



MOBILITY MINUTES

Quarterly report on what's happening in Cowlitz, Lewis, Pacific, Wahkiakum, Columbia and Grays Harbor Counties.



Megan Wirtz

Mobility Management Updates

- CWCOC is surveying Transportation Providers about the CWCOC Mobility Management Trip Assistant website. The goal is to assess its usability, relevance, and effectiveness in providing helpful resources. Please fill out the [survey here](#) by April 28, 2025.
- CWCOC is surveying Users about the CWCOC Mobility Management Trip Assistant website. The survey will be available on the website until April 28, 2025.
- Facilitated a Health & Human Service Training: Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging Staff and Longview Public Library Staff
- Youth on the Go Activity Books distributed to Kelso, Aberdeen, Hoquiam and Wahkiakum Libraries

Upcoming Meetings

- May 14 - SWRTPO Board Meeting
- May 21 - Regional Transportation Partners Meeting
- June 12 - Public Transportation Stakeholders Meeting

Spring is here! We're excited about new route updates and are actively facilitating Travel Trainings, boosting marketing and outreach efforts, and increasing mobility awareness in our communities. If you need support in creating or facilitating a Marketing Awareness Rider Survey, feel free to reach out!

I hope to see many of you at the [Community Transportation Association of the Northwest \(CTANW\) Summit](#) in Bremerton on May 19 & 20. Gerina Hatch (Community in Motion) and I will be leading two Mobility Roundtable discussions - join us!

We'd also love your [feedback on the Trip Planner website](#) - let us know your thoughts!



TRANSPORTATION SPOTLIGHT



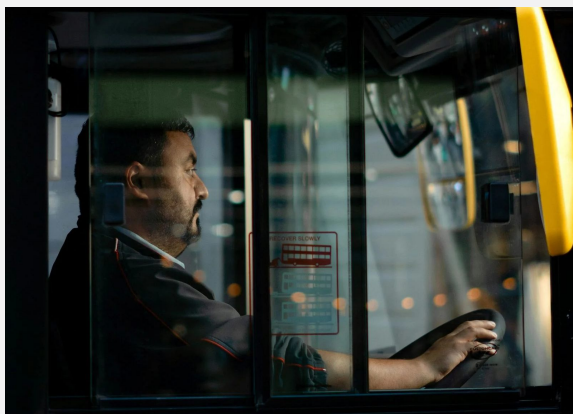
Pacific Transit

As of March 3, 2025, Pacific Transit will now offer fare-free rides, enhancing accessibility across Pacific County. Their routes connect key communities, including Raymond, South Bend, Ilwaco, Long Beach, and Ocean Park, and extend to Aberdeen, WA, and Astoria, OR, facilitating regional travel. For schedules and more information, visit [Pacific Transit](#). Fun fact: the Aberdeen Express that starts in Ilwaco and goes to Aberdeen by way of Naselle does two 340 miles roundtrips a day.



Cowlitz Tribe Transit

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe received \$1.7 million from Washington's Climate Commitment Act funds and installed a 100-kilowatt solar array and battery energy storage system at their Longview administrative and clinic buildings. The project allows power operations and supports electric vehicle charging. This investment supported environmental justice and clean energy goals. Amanda Lomasney, Programs Manager, Public Works Department, Cowlitz Indian Tribe gave a presentation at the Public Transportation Stakeholders Member meeting.



Driver Recruitment & Retention

Dan Walker, from Hopelink, Amy Asher, from Mason Transit, Ken Mehin and Katie Heikkila from Grays Harbor Transit gave a great presentation about Driver Recruitment and Retention. Mason Transit facilitates a *Lunch with Leadership* for their employees that has been a success in retention. Consider spending time with your team to talk about how you can make improvements to driver recruitment and retention this year and report back at the May Regional Transportation Partners meeting.



