

Intercity Transit Authority Proposition No. 1

Only voters in the Intercity Transit Authority District will vote on this measure. See page 5 for the district map.

Sales and Use Tax

Ballot Title:

The Intercity Transit Authority adopted Resolution 01-2010 concerning the financing of public transportation. The proposition would increase the sales and use tax within the public transportation benefit area by two-tenths of one percent for the purpose of providing funds to maintain and improve local bus and commuter services for the general public and special transit services for people with disabilities.

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

Statement For:

Intercity Transit provides vital and needed services in our community. This measure asks you to support a modest increase in sales tax to sustain important services including scheduled bus service, Dial-a-Lift, commuter and vanpools. Quality transit helps everyone in our community. More and more people depend on transit to get to their jobs, school, appointments and shopping. Students, disabled and senior citizens often use transit as their primary transportation. Ridership is increasing – this shows support and the need for transit.

This measure proposes an increase of 2 cents on a \$10 purchase. Without these funds, transit service will be reduced by about 22%, with first cuts starting in 2011. With passage, existing service levels will be maintained and there will be modest increases in service to help meet demand. These funds will also provide local match for federal grants planned to help pay for bus maintenance center improvements and a major park and ride lot.

Excellent management practices have provided consistent services even during times of declining revenues. Intercity Transit has received consistently clean audits from the State Auditor. This productivity was recognized when Intercity Transit won "best mid-size system" in the country in 2009. A recent survey shows wide community support for transit by residents. A quality transit system offers a low-cost option for many people and can help reduce congestion for all commuters. Transit is also part of the solution for our future energy and environmental sustainability.

Please vote *yes* on this measure!

Statement For prepared and written by: Graeme Sackrison, Karen Messmer, and Tom Green.

Explanatory Statement:

Intercity Transit provides public transportation services to Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater, Yelm and portions of unincorporated Thurston County. Most of Intercity Transit's operating revenues come from its portion of sales and use taxes, currently set at 0.6 (6/10) percent.

At this level, current projections show that Intercity Transit's reserves will drop below the adopted minimum in 2011, and Intercity Transit will go into the red beginning in 2012. To keep the budget balanced, Intercity Transit would need to reduce fixed route service in February 2011 with a total reduction of 23% by February 2012. This could also reduce services to the disabled. In addition, no new major capital projects would be funded.

This Proposition would increase the amount of local sales and use tax going to Intercity Transit from 0.6 (6/10) percent to 0.8 (8/10) percent. This would allow Intercity Transit to avoid losing any fixed route services or services to the disabled. In addition, it would allow Intercity Transit to modestly increase fixed route service and services for the disabled, as needed by the community.

Explanatory Statement prepared by: Intercity Transit's Legal Counsel, Tom Bjorgen of Bjorgen Bauer Pitman Bauer, PLLC, Attorneys at Law.

Statement Against:

No one could be found to write a statement against the Intercity Transit Authority Proposition No. 1.

Please Note: "for" and "against" statements are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for factual accuracy by the Auditor's Office.