



Agenda

Cowlitz Transit Authority

*Lisa Alexander (Chair), Steven Ferrell (Co-Chair), Erik Halvorson, Jackie Collins,
Michael Claxton, Anthony Harris (Nonvoting), Kennan Harvey (Alternate),
Chris Bryant (Alternate), Richard Dahl (Alternate)*

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

4:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting
Longview Council Chambers
1525 Broadway St, Longview

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in accordance with RCW Chapter 42.30, the Cowlitz Transit Authority will conduct a Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. in the Longview City Hall Council Chamber, 1525 Broadway St, Longview, WA. This meeting is also available by Zoom.

Agendas are made available the Friday before the meeting at www.mylongview.com under "Agendas & Minutes."

Zoom meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89844443333>

Telephone options (dial any of the following numbers):

- 1 253 215 8782
- 1 408 638 0968
- 1 669 900 6833
- 1 346 248 7799
- 1 312 626 6799
- 1 646 876 9923
- 1 301 715 8592

Webinar ID: 898 4444 3333

Longview City Hall is accessible for persons with disabilities. Special equipment to assist the hearing impaired is also available. Please contact the Board Clerk's Office at (360) 442-5664 at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance if you require special accommodations to attend the meeting.

Written comments may be submitted up to forty-eight (48) hours in advance via email at customerservice@rctransit.org.

Next meeting

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

4:00 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **FLAG SALUTE**
3. **ROLL CALL**
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
5. **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 11, 2026**
26-00235 2026 02 11 CTA MINUTES
6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
26-00133 2026 January CTA Treasurer's Report
26-00134 2026 January CTA Fund Balance Report
26-00135 Invoice #2026-04 - City of Longview \$510,043.37
26-00136 Invoice #E69B1C00-0011 - The Daily News - \$451.08
26-00231 Invoice #531 - CWCOG - LKRATS Q2 (Oct-Dec 25) - \$4,072.56
7. **REPORTS**
26-00137 2026 Annual Fixed Route Ridership
26-00138 2026 February Daily Fixed Route Ridership
26-00141 2026 February LIFT Monthly Ridership
26-00142 Five Year Ridership Graph
26-00143 PTBA Sales Tax Data 2026 vs. 2025
8. **SUMMARY STATEMENT: PUBLIC HEARING FOR APRIL SERVICE CHANGES**
26-00234 **SUMMARY STATEMENT:**
The Cowlitz Transit Authority bylaws Section 5.3 states that the Authority shall hold a public hearing to solicit public comment on any change in transit service routes amounting to a change in excess of 20% of the total distance of any one route. Staff's proposal for modifications to Routes 33, 44, 411, 433 and 511 meets this criterion.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Hold public hearing regarding the service proposal.

THEN:
Motion to approve the service change proposal effective April 20, 2026.
9. **SUMMARY STATEMENT : COMPOSITION OF THE CTA BOARD**
26-00233 **SUMMARY STATEMENT:**
The Cowlitz Transit Authority, in accordance with RCW 36.57A.055 and RCW 36.57A.050, is required to conduct a review of the composition of PTBA board every four years. That review will occur in a special meeting to be held before the regular July 8, 2026, CTA Board meeting. Staff believes that special meeting would be the best time to

consider a decision on which action to take regarding the change to RCW36.57A.050.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Information only; no action required.

ATTACHMENT:
SHB 1418 Session Law

10. **SUMMARY STATEMENT: APPROVAL OF LOCAL MATCH FOR 2022 FTA 5307 CAPITAL AND OPERATING GRANT**

26-00232 **SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

The City of Longview is the Designated Federal Recipient of public transit funds. The City of Longview, on behalf of Cowlitz Transit Authority, is applying for a FY 2022 Section 5307 Federal Transit Administration Formula Grants.

The grant will use the direct allocation to City of Longview of \$1,812,446. This allocation will be split into two projects.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

Total local match for the capital and operating projects within this FTA Section 5307 grant is \$1,598,696.

These projects were included in the 2025 Transit Development Plan and there are adequate funds available in the Cowlitz Transit Authority Budget and reserves.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Motion to approve Resolution Number 2026-01.

11. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

12. **MISCELLANEOUS**

13. **ADJOURNMENT**



Minutes

Agenda

Cowlitz Transit Authority

*Lisa Alexander (Chair), Jackie Collins, Erik Halvorson, Anthony Harris (Nonvoting),
Steven Ferrell, Kennan Harvey (Alternate), Richard Dahl (Alternate)*

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Next meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2026
4:00 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Alexander called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was recited.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Lisa Alexander; Member Erik Halvorson (late); Temporary Member Michael Claxton; Member Jackie Collins

Absent: Member Keenan Harvey (Alternate); Member Richard Dahl (Alternate)

Staff Present: Steve Hansen, Asst. Public Works Director; Jim Seeks, Transit Manager; Doreen Daggett, Transit Supervisor; Tara Hargrave, Clerk of the Board

Others Present: Betsy DeSpain, Paratransit Regional Manager; Sheila Harmon, Paratransit Manager; Megan Wirtz, CWCOG

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: JANUARY 14, 2026

A motion was made by Member Collins, seconded by Member Claxton to approve the January 14, 2026 Cowlitz Transit Authority Regular Board Meeting Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

26-0088 2026 01 14 CTA Board Minutes

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Member Halvorson, seconded by Member Collins to approve the Consent Calendar in its entirety as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

26-0089 2025 December CTA Treasurer's Report

26-0090 2025 December CTA Fund Balance Report

26-0091 Invoice #2026-03 - City of Longview \$510,043.37

26-00105 Invoice #5343 - Law Office of EHW - \$140.00

26-00112 Invoice #508 - CWCOG - 2026 Annual Dues - \$504.00

26-00113 Invoice #520 - CWCOG - Mobility Match Jan - Jun 26 - \$3,125.00

26-00114 Invoice #525 - CWCOG - 2026 EDA Grant Match - \$250.00

7. REPORTS

Transit Manager Seeks reported that January had fewer weekdays and 5 Saturdays causing ridership to appear lower.

26-0092 2026 Annual Fixed Route Ridership

- 26-0093 2026 January Daily Fixed Route Ridership
- 26-0094 2026 January Daily Fixed Route Ridership by Hour
- 26-0095 2026 January Fixed Route Average Passengers per Trip
- 26-0096 2026 January LIFT Monthly Ridership
- 26-0097 Five Year Ridership Graph
- 26-0098 PTBA Sales Tax Data 2026 vs. 2025

8. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

2025 Chair Alexander announced the election of officers. Member Alexander was voted in as the 2026 Chair and Member Ferrell was voted in as the 2026 Vice-Chair. The Clerk of the Board facilitated the voting for the Chair and 2026 Chair Alexander facilitated the voting for the Vice-Chair.