Transit Employee Spotlight

Sonya Byrd is the Operations Manager, Community Engagement and Travel Training at Lewis County Transit. Sonya has been in the transit industry for a little over 20 years. She started as a Driver and then moved into dispatching, CDL driver training and Travel Training. She is from the Lewis County area and enjoys assisting her community. Sonya presented on Travel Training at the Regional Transportation Partners meeting in December. They have been advertising their Travel Training through radio ads and facilitation of student rides on a fixed route as part a group travel training presentation. [Read more here.](#)

ROUTE UPDATES

LEWIS COUNTY TRANSIT

Yellow Route:

- 📍 Stop Removed: College Blvd. & Washington
- 📍 Stops Added: Social Security Office, Colonial Drive & Cooks Hill Road, New Stop at Providence Hospital Emergency Entrance, Providence Hospital North Entrance, WinCo, Jefferson Lincoln Elementary

Blue Route:

- 📍 Stops Removed: Social Security Office, Cooks Hill Rd & Landing Way, Villa San Juan Bautista Apartments, Stillwaters Ave., Providence Hospital North Entrance, Borthwick & Noble, Jefferson Lincoln Elementary, North Pearl & West Hansen/Spray Park
- 📍 Stops Added: WinCo, Yew & Pear, College Blvd & Washington, Amtrak (moved to the beginning of the route instead of near the end), Centralia Bible Chapel, Berryfields, Fullers at N. Pearl & Pear, New Stop at Oakview Elementary/Hunters Walk, New Stop at Dollar General & Russell Road Apartments, First & F Street, West Outlets 1 & 2 added back, Cascade Mental Health on Reynolds & Johnson, Fords Prairie on W. Reynolds Rd.

Orange Route:

- 📍 Stops Removed: Yew & Pear, Harrison & M St., Autozone, Panda Inn
- 📍 Stops Added: Classic Chevy Biscay (20937 Old Hwy 99 SW), Reliable Apartments (2207 Harrison Ave.), Winco

Purple Route: Service Reduction – No 10 AM-12 PM loop and no 5 PM-7 PM loop.

Green Route: ▶ Increased Frequency: Additional trips at 8 AM, 10 AM, 1 PM, and 3 PM. The new departure schedule from Mellen Street e-Transit Station is as follows: 6, 7, 8, 10 & 11 AM and 1, 3, and 5 PM. New departure schedule from Olympia: 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 AM and 12, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 PM.



411 Route:

Effective March 3, 2025, RiverCities Transit will implement the following modifications to Route 411:

- 📍 Discontinue both Saturday and Holiday schedule trips due to low ridership.
- 📍 Eliminate the weekday 1:15 PM trip departing from the Longview Transit Center because of lower productivity.
- 📍 Introduce a new southbound trip starting at 6:30 AM from Aaron Drive & Westside Highway, responding to customer requests for earlier service for work and school commitments.



Starting March 3, 2025, Pacific Transit has transitioned to a fare-free system, enhancing accessibility across Pacific County.

Effective January 13, 2025, include services such as:

- 📍 Route 14: Raymond to Aberdeen (Monday-Friday).
- 📍 Route 20: Ilwaco to Oysterville (Monday-Friday and weekends).
- 📍 Route 24: Ilwaco to Astoria (Monday-Friday)
- 📍 Route 32: Raymond to South Bend (Monday-Friday).
- 📍 Route 50: Raymond to Ilwaco (Monday-Friday).

ROUTE UPDATES CONTINUED

HarborFlex by Grays Harbor Transit is a combination of Paratransit (certified) service that covers Grays Harbor County and general public Dial-a-Ride (DAR) service in Montesano, Elma, Ocean Shores and Westport. Although these are two different services, they have been combined into one application.

They have a new and improved mobile app powered by **via**. Grays Harbor Transit General Public DAR will no longer accept walk-ons which will reduce wait times and ensure drivers can take the most efficient route to get everyone where they're going more quickly! Riders will have to make reservations in advance through the app or dispatch before boarding the vehicles.

Fares will remain free through 2025.

Weekend Wave Service, Weekday DASH Route & Weekend Ocean Shores DAR



MOBILITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Youth on the Go Activity Book

English and Spanish Youth on the Go Activity Books are available upon request for an upcoming Group Travel Trainings or Community Event. Please reach out to Megan Wirtz, Mobility Management Coordinator, mwirtz@cwco.org.

[The CWCOG Trip Assistant website](#) includes a Trip Planner, Resource Pages for Youth, Seniors, Veterans, People with Disabilities, Employees and Students, and a Provider Directory with over 50 different transportation services and providers serving SW Washington. [Learn more here.](#)

[Regional Mobility Toolkit](#)

This toolkit provides the following: Travel Training Programs, How to use a Flag Stop, Regional Transportation Options, Local Transportation Options and more. [Learn more here.](#)



[How To Ride Videos](#) can be viewed on YouTube and the CWCOG Mobility Website.



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