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June Service Change

Community Transit's Board recently voted to approve service reductions starting June 13, 2010 in order to close a budget gap caused by the Great Recession.

The service cuts will affect both local and commuter bus service. The plan will eliminate Routes 200, 207, 404, 411, 441, 812, 851 and 870, each of which has alternative transit service. Other routes will be consolidated and duplications in service will be eliminated. Some commuter routes will be changed to start at park & ride lots, rather than starting on city streets and picking up passengers along the way to the park & ride.

The June 2010 service plan contains the same provisions as in the original service cut proposal, except for:

- Route 101 – Reduced weekday daytime frequencies to 30 minutes
- Route 106 – Will be shortened and serve two morning and two afternoon peak-directional trips between Canyon Park and UW Bothell via the North Creek Business Park
- Route 121 – Will be shortened and serve two morning and two afternoon peak-directional trips between Canyon Park and UW Bothell via 23rd Ave. SW in Bothell
- Route 227 – Will serve two round trips to Boeing with direct route between Smokey Point and Arlington Park & Ride
- Route 247 – Will serve two round trips to Boeing from the Stanwood I Park & Ride at I-5 (this route may receive further consideration in April)
- Route 277 – (No change from proposal, but this route may receive further consideration in April)

- Route 412 – Will maintain neighborhood loop in Silver Firs except for three round trips daily that begin and end at the McCollum Park Park & Ride
- Route 414 – Will run six daily trips: two morning SB, two afternoon NB, two evening NB
- Route 424 – Will retain routing through Snohomish on all trips
- Route 477 – Will serve more direct routing between MLT Transit Center and Brier Park & Ride
- Creation of $50,000 fund to facilitate transportation service on Sundays for those most in need (details to be worked out)

For additional details of the approved plan please visit www.communitytransit.org.

Visionary Awards

The Visionary Awards were introduced by Community Transit 13 years ago as a way to recognize employers in Snohomish County and Bothell who support Washington State's Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) goals, Employee Transportation Coordinators who promote CTR, and employees and commuters who reduce vehicle trips to work by using alternative transportation.

Community Transit receives funding from the state to encourage large employers to reduce single-occupant vehicle trips to their worksites. The Visionary Awards are a way to recognize those that succeed.

This year Cypress Semiconductor was recognized as Employer of the Year and Sara Poirot was named ETC of the Year. Cypress received this honor in large part to their work on introducing an ORCA Area Passport program to their employees. This program not only saved the company money over their prior program, but also enhanced the overall benefit for employees that participate. Sara was named ETC of the year for her successful work at Trade Products and Specialty Manufacturing as well as her volunteer efforts with the launch of *Swift* this past November.

For more information about the visionary Awards, including a complete list of winners, please click the following link: 2009 Visionary Awards.

Community Transit's CTR staff can help you make your worksite program the best it can be. Contact Mark Melnyk at mark.melnyk@commtrans.org or Debbie Anderson at Debbie.Anderson@commtrans.org to learn how.

Curb the Congestion

Your employees could save more and stress less. It pays to choose a smarter trip with Curb the Congestion.

Curb the Congestion is a partnership between Community Transit and Snohomish County to reduce traffic and encourage healthy travel options on congested roadways. The program

provides commuters and residents who travel along the designated roads with information and incentives to reduce their drive-alone trips. A dedicated Curb the Congestion specialist provides one-on-one help with planning trips to work, errands, or leisure

Participants who log their alternative trips at least 12 days a month are eligible to win a $250 monthly incentive prize or a $1,000 quarterly incentive prize.

Curb the Congestion is funded by Snohomish County through development mitigation fees and federal grants, and operated by Community Transit. The county identified three specific high congestion corridors because they could benefit the most from this type of program based on the existing infrastructure (i.e., roads, bike lanes, sidewalks and transit facilities), constraints to further road improvements and development patterns.

The three corridors are:
• 164th Street SW/SE (between Lynnwood and Mill Creek)
• 128th Street (between Everett and Mill Creek)
• 20th Street SE (between Lake Stevens and Everett)

To learn more about this program, please visit www.communitytransit.org/CurbIt or contact Wendy Scholtz at wendy.scholtz@commtrans.org.

Dates to Remember

Sunday, March 14, 2010

Spring Wheel Options Begins

Say Aloha to a new commute this spring!

Participate in Wheel Options by choosing not to drive alone to work at least twice during March 14-27, and you'll be eligible for fantastic prizes, including a trip for two to Hawaii!

Now is the time to plan your Wheel Option: sharing the ride in a carpool or vanpool, riding the bus or train, biking or walking to work, working from home or simply not commuting because of your compressed work week schedule.

If you need help with a Wheel Option, go to www.RideshareOnline.com register to find a rideshare partner. It's quick, easy and rewarding.

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Telework Training

This two-hour course (2:00 - 4:00) provides ETCs with information on how to develop, implement and maintain a successful telework program. This course if offered free and is held at Community Transit, 2300 Kasch Park Road, Everett, 98204. Please pre-register for this course by contacting either Debbie Anderson (425-348-7185) at debbie.anderson@commtrans.org or Mark Melnyk (425-348-2304) at mark.melnyk@commtrans.org.

Thursday, April 22, 2010
ETC Basic Training

This one-day course (9:00 - 4:00) provides ETCs with the necessary tools to develop and promote a successful CTR program including understanding CTR, promoting commute alternatives and supporting strategies, administering your CTR program and developing and selling your program. This course is offered free and is held at Community Transit, 2300 Kasch Park Road, Everett, 98204. Snacks and lunch are provided. Please pre-register for this course by contacting either Debbie Anderson (425-348-7185) at debbie.anderson@commtrans.org or Mark Melnyk (425-348-2304) at mark.melnyk@commtrans.org.

Thursday, April 29, 2010
Bike to Work Kick-Off Event

Bike to Work Kick-Off Event, 3 - 6 p.m., Location to be determined.

Stop by for a snack, check out the commuter bike display, and pick up Bike to Work brochures and posters, maps and incentives to educate and encourage your co-workers. Registered Bike Commute Challenge team captains can pick up their event t-shirts.

Monday, May 17, 2010
Bike Commute Challenge

Commit to biking to work at least once a week during this 5-week challenge, motivate your co-workers to do the same and win great prizes. Simple. The Challenge officially begins on Monday May 17, with challenge sign up beginning in mid April.

Friday, May 21, 2010
Bike to Work Day

While you get that heart pumping, the planet and your wallet get healthier, too. Biking to work? It's just another smart way to make a positive difference in your life, in your world.

Bike to Work Day is Friday, May 21. There will be several Celebration Stations around Snohomish County. Watch for materials coming in April.