26-00116 *In accordance with the By-Laws of the Cowlitz Transit Authority, Section VI, 6.2, Term, the Board is required to elect a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members at the first meeting in February of each year.*

9. **SUMMARY STATEMENT: ESTABLISH PUBLIC HEARING FOR APRIL SERVICE CHANGES**

Member Halvorson made a motion, seconded by Member Collins to establish a public hearing to be held on March 11, 2026 to receive public comment the proposed services changes. The motion passed unanimously.

26-00115 SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Cowlitz Transit Authority (CTA) bylaws Section 5.3 states that the Authority shall hold a public hearing to solicit public comment on any change in transit service routes amounting to a change in excess of 20% of the total distance of any one route. Staff's proposal regarding service on five (5) routes meets this criterion.

The five (5) routes affected are Routes 33, 44, 411, 433 and 511.

RiverCities Transit staff will present information to the CTA Board so they may consider modifying transit service and will promote public comment on the proposal.

The proposed service change will be published for comment on February 18, 2026.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Establish a public hearing to be held during the March 11, 2026, CTA Board Meeting to receive comments on the proposed service changes.

10. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Transit Manager Seeks reported on new hire trainings, SB6253, Bill 1418, board composition needing review in July and a shout out to Doreen Daggett for all her hard work and flexibility during our driver shortages.

Paratransit Manager Harmon reported on hiring drivers and LIFT ridership being up 30% so far this month.

11. **MISCELLANEOUS**

None.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Alexander adjourned the meeting at 4:11 pm.

Lisa Alexander, Chair

Tara Hargrave, Clerk of the Board

69701 TRANSIT AUTHORITY

930100 TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Account Information	BARS Information	Beg Balance	Debits	Credits	Change	End Balance
1111000 CASH		779,333.52	457,098.10	- 510,043.37	- 52,945.27	726,388.25
1180000 INVESTMENTS		6,546,654.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,546,654.12
2131020 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE - AP MODULE		0.00	510,043.37	- 510,043.37	0.00	0.00
2880000 UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE		- 7,325,987.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	- 7,325,987.64
3132100 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM	8900000 DISTRICT ACTIVITIES	0.00	0.00	- 456,358.10	- 456,358.10	- 456,358.10
3614000 OTHER INTEREST	8900000 DISTRICT ACTIVITIES	0.00	0.00	- 740.00	- 740.00	- 740.00
5492000 OTHER	8900000 DISTRICT ACTIVITIES	0.00	510,043.37	0.00	510,043.37	510,043.37
Total		0.00	1,477,184.84	- 1,477,184.84	0.00	0.00

COWLITZ TRANSIT AUTHORITY FUND BALANCES
For Period Ending: January 31, 2026

	<u>Current Period</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
COWLITZ TRANSIT AUTHORITY		
Beginning Balance: January 1, 2026		\$ 7,325,987.64
CTA Revenue		
Metro Sales Tax	456,358.10	456,358.10
Interest Earnings/Investments	740.00	740.00
Local Sales Interest		-
LCC Ridership Agreement		-
Other Miscellaneous Revenue		-
Subtotal	\$ 457,098.10	\$ 457,098.10
CTA Expenditures		
City of Longview	510,043.37	510,043.37
City of Longview - Audit Services		-
Legal Counsel/Notices		-
Transit Center Security Services		-
Subsistence - Meals		-
Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments Dues		-
Subtotal	\$ 510,043.37	\$ 510,043.37
CTA Ending Balance		\$ 7,273,042.37
CITY OF LONGVIEW		
Beginning Balance: January 1, 2026		\$ 1,081,506.96
Longview Revenue		
Federal Grant Competitive- 5339 Replacement Buses	\$ 535,318.00	\$ 535,318.00
Federal Grant - CARES ACT 5307 Formula-Operating	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Grant - 5307 Formula- Operating	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Grant Competitive- 5310 Paratransit Operating	\$ -	\$ -
State Grant - Regional Mobility Operating (PTD0105	\$ -	\$ -
WSDOT Transit Support Grant	\$ -	\$ -
Green Transportation Planning - PTD0567	\$ -	\$ -
WSTIP Risk Management Grant (RMG)	\$ -	\$ -
Farebox/Pass Sales	\$ 17,298.60	\$ 17,298.60
Payments from CTA	\$ 510,043.37	\$ 510,043.37
State Pool - Interest	\$ -	\$ -
Paratransit Office Space Rental	\$ 1,063.52	\$ 1,063.52
Bank Returns Fees	\$ -	\$ -
Other Misc Revenue	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Grant Competitive- 5307 Flex - Transit Center	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Grant Competitive - 5339 - Transit Center	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Grant Competitive- 5310 - Replacement Buses	\$ -	\$ -
Interfund Loan Received	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous Adjustments/Settlements	\$ -	\$ -
State Special Needs Formula Grant - Paratransit Operating	\$ -	\$ -
Due from other Governments	\$ -	\$ -
Cashier Over-Short / NSF	\$ -	\$ -
Fixed Assets Sale Proceeds	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance Recoveries	\$ -	\$ -
Other Recoveries / Guest Rider	\$ -	\$ -
Capital Asset Gains (Losses)	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal	\$ 1,063,723.49	\$ 1,063,723.49
Subtotal	\$323,720.48	\$323,720.48
Longview Ending Balance		\$ 1,821,509.97
Combined CTA & Longview Ending Balance		\$ 9,094,552.34

INVOICE

Date: 03/11/2026
Invoice # 2026-04

City of Longview Transit
PO Box 128
Longview, WA 98632
360-442-5664

BILL TO Cowlitz Transit Authority
207 North 4th Avenue
Kelso WA 98626

Comments

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Public Transit Services for April, 2026	\$510,043.37

AMOUNT DUE
\$510,043.37

REMITTANCE	
Statement #	2026-04
Date	03/11/2026
Amount Due	\$510,043.37
Amount Enclosed	

Please make check payable to City of Longview - Transit

Column Software PBC
 PO Box 208098
 Dallas, TX 75320-8098
help.column.us

Invoice number E69B1C00-0011
 Notice ID eY10WmD5A0p8j49VIWSm
 Publisher Longview Daily News
 Date of issue Feb 12, 2026
 Date due Mar 12, 2026
Amount due \$451.08

Bill to
 RIVER CITIES T RANSIT

Description	Qty	Unit price	Amount
02/26/2026: General Legal Notice	1	229.79	229.79
03/05/2026: General Legal Notice	1	201.29	201.29
Publish Fee	1	20.00	20.00

=== Notes ===

Notice Name: Route Change Public Notice 2026 03
 Order Number: COL-WA-101510

=== How to pay this invoice ===

Column Software PBC accepts online payment via credit or debit card, or ACH bank transfers. Please click here to pay online:
<https://www.column.us/invoices/T8XTxUdtj30FUOvbX2In/pay>

Net Subtotal	\$451.08
Tax	0.00
Amount due	\$451.08

Please note that, once paid, the merchant name on your billing statements will be Column Software PBC.

Select organizations may also pay via check. Checks will result in processing delays and should not be used if your notice requires upfront payment. Please pay the exact amount due, write your invoice number E69B1C00-0011 on the memo, include a printed copy of your Invoice PDF, make the check payable to Column Software PBC, and mail to the address above.

