

CAC REPORT

March 8, 2022

The committee voted to recommend the board consider best type of bus exterior display to show mass transportation as a viable alternative to rising gas prices, and includes press releases.

Suggestion for the interior coach scrolling screens:

- Make text large, and say what needs to be said in as few words as possible.
- Holiday entries need to be updated to reflect current year 2022
- Static screens should contain animations to grab rider attention.

Brad will be taking these suggestions to Operations supervisors to disseminate among the departments involved in creating the slides.

The committee has decided to move forward with hybrid meetings, in order to accommodate working persons, prospective CAC members from the Anacortes area, and guests, who otherwise, could not make in-person meetings.

Guest speaker in May will be Mark Hamilton, Senior Planner with Skagit Council Of Governments, regarding results of the household survey taken recently.

In future, the committee would like to have someone come talk with us regarding emergency preparedness and ramifications for Skagit Transit bus service to ridership.

Updated mask guidelines were discussed.

New bus stop signs should be going up later this month, and will be standardized, one route at a time, and hopefully, starting at the Anacortes ferry terminal. It was brought up that the transit connector information should be updated and more visible than it is now to people coming off the ferries.

The Sedro-Woolley Park & Ride is closed, due to renovations, and an alternative is operating out of the Food Pavilion parking lot on the south side by Highway 20.

The Stuff The Bus event, benefiting the Helping Hands food bank, at the Cascade Mall parking lot, was a resounding success, with people lined up for the Sugar And Spoon food truck. Appreciation was shown for Commissioner Janicki's attendance. This event received a write-up in the Skagit County Herald, dedicated to a past community member, and a great show of support topped off the day. Eleven thousand pounds of food was collected, and the donations amount is estimated to be the equivalent of eighty-nine thousand pounds of food, averaging 25 pounds of food per dollar. Note that Helping Hands serves not only Sedro-Woolley, but also Hamilton, Lyman, Anacortes, and Marble Mount.

Regarding Transit awareness, Skagit Transit is the lead agency with the North Sound Transportation Alliance, looking to study future demand for mass transit in the northwest region, to include connecting with adjacent transit systems, as well as future tourism needs. Last week, the alliance applied for a grant from DOT, and has commitment of matching funds from other area agencies. They will also decide the best ways for agencies to connect with large projects coming on line over the next decade or so. The study is to start in 2023.

The next meeting will be April 12.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Jones

CAC Chair