

# April 2026 Meeting Minutes

## Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

Date: April 14, 2026

Time: 4:30 PM – 5:45 PM

Location: Skagit Transit Community Room / Teams Hybrid

Chair: Judy Jones

Minutes Prepared by: Maleah Kuzminsky

### 1. Call to Order & Roll Call

- Meeting Called to Order by Judy Jones at 4:31 PM
- **Attendance:** Ray Brock, Doris Brevoort, BJ Carol, Louise Edens, Robin Gosney, Chris Jones, Judy Jones, Dave Stevens, Daniel Kihangu, John Norman, Monette Partin, Irene Prokuski, and Valerie Rose.
- **Public Comment or Guests:** None
- **Skagit Transit Staff Present:** Crystle Stidham (CEO), Maleah Kuzminsky (Planning and Outreach Manager, Rogelio Conejo (Community Engagement Specialist) and Derek Messling (Marketing and Public Affairs Specialist)
- **Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve by Dave Stevens the March 10, 2026, minutes, seconded by Ray Brock, approved unanimously.

### 2. CEO Report (Crystle Stidham)

- **Board/CAC Relations:** New commitment to regular recurring meetings between the CEO and the CAC Chair.
- **Budgetary Pressures:** Sales tax revenue is down 5.5%; diesel costs have surged from \$3.25 to \$5.07/gallon due to global conflict.
- **Staffing:** Eight new drivers graduate this week; the agency will be fully staffed by the end of April.
- **Project Updates:** Maintenance, Operations, and Administration (MOA2) facility and Skagit Station bathroom renovations are on schedule.

### 3. Operations & Ridership Update (Malia)

- **February Data:** Fixed Route ridership increased 11.29%, while Paratransit saw a significant 27.26% spike.
- **Spare Software Launch:** Implementation moved to May 26. The old reservation portal will close May 19.
- **Route Detours:** 10-month detours for the 615 and 40X routes begin mid-May due to the 536 Bridge project (westbound traffic only).

### 4. Marketing & Outreach

- **Resource Management:** Due to high costs (\$1.50/unit) and low stock, traditional Writer Guides will be replaced by "Pocket Timetables" (single-route tear-offs) starting in September.
- **Community Events:** Successful representation at the Veteran's "Stand Down" and the Disabilities Fair.
- **Digital Accessibility:** Staff is working to ensure all rider materials meet WCAG compliance by April 2027.

### 5. Regional Coordination & Advocacy

- **I-5 & 90X:** Skagit Transit clarified it has no control over WSDOT freeway closures. There are currently no plans to extend the 90X beyond Everett Station to the light rail.
- **CAC Passes for WTA Routes:** WTA will no longer honor CAC passes for Skagit Transit CAC members, which is in line with their September fare restructuring.
- **Statewide Collaboration:** Chair Judy joined a new collaboration group led by Intercity Transit to align advisory group data across Washington State.

### 6. New Business: Member Liaison Exchange Proposal

- **Proposal:** Chair Judy introduced a rotating "Exchange Program" where a CAC member attends Board meetings as an observer, and a Board member attends CAC meetings to hear rider feedback directly.
- **Action:** Electronic copies of the proposal will be sent to members and staff for review.

### 7. Public Comment & Member Concerns

- **Communication:** A request was made to verify mailing addresses for members not receiving hard-copy minutes.

- **Infrastructure:** Discussion regarding a missing return stop near the Catholic Church on Ferry Street in Sedro-Woolley.

**Adjournment:** 5:35 PM

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 12, 2026

**Time:** 4:30 PM

**Location:** Skagit Station / Hybrid MS Teams