Pay here: <https://www.column.us/invoices/T8XTxUdtj30FUOvbX2In/pay>

Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments
PO Box 128
Kelso, WA 98626
+13605773041
finance@cwkog.org



INVOICE

BILL TO
Cowlitz Transit
Authority/RiverCities Transit
254 Oregon Way
Longview, WA 98632

INVOICE # 531
DATE 02/25/2026
DUE DATE 04/11/2026
TERMS Net 45

DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
LKRATS Q2 (Oct-Dec 25) – Labor	1	2,553.91	2,553.91
LKRATS Q2 (Oct-Dec 25) - Direct Program Costs	1	11.71	11.71
LKRATS Q2 (Oct-Dec 25) - Indirect Program Costs	1	1,506.94	1,506.94

BALANCE DUE **\$4,072.56**

RIVERCITIES TRANSIT
RIDERSHIP BY THE YEAR

YEAR	ROUTE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
2026	30	1,103	1,043											2,146
	31	3,314	3,224											6,538
	32	2,721	2,580											5,301
	33	3,141	2,995											6,136
	44	1,893	1,818											3,711
	45	6,377	6,268											12,645
	46	468	444											912
	57	3,277	3,313											6,590
	411	463	394											857
	433	41	44											85
	511	979	1,079											2,058
TOTAL		23,777	23,202	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46,979

YEAR	ROUTE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
2025	30	1,413	1,248	1,279	1,356	1,345	1,178	1,429	1,336	1,313	1,413	1,092	1,100	15,502
	31	3,924	3,615	3,872	3,898	3,972	3,665	3,608	3,583	1,254	3,479	3,215	3,408	41,493
	32	2,950	2,785	2,713	3,074	2,803	2,483	2,832	2,746	3,240	3,348	2,827	2,632	34,433
	33	3,182	2,922	3,490	3,382	3,489	3,328	3,066	3,244	3,494	3,930	3,249	3,088	39,864
	44	1,991	1,813	2,037	2,147	2,119	2,191	2,337	2,073	1,952	2,132	1,471	1,727	23,990
	45	7,443	6,975	7,224	7,317	7,343	6,728	6,720	7,056	6,849	7,154	6,014	6,476	83,299
	46	735	677	701	780	762	651	679	747	603	723	378	452	7,888
	57	3,482	3,049	3,423	3,479	3,355	2,838	2,233	2,289	3,236	3,798	2,804	2,790	36,776
	411	446	484	632	645	425	422	524	447	427	426	270	379	5,527
	433							45	44	57	54	24	20	244
	511							1,085	1,235	1,254	1,270	918	941	6,703
TOTAL		25,566	23,568	25,371	26,078	25,613	23,484	24,558	24,800	23,679	27,727	22,262	23,013	295,719

YEAR	ROUTE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL	
2024	30	1,099	1,192	1,351	1,534	1,457	1,186	1,403	1,431	1,358	1,505	1,062	1,196	15,774	
	31	3,263	3,617	3,983	3,590	3,929	3,458	3,830	4,017	3,706	4,082	3,347	3,600	44,422	
	32	2,435	2,613	2,689	2,927	2,819	2,590	3,014	2,749	2,550	2,984	2,683	2,382	32,435	
	33	2,166	2,609	2,785	2,789	2,862	2,677	2,776	2,917	2,849	3,235	2,885	2,810	33,360	
	44	1,262	1,421	1,588	1,754	1,879	1,585	1,758	1,924	1,778	2,254	1,919	1,804	20,926	
	45	5,221	5,988	6,293	6,254	6,440	5,909	6,545	6,646	6,573	7,409	7,060	6,986	77,324	
	46	511	531	570	673	616	555	742	608	707	884	712	773	7,882	
	57	2,332	2,859	2,779	2,758	2,850	2,234	2,304	2,648	2,828	3,454	3,194	3,059	33,299	
	411	410	439	483	676	588	478	542	524	458	611	486	393	6,088	
	TOTAL		18,699	21,269	22,521	22,955	23,440	20,672	22,914	23,464	22,807	26,418	23,348	23,003	271,510

YEAR	ROUTE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL	
2023	30	1,197	1,140	1,318	1,111	1,374	1,408	1,332	1,408	1,228	1,304	1,168	1,163	15,151	
	31	3,422	3,131	3,732	3,313	3,633	3,660	3,527	4,026	3,606	3,501	3,579	3,652	42,782	
	32	2,632	2,302	2,525	2,350	2,472	2,484	2,704	2,828	2,538	2,533	2,608	2,539	30,515	
	33	2,595	2,495	2,784	2,414	2,663	2,314	2,402	2,477	2,737	2,784	2,350	2,052	30,667	
	44	1,482	1,332	1,652	1,287	1,702	1,607	1,418	1,612	1,483	1,679	1,449	1,392	18,095	
	45	5,332	4,822	5,762	5,829	6,196	5,822	5,267	6,364	5,494	5,842	5,598	5,300	67,628	
	46	299	240	337	356	463	528	458	566	560	533	560	552	5,452	
	57	2,543	2,190	2,471	2,252	2,343	2,387	2,167	2,398	2,389	2,692	2,763	2,126	28,721	
	411	171	225	166	279	363	402	388	425	385	437	402	383	4,026	
	NCC	86	120	72	32										310
	TOTAL		19,759	17,997	20,819	19,223	21,209	20,612	19,663	22,104	20,420	21,305	20,477	19,159	242,747

YEAR	ROUTE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL	
2022	30	754	766	954	894	979	1,089	979	1,209	1,194	1,159	1,004	1,024	12,005	
	31	2,258	2,303	3,065	2,931	2,888	3,142	3,056	3,460	3,204	3,102	3,269	3,328	36,006	
	32	1,861	1,873	2,302	2,128	2,155	2,285	2,528	2,849	2,858	2,943	2,582	2,267	28,631	
	33	1,991	1,986	2,292	2,311	2,111	2,134	1,988	2,336	2,382	2,443	2,344	2,279	26,597	
	44	986	1,022	1,350	1,110	1,242	1,511	1,161	1,530	1,458	1,453	1,221	1,282	15,326	
	45	3,984	4,401	5,169	4,927	4,937	5,142	4,530	5,419	5,359	5,440	4,966	4,948	59,222	
	46	399	353	452	357	402	396	332	471	414	371	301	293	4,541	
	57	1,516	1,592	1,860	1,761	1,768	1,834	1,825	2,054	2,066	2,485	2,024	2,026	22,811	
	411					61	80	72	82	61	92	78	75	601	
	NCC									88	104	160	91	78	521
	TOTAL		13,749	14,296	17,444	16,419	16,543	17,613	16,471	19,498	19,100	19,648	17,880	17,600	206,261

