.org](http://www.wheeloptions.org) at least six days in October – vanpooling, biking, walking, carpooling, transit, telecommuting, compressed work week, or a combination of these modes. Once you log your trips you are entered to win some great rewards such as a host of $50 retail rewards, $1,500 grand prize Tango reward and second place of $500 Tango rewards. Wheel Options runs the whole month of October so start logging now.

**2018 CTR Events Calendar**

Find the full calendar on the [2018 Events Calendar](http://2018eventscalendar.thurstoncommutes.org) page on ThurstonCommutes.org.
rural Transit (rT) - Connecting Communities Through Public Transportation

ETCs heard from Karen Parkhurst, TRPC.

Average Month: 600 hours of service. Traveling 15,000 miles. Supplying 3,400 trips.

Each month, the rural Transit program helps people travel to work and school, essential services, and other activities.

More Service 2019

Last year, the contracted vendor Around the Sound replaced its aging fleet with new propane vehicles. The resulting savings from these more fuel-efficient, less polluting vehicles will allow us to provide a bit more mid-day service – likely starting in January 2019. As we get closer to the service change date, we’ll provide more information.

rT Now Available on Google Transit

TRPC staff just completed this very detailed process so customers have one more tool to help plan their travels.

Materials

Would you like rT Rider Guides, posters, rack cards, book marks, business cards to display at your worksite or distribute to your employees who live in the more rural portions of Thurston County or the Centralia area? Contact Burlina Montgomery at montgomeryb@trpc.org or call 360-956-7575.

For more information on rT visit www.thurstonRT.org or call customer service at 1-253-472-7846.

Expanding Travel Options: Faster, Smarter, and More Affordable, A 2019-2023 Strategic Plan

Karen Parkhurst, TRPC.

CTR Works!

We’ve always known that Commute Trip Reduction (CTR)/Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies work. Finally, others are waking up to the reality that we can’t “build our way out of congestion” and that we don’t have the resources to maintain the system we already have, let alone invest in making it bigger through road building projects. Wild applause for the hard work you do to make the whole transportation system more efficient!

CTR Board

The State Commute Trip Reduction Board provides policy guidance to the CTR Program: (1) developing, reviewing, and approving local, regional, and state CTR plans; (2) allocating program funding; and (3) ensuring statewide consistency among county/local ordinances.

Board’s New Strategic Plan

The CTR Board recently released their 2019-2023 Strategic Plan, which intends to:

• Streamline program administration,
• Provide more flexibility, and
• Produce more useful transportation behavior data

The Plan also calls for (1) integrating TDM into all state transportation projects/programs; (2) expanding TDM funding; and (3) encouraging TDM at the local level. The new TDM funding would operate through a competitive grant process, and the Olympia I-5 area is one of the 4 focus areas for the funding.

The Secretary of Transportation, Roger Millar, plans to chair the CTR Board – this reflects his commitment to CTR/TDM solutions.

To view the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan visit the Thurston Commutes Website.
Vanpool Program Update
Bree Anderson and Keith Clark, Intercity Transit.

Intercity Transit’s two new employees, Bree Anderson and Keith Clark, shared they are fulfilling a new position of Vanpool Outreach Coordinators. Their mission is to make your job as ETC’s easier by simply showing you how to utilize them as a helpful resource in hopes of stimulating vanpool activity through education, outreach, and useful tools. This dedicated duo is committed to helping your staff save money and is looking to schedule brief, in person vanpool check-in’s to present new best practices for vanpool engagement such as event planning assistance and more!

As Vanpool Outreach Coordinators, the two of them are building relationships with ETCs and ultimately bridging the gap between Intercity Transit and state agencies in order to work together to save staff money, stress, and our environment we all share.

For more information or if you would like to schedule your vanpool check in, see contact info below:

Bree Anderson
360-705-5848
banderson@intercitytransit.com

Keith Clark
360-705-5856
kclark@intercitytransit.com

Small Group Discussion
Facilitated by Holly Gilbert, Thurston Regional Planning Council.

ETCs broke out into four groups to discuss their plans for sharing the information they heard at the Networking Session with their worksites. Lots of ideas were shared on how to get the word out on the bus route and schedule changes from both Intercity Transit and Rural Transit, as well as information on Wheel Options, the new Bike Map, and vanpools.

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Burina Montgomery
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- State & Local Requirements & Compliance
- Training & Technical Support
- SAFE Ride Home
- Surveys & Annual Program Reports
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- Rural & Tribal Transportation Material

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www.rideshareonline.com

Rural & Tribal Transportation*
www.thurstonRT.org
360-956-7575

*Rural & Tribal Transportation serves rural portions of Thurston County and connects to Intercity Transit in Thurston County and Twin Transit in Lewis County. State Employees can use their STAR Pass.