

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Adiel McKnight, Executive Assistant
DATE: June 5, 2023
SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION re: Proclaiming June 2023 as Ride Transit Month

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

On average public transit provides almost 250 million passenger trips in Washington each year. Transit agencies in Washington State invest almost \$5 billion in transit capital and operations each year. Using the transit system in Washington today eliminates 371,000 metric tons of CO2 emissions per year – about equal to 28,272 passenger vehicles driven for one year.

In 2022, Jefferson Transit Authority's (JTA) annual passenger trips on fixed route services were 185,370. This includes services on the west and east sides of Jefferson County. In 2022, Jefferson Transit established a new fare policy that eliminated all fares on Jefferson Transit vehicles for all riders with the exception of the #14 Kingston Express. The elimination of fares creates more equitable transportation options for community members. In 2022, Jefferson Transit also established a new express route that operates between Port Townsend and the Kingston Ferry Terminal. This route connects residents of Jefferson County with the Kitsap Fast Ferry to Seattle and the Washington State Ferry to Edmonds and reduces the need to drive a personal vehicle to access a ferry.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to Jefferson County.

RECOMMENDATION:

To honor Transit Operators and approve Proclamation re: Proclaiming June 2023 as Ride Transit Month

REVIEWED BY:


Mark McCauley, County Administrator

6/11/23
Date

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on average public transit provides almost one quarter of one billion passenger trips in Washington each year; and

WHEREAS, transit agencies in Washington State invest almost \$5 billion in transit capital and operations each year; and

WHEREAS, using the transit system in Washington today eliminates 371,000 metric tons of CO2 emissions per year – about equal to 28,272 passenger vehicles driven for one year; and

WHEREAS, transit trips are 10 times safer per mile than car trips, and a person can reduce the probability of being in an accident by more than 90 percent simply by taking public transit as opposed to commuting by car; and

WHEREAS, continue riding transit! Each full bus takes 60 cars off the road, reducing congestion, greenhouse gas emissions and saving you money; and

WHEREAS, June is a great time to promote using transit to get to work and the best time to get beginners using transit; and,

WHEREAS, whether you're new to transit or a regular rider, Ride Transit Month is a time to celebrate YOU, our community of riders who are helping Washington State lead the nation in ridership; and,

WHEREAS, in 2022, Jefferson Transit established a new fare policy that eliminated all fares on Jefferson Transit vehicles for all riders with the exception of the #14 Kingston Express; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Jefferson County Commissioners do hereby proclaim June, 2023 as:

RIDE TRANSIT MONTH

in Jefferson County and ask all residents of this community join us in honoring our **TRANSIT OPERATORS**, who care for the public, and show our appreciation not just during this month, but at every opportunity throughout the year.

APPROVED this 5th day of June, 2023.

SEAL:

JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Greg Brotherton, Chair

ATTEST:

Kate Dean, Member

Carolyn Gallaway, CMC
Clerk of the Board

Heidi Eisenhour, Member