RIVERCITIES TRANSIT DAILY RIDERSHIP REPORT

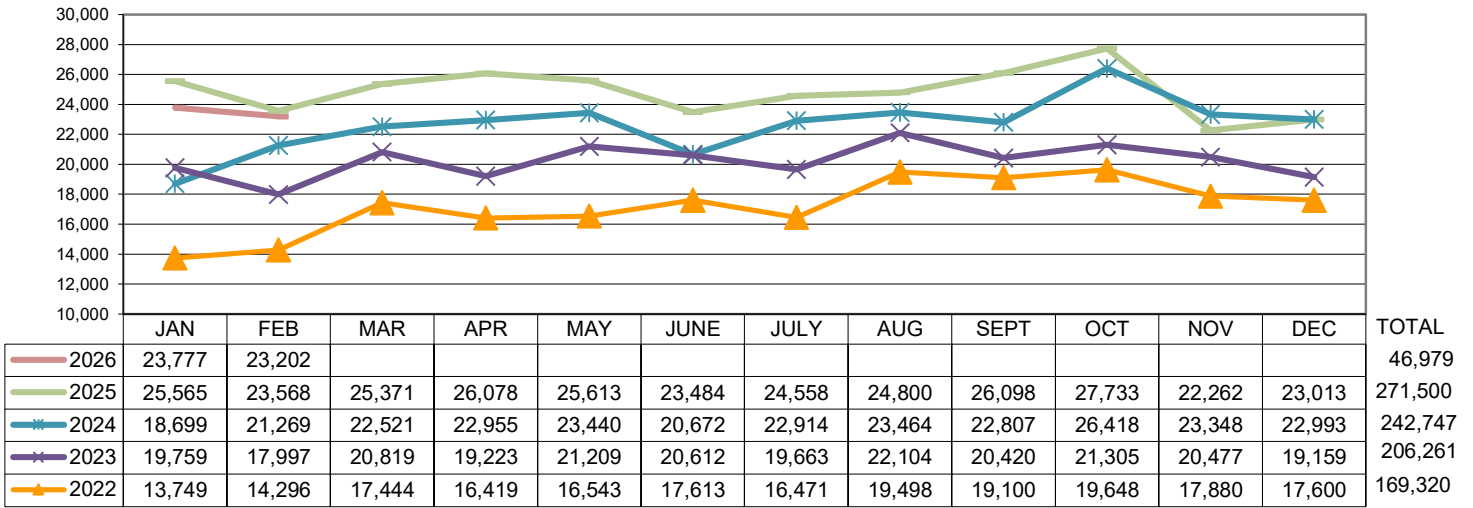
Feb-26

DATE	ROUTE 30	ROUTE 31	ROUTE 32	ROUTE 33	ROUTE 44	ROUTE 45	ROUTE 45 B	ROUTE 46	ROUTE 57	ROUTE 411	ROUTE 433	ROUTE 511	TOTAL
1													
2	70	126	116	154	100	187	131	36	174	16	2	53	1165
3	69	175	132	145	92	199	144	18	150	31	2	61	1218
4	56	143	128	136	110	188	109	34	137	32	0	56	1129
5	44	152	110	129	118	164	116	27	144	29	4	42	1079
6	56	122	101	102	75	185	98	24	135	26	4	36	964
7 S		116	70	115		132			94				527
8													
9	54	131	135	130	85	201	116	36	154	26	0	65	1133
10	83	143	115	142	103	175	129	23	158	22	5	53	1151
11	57	159	96	132	93	184	128	28	145	16	0	56	1094
12	59	140	115	140	103	179	119	23	162	24	0	56	1120
13	67	132	101	124	84	164	100	26	130	15	0	54	997
14 S		116	78	84		132			74				484
15													
16 R		104	91	118		136			69				518
17	53	153	123	117	113	148	105	5	157	20	2	64	1060
18	43	136	108	120	98	200	88	29	139	22	6	66	1055
19	43	120	104	160	101	202	113	20	170	23	1	66	1123
20	51	121	89	112	82	167	105	20	141	13	3	57	961
21 S		112	76	101		118			82				489
22													
23	50	130	103	126	61	183	118	31	146	16	2	60	1026
24	38	145	138	128	105	191	102	18	201	12	4	60	1142
25	41	134	135	132	93	180	107	23	152	27	5	55	1084
26	46	134	124	127	92	163	132	9	176	13	1	43	1060
27	63	174	130	130	110	203	125	14	125	11	3	76	1164
28 S		106	62	91		102			98				459
TOTAL (24)	1043	3224	2580	2995	1818	4083	2185	444	3313	394	44	1079	23202
WEEKDAY TOTAL (19)	1043	2670	2203	2486	1818	3463	2185	444	2896	394	44	1079	20725
SATURDAY/REDUCED DAY TOTAL (5)		554	377	509		620			417				2477
DAILY AVERAGE	55	134	108	125	96	170	115	23	138	21	2	57	967
WEEKDAY AVERAGE	55	141	116	131	96	182	115	23	152	21	2	57	1091
SATURDAY/REDUCED DAY AVERAGE		111	75	102		124			83				495

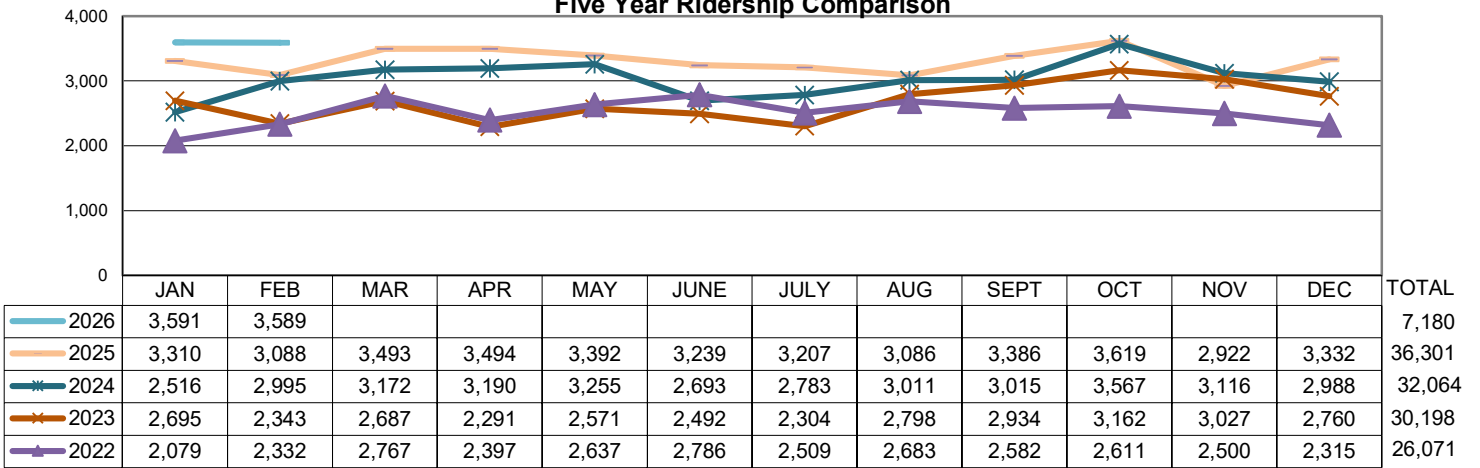
Presidents Day

Date	Total Psgrs	Demand Response Client Trips	Number of Attends	Number of Guests	Delivered AMB Psgrs	Delivered W/C Psgrs	% W/C Psgrs Delivered	Psgrs Rev Hour	CXLS	No Shows	Psgrs Service Hour
2/2/2026	131	114	17	0	80	34	29.82%	2.49	23	4	2.28
2/3/2026	196	165	31	0	125	40	24.24%	3.04	12	3	2.73
2/4/2026	182	148	34	0	114	34	22.97%	2.83	15	2	2.56
2/5/2026	183	146	34	3	111	35	23.97%	2.78	18	6	2.52
2/6/2026	156	128	28	0	87	41	32.03%	2.54	18	3	2.32
2/7/2026	115	84	31	0	62	22	26.19%	3.05	2	2	2.79
2/9/2026	131	110	21	0	80	30	27.27%	2.61	22	2	2.38
2/10/2026	200	159	41	0	120	39	24.53%	3.24	15	3	2.96
2/11/2026	157	131	24	2	90	41	31.30%	2.61	10	7	2.42
2/12/2026	151	116	35	0	81	35	30.17%	2.60	12	4	2.39
2/13/2026	140	100	36	4	69	31	31.00%	2.61	10	4	2.41
2/14/2026	100	75	25	0	54	21	28.00%	3.21	4	2	2.98
2/16/2026	113	85	28	0	57	28	32.94%	2.73	10	1	2.44
2/17/2026	192	148	44	0	113	35	23.65%	3.11	11	2	2.89
2/18/2026	162	130	32	0	96	34	26.15%	2.61	18	4	2.37
2/19/2026	153	117	36	0	92	25	21.37%	3.05	10	2	2.79
2/20/2026	155	122	31	2	94	28	22.95%	2.77	12	2	2.55
2/21/2026	105	85	20	0	65	20	23.53%	3.04	11	1	2.75
2/23/2026	132	105	27	0	82	23	21.90%	2.79	12	1	2.54
2/24/2026	179	140	36	3	105	35	25.00%	2.98	9	5	2.73
2/25/2026	148	122	26	0	86	36	29.51%	2.65	12	4	2.43
2/26/2026	142	111	30	1	85	26	23.42%	2.68	16	3	2.49
2/27/2026	174	137	37	0	102	35	25.55%	2.96	4	5	2.69
2/28/2026	92	69	23	0	44	25	36.23%	2.59	5	4	2.36
	0						#DIV/0!				
	0						#DIV/0!				
	0						#DIV/0!				
	3589	2847	727	15	2094	753	26.45%	2.81	291	76	2.57

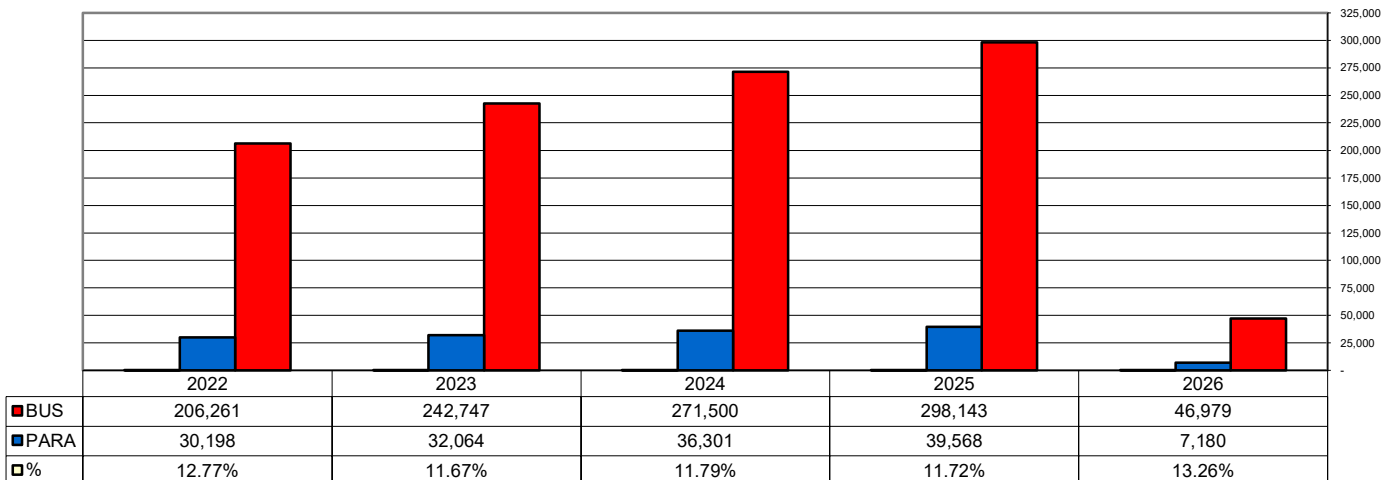
RiverCities Transit Fixed Route Five Year Ridership Comparison



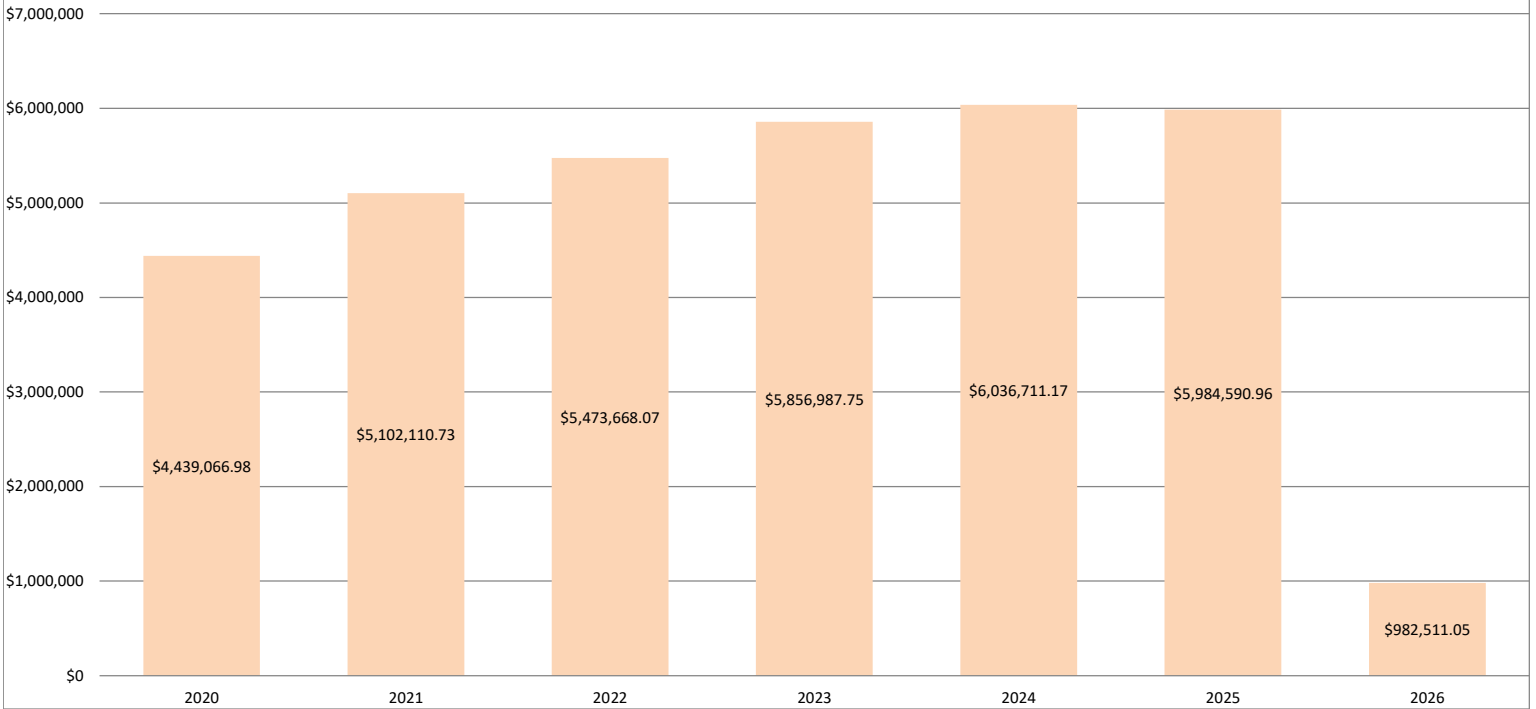
RiverCities Transit Paratransit Five Year Ridership Comparison



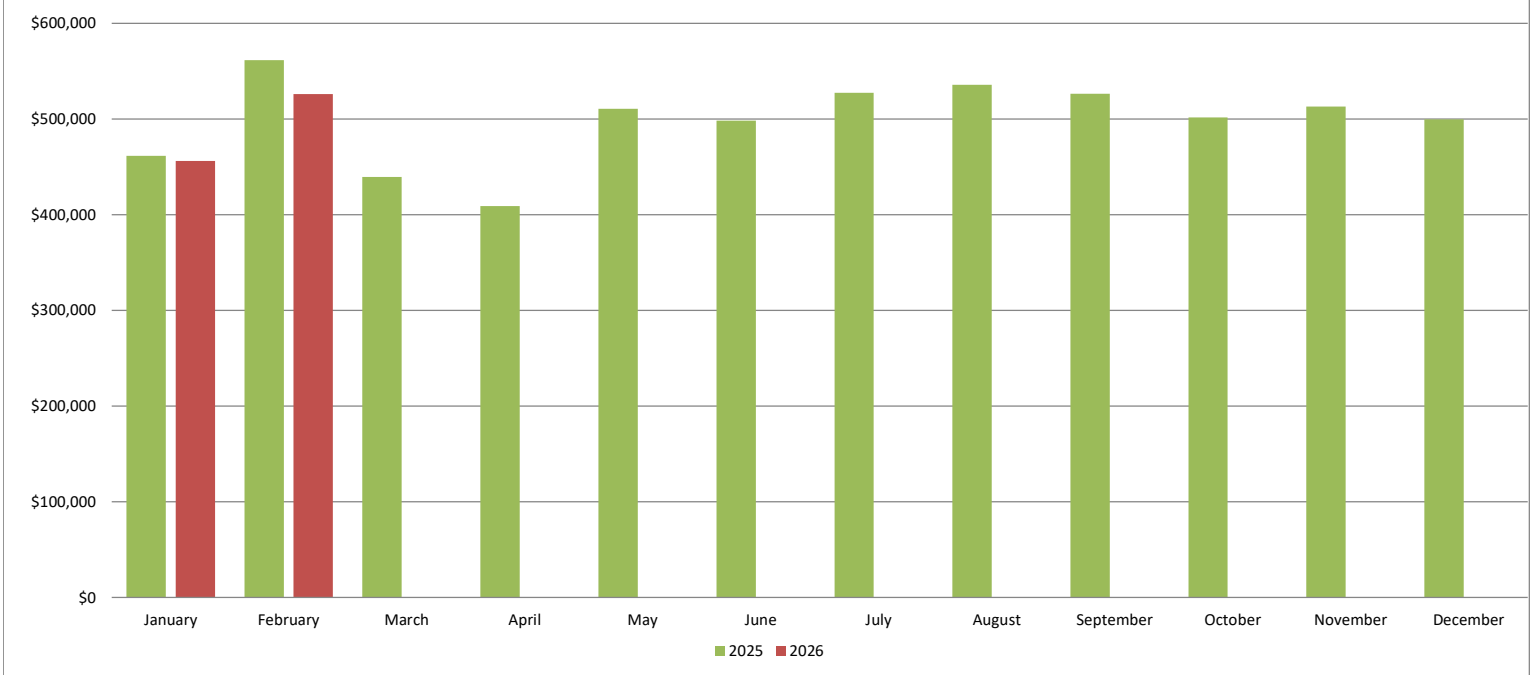
Comparison of Ridership Bus and Paratransit Ridership



Cowlitz Public Transit Benefit Area Sales Tax Revenue



Cowlitz PTBA Sales Tax Revenue 2026 vs 2025



Cowlitz Transit Authority



Agenda Summary

PUBLIC HEARING FOR APRIL 2026 SERVICE CHANGE PROPOSAL

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Cowlitz Transit Authority bylaws Section 5.3 states that the Authority shall hold a public hearing to solicit public comment on any change in transit service routes amounting to a change in excess of 20% of the total distance of any one route. Staff's proposal for modifications to Routes 33, 44, 411, 433 and 511 meets this criterion.

Route 33 and Route 44:

Move service on 42nd Avenue, Olympic Way, and 46th Avenue from Route 33 to Route 44. This has the following effects:

- Increases weekday trips on the Olympia Way loop by one (1) per day; reduces Saturday trips by 10.
- Will improve the on-time performance on Route 33 without sacrificing on-time performance on Route 44.
- Route 44 is a lower ridership route, and staff plans to operate a lighter 30-foot bus on this route most days to decrease complaints of vibrations along Olympia Way.
- Riders along Ocean Beach Highway between 38th Avenue and Mt. Solo Road will continue to be served by Route 33.

Route 411

Remove Solomon Road as a stop on northbound trips leaving Longview Transit Center.

- Eliminates a hazardous left turn from Solomon Road to northbound Westside Highway.
- Solomon Road will still receive service on all southbound trips.

Reroute southbound trips along Sparks Drive to turn onto Adams Drive and then Early Bird Drive, with a new bus stop on Early Bird near Westside Highway.

Departures from Longview will occur on the hour to better accommodate southbound transfers at the Longview Transit Center.

Route 433

Based on requests from riders, the route will add Rockcrest Drive in Rainier as a stop in both directions.

The first trip of the day has been adjusted to better connect with Columbia County's CC Rider in Rainier.

The 6:20 pm trip from Longview to Rainier will be cancelled due to lack of ridership.

Other timetable adjustments will be made.

Route 511

The primary stop in Woodland will move from the Woodland Park & Ride to curbside by McDonald's at Pacific Avenue and Columbia Street to permit use of a larger capacity bus.

Other timetable adjustments will be made.

BUDGET:

To accommodate the new services added in July 2025 as well as the increased leave requests of current transit operators, one (1) extra board transit operator position has been hired and is in training. The expense will be slightly mitigated by decreasing the service on Route 433 by one (1) trip per day. The additional net expense for wages and benefits is estimated at \$41,841 for the remainder of 2026.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Hold public hearing regarding the service proposal;

THEN:

Motion to approve the service change proposal effective April 20, 2026.

Agenda Summary

PTBA BOARD COMPOSITION AND SHB 1418

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

At the completion of the 2025 Session of the Washington State Legislature, Governor Ferguson signed into law Substitute House Bill 1418, a copy of which is attached. This law modified RCW 36.57A.050 to permit a public transportation benefit area (PTBA) to include two additional transit-using voting members to be appointed to the transit authority board.

The law is specific as to whom those members may be, if a PTBA board chooses to include them:

- One transit-using voting member must primarily rely on public transit for transportation, and
- One transit-using voting member must represent a community-based organization and at least occasionally use transit for transportation. If no such representative in the PTBA's service area is available to serve, the board must appoint a second transit-using voting member.

This law is permissive and not required. My understanding from discussions with fellow transit leaders is that some PTBA boards do not intend to include non-elected members, some will not include riders but have or will have a strong citizen's advisory committee reporting to the board, and some will add those new members. Intercity Transit already has citizen board members, which were grandfathered in when PTBAs were created.

The Cowlitz Transit Authority, in accordance with RCW 36.57A.055 and RCW 36.57A.050, is required to conduct a review of the composition of PTBA board every four years. That review will occur in a special meeting to be held before the regular July 8, 2026, CTA Board meeting. Staff believes that special meeting would be the best time to consider a decision on which action to take regarding the change to RCW36.57A.050. This will also allow to staff time to provide the board with information on the processes for creating a citizen's advisory committee or adding new members, if either of those options are considered.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Information only; no action required.

ATTACHMENT:

SHB 1418 Session Law

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1418

Chapter 230, Laws of 2025

69th Legislature
2025 Regular Session

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT AREAS—GOVERNING BODY—TRANSIT USER
MEMBERS

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2026

Passed by the House April 19, 2025
Yeas 62 Nays 33

LAURIE JINKINS

**Speaker of the House of
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 16, 2025
Yeas 36 Nays 12

DENNY HECK

President of the Senate

Approved May 12, 2025 2:44 PM

BOB FERGUSON

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1418** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BERNARD DEAN

Chief Clerk

FILED

May 14, 2025

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1418

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2025 Regular Session

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By House Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Timmons, Ramel, Duerr, Simmons, Parshley, Reed, Doglio, Pollet, Hill, and Donaghy)

READ FIRST TIME 02/11/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to adding two voting members that are transit
2 users to the governing body of public transportation benefit areas;
3 amending RCW 36.57A.050; and providing an effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.57A.050 and 2020 c 83 s 2 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1)(a) Within ~~((sixty))~~ 60 days of the establishment of the
8 boundaries of the public transportation benefit area the members of
9 the county legislative authority and the elected representative of
10 each city within the area shall provide for the selection of the
11 governing body of such area, the public transportation benefit area
12 authority, which shall consist of elected officials selected by and
13 serving at the pleasure of the governing bodies of component cities
14 within the area and the county legislative authority of each county
15 within the area. Two other transit-using members may be appointed to
16 the governing body of such area, pursuant to subsection (3)(b) of
17 this section.

18 (b) The elected official members of the governing body of the
19 public transportation benefit area, if the population of the county
20 in which the public transportation benefit area is located is more
21 than ~~((four hundred thousand))~~ 400,000 and the county does not also

1 contain a city with a population of (~~seventy-five thousand~~) 75,000
2 or more operating a transit system pursuant to chapter 35.95 RCW,
3 must be selected to assure proportional representation, based on
4 population, of each of the component cities located within the public
5 transportation benefit area and the unincorporated areas of the
6 county located within the public transportation benefit area, to the
7 extent possible within the restrictions placed on the size of the
8 governing body of a public transportation benefit area. If necessary
9 to assure such proportional representation, multiple cities may be
10 represented by a single elected official from one of the cities. A
11 majority of the governing board may not be selected to represent a
12 single component city.

13 (c) If at the time a public transportation benefit area authority
14 assumes the public transportation functions previously provided under
15 the interlocal cooperation act (chapter 39.34 RCW) there are citizen
16 positions on the governing board of the transit system, those
17 positions may be retained as positions on the governing board of the
18 public transportation benefit area authority.

19 (2) Within such (~~sixty-day~~) 60-day period, any city may by
20 resolution of its legislative body withdraw from participation in the
21 public transportation benefit area. The county legislative authority
22 and each city remaining in the public transportation benefit area may
23 disapprove and prevent the establishment of any governing body of a
24 public transportation benefit area if the composition thereof does
25 not meet its approval.

26 (3)(a) In no case shall the governing body of a single county
27 public transportation benefit area be greater than (~~nine~~) 11 voting
28 members and in the case of a multicounty area, (~~fifteen~~) 17 voting
29 members. Those cities within the public transportation benefit area
30 and excluded from direct membership on the authority are hereby
31 authorized to designate a member of the authority who shall be
32 entitled to represent the interests of such city which is excluded
33 from direct membership on the authority. The legislative body of such
34 city shall notify the authority as to the determination of its
35 authorized representative on the authority.

36 (b)(i) In addition to the maximum of nine elected official voting
37 members of the governing body of a single county public
38 transportation benefit area or 15 elected official voting members of
39 the governing body, in the case of a multicounty area, there may be
40 two transit-using voting members appointed to each governing body by

1 the elected official voting members. Transit-using voting members may
2 not be employees of the transit agency operating under the public
3 transportation benefit area authority.

4 (ii) One transit-using voting member must primarily rely on
5 public transportation systems for transportation.

6 (iii) One transit-using voting member must represent a community-
7 based organization and at least occasionally use public
8 transportation systems for transportation. If no such representative
9 in the public transportation benefit area's service area is available
10 to serve, the governing body must appoint a second transit-using
11 voting member who meets the requirements of (b)(ii) of this
12 subsection.

13 (iv) If transit-using voting members are appointed to a governing
14 body, meetings of the governing body must occur at a time and a place
15 that are reasonably accessible by transit, in order to facilitate the
16 participation of the transit-using voting members.

17 (v) Transit-using voting members must be provided comprehensive
18 training regarding the open public meetings act established in
19 chapter 42.30 RCW, the public records act established in chapter
20 42.56 RCW, and chapter 42.23 RCW regarding ethics for municipal
21 officers, as soon as is reasonably practicable after the member's
22 appointment.

23 (vi) This subsection (3)(b) does not apply to any public
24 transportation benefit area authority where there are retained
25 citizen positions on the governing body, pursuant to subsection
26 (1)(c) of this section.

27 (c) There is one nonvoting member of the public transportation
28 benefit area authority. The nonvoting member is recommended by the
29 labor organization representing the public transportation employees
30 within the local public transportation system. If the public
31 transportation employees are represented by more than one labor
32 organization, all such labor organizations shall select the nonvoting
33 member by majority vote. The nonvoting member shall comply with all
34 governing bylaws and policies of the authority. The chair or cochair
35 of the authority shall exclude the nonvoting member from attending
36 any executive session held for the purpose of discussing negotiations
37 with labor organizations. The chair or cochair may exclude the
38 nonvoting member from attending any other executive session. The
39 requirement that a nonvoting member be appointed to the governing

1 body of a public transportation benefit area authority does not apply
2 to an authority that has no employees represented by a labor union.

3 (4) (a) Each member of the authority is eligible to be reimbursed
4 for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060
5 and to receive compensation, as set by the authority, in an amount
6 not to exceed (~~forty-four dollars~~) \$44 for each day during which
7 the member attends official meetings of the authority or performs
8 prescribed duties approved by the chair of the authority. Except that
9 the authority may, by resolution, increase the payment of per diem
10 compensation to each member from (~~forty-four dollars~~) \$44 up to
11 (~~ninety dollars~~) \$90 per day or portion of a day for actual
12 attendance at board meetings or for performance of other official
13 services or duties on behalf of the authority. In no event may a
14 member be compensated in any year for more than (~~seventy-five~~) 75
15 days, except the chair who may be paid compensation for not more than
16 (~~one hundred~~) 100 days: PROVIDED, That compensation shall not be
17 paid to an elected official or employee of federal, state, or local
18 government who is receiving regular full-time compensation from such
19 government for attending meetings and performing prescribed duties of
20 the authority.

21 (b) The dollar thresholds established in this section must be
22 adjusted for inflation by the office of financial management every
23 five years, beginning January 1, 2024, based upon changes in the
24 consumer price index during that time period. "Consumer price index"
25 means, for any calendar year, that year's annual average consumer
26 price index, for Washington state, for wage earners and clerical
27 workers, all items, compiled by the bureau of labor and statistics,
28 United States department of labor. If the bureau of labor and
29 statistics develops more than one consumer price index for areas
30 within the state, the index covering the greatest number of people,
31 covering areas exclusively within the boundaries of the state, and
32 including all items shall be used for the adjustments for inflation
33 in this section. The office of financial management must calculate
34 the new dollar threshold and transmit it to the office of the code
35 reviser for publication in the Washington State Register at least one
36 month before the new dollar threshold is to take effect.

37 (c) A person holding office as commissioner for two or more
38 special purpose districts shall receive only that per diem
39 compensation authorized for one of his or her commissioner positions
40 as compensation for attending an official meeting or conducting

1 official services or duties while representing more than one of his
2 or her districts. However, such commissioner may receive additional
3 per diem compensation if approved by resolution of all boards of the
4 affected commissions.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect January 1, 2026.

Passed by the House April 19, 2025.

Passed by the Senate April 16, 2025.

Approved by the Governor May 12, 2025.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 14, 2025.

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Cowlitz Transit Authority Agenda Summary

LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS FOR FY 2022 FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION CAPITAL AND OPERATING GRANT

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The City of Longview is the Designated Federal Recipient of public transit funds. The City of Longview, on behalf of Cowlitz Transit Authority, is applying for a FY 2022 Section 5307 Federal Transit Administration Formula Grants.

The grant will use the direct allocation to City of Longview of \$1,812,446. This allocation will be split into two projects as follows:

- \$285,000 for the rehabilitation of a current 2013 transit coach in the fleet, which should extend the useful life of the bus by an additional 8 years. This project requires an 80:20 local match, which is \$71,250. The rehabilitation project was originally planned for 2027, but the bus failed in late 2025 and Fleet Maintenance was able to procure the replacement engine and transmission at the same time as the similar project supported with Washington State DOT funding. The project was changed in the State Transportation Improvement Plan from 2027 to 2026.
- \$1,527,446 for the operation of transit service in Cowlitz County during calendar year 2027. This grant requires a 50:50 match of local funds, for a total of \$1,527,446. Securing this funding now will help in developing the 2027 CTA budget and the 2027-2028 City of Longview budget. The funds will not be drawn down early as the Start of Project date will be January 1, 2027.

These projects support the goals of the Transit Enhancement Plan and are supported in the regional long range transportation plan. To demonstrate local support for the project, the application requires documentation of local financial commitment and support. Staff is requesting the CTA adopt a resolution allocating local matching funds for the grant.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

Total local match for the capital and operating projects within this FTA Section 5307 grant is \$1,598,696.

These projects were included in the 2025 Transit Development Plan and there are adequate funds available in the Cowlitz Transit Authority Budget and reserves.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Motion to approve Resolution Number 2026-01.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE COWLITZ TRANSIT AUTHORITY TO APPROVE MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE FY 2022 FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5307 GRANT PROGRAM FOR CAPITAL AND TRANSIT OPERATIONS IN COWLITZ COUNTY, WASHINGTON

WHEREAS, the City of Longview is the Designated Federal Recipient of public transit funds, and

WHEREAS, the City of Longview; in cooperation with the Cowlitz Transit Authority, intends to apply for \$1,812,446 from the Federal Transit Administration FY 2022 Section 5307 Formula Grant program for the rehabilitation of a transit coach to extend its useful life and for the operation of transit service in Cowlitz County, Washington; and

WHEREAS, the award for the Section 5307 Grant has an estimated local matching funds requirement of \$1,598,696; and

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Agreement for Public Transportation Services states “[t]he City of Longview shall provide public transportation services within the area of the Cowlitz Transit Authority including, but not with limitation, the providing of vehicles, vehicle maintenance, vehicle operation, public liability and property damage insurance, supervision, and all labor and services in connection therewith, all in accordance with said Comprehensive Transit Plan and in accordance with public transportation schedules as determined by the Cowlitz Transit Authority”; and

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Agreement for Public Transportation Services states in part “The Cowlitz Transit Authority shall pay to the City of Longview all costs and expenses incurred by it, in consideration for all of the services to be provided by the City of Longview pursuant to this agreement ...”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Cowlitz Transit Authority that it authorizes expenditure of an estimated \$1,598,696 to match the FY 2022 Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Formula Grant, if awarded, to be used by the City of Longview to rehabilitate a transit coach and to provide transit services in Cowlitz County, Washington.

PASSED by the Cowlitz Transit Authority in regular session and approved this 11th day of March, 2026.

SIGNED:

ATTEST:

Lisa Alexander, Chair

Tara Hargrave, Clerk of the Board