Public Participation Plan

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) is a guide for Pierce Transit’s ongoing public participation activities. Its purpose is to ensure Pierce Transit utilizes effective means of providing information and receiving input on transportation decisions from the public, including low income, minority, and limited English proficient (LEP) populations, as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states that “no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

This plan guides Pierce Transit in its efforts to offer early, continuous, and meaningful opportunities for the public to help identify social, economic, and environmental impacts of proposed transportation policies, projects, and initiatives across the Agency. It describes Pierce Transit’s overall goals, guiding principles, and strategic approach to achieving stated objectives. Pierce Transit’s Strategic Plan (available to download at http://www.piercetransit.org/documents) establishes the following objectives for community engagement:

- Increase the community’s awareness of Pierce Transit’s value to the community.
- Build trust through frequent dissemination of transparent and accurate information.
- Ensure active participation from a supportive network of stakeholders.

This plan is a living document which will change and grow to help Pierce Transit deepen and sustain its work to engage diverse community members throughout the county. Therefore, Pierce Transit will modify its public participation methods and activities over time, based on ideas and feedback from community members and Pierce Transit’s evaluation of our public participation effectiveness.

1.1 Pierce Transit’s Structure, Mission, Vision, and Values

Founded in 1979, Pierce County Public Transportation Benefit Area Corporation (Pierce Transit) is a nationally recognized leader in the public transportation industry. Pierce Transit covers 292 square miles of Pierce County with roughly 70% of the county population. Serving Washington’s second largest county, Pierce Transit provides three types of service, Fixed Route, SHUTTLE paratransit and Vanpools that help get passengers to jobs, schools and appointments.

- **Board of Commissioners**
  Pierce Transit is governed by a ten-member Board of Commissioners. The Board is made up of nine elected officials representing fourteen jurisdictions in Pierce County and one non-voting Union Representative.

- **Executive Finance Committee**
  The Executive Finance Committee (EFC) is comprised of four members of the Board of Commissioners. The Committee serves as a sounding board to the Agency on various policy matters.
and approves contracts up to its allowed authority established by the Board of Commissioners.

- **The Pierce Transit Community Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)**
  CTAG is a nine-member advisory group that provides input to the Board of Commissioners. It was chartered to offer an opportunity for community stakeholders to provide input and suggest improvements and recommendations on plans, policies, and services offered by Pierce Transit.

**Mission**
Pierce Transit improves people's quality of life by providing safe, reliable, innovative and useful transportation services that are locally based and regionally connected.

**Vision**
We cultivate a culture of mutual trust and respect with the community and our employees.

**Organizational Values**
Pierce Transit adopted organizational values that represent the fundamental principles behind Pierce Transit’s Strategic Plan. The Agency is committed to a culture of service where the following three values guide decisions and actions:

- **Integrity** … we do what is right, legally and ethically.
- **Accountability** … we are responsible stewards of public resources.
- **Teamwork** … we all make it happen.

**1.2 Pierce Transit’s Public Participation Goals**
The Public Participation Plan endeavors to offer meaningful opportunities for the public, including low income, minority, and limited English proficient populations, to be involved in the identification of social, economic, and environmental impacts of proposed transportation decisions by Pierce Transit.

Specific goals and outcomes include:

- **Quality Input and Participation**
  Comments received by Pierce Transit are useful, relevant and constructive, contributing to better plans, projects, programs, strategies, and decisions.

- **Consistent Commitment**
  Pierce Transit strives to communicate regularly and develop trust with communities, while helping build community capacity to provide public input.

- **Diversity**
  Participants represent a range of socioeconomic, ethnic, and cultural perspectives, with representative participants including residents from low income neighborhoods, ethnic communities and residents with limited English proficiency, and other traditionally underserved people.

- **Accessibility**
  Every effort is made to ensure that opportunities to participate are physically, geographically, temporally, and linguistically accessible.
• **Relevance**
  Issues should be framed clearly and simply such that the significance and potential effect may be understood by the greatest number of participants.

• **Participant Satisfaction**
  Pierce Transit should encourage the public to participate in project or initiative related discussions, recognizing that people who take the time to participate feel it is worth the effort to join the discussion and provide feedback.

• **Clarity in Potential for Influence**
  The process should clearly identify and communicate where and how participants can have influence and direct impact on decision making.

• **Partnerships**
  Pierce Transit develops and maintains partnerships with communities and community-based organizations through the activities described in this Public Participation Plan.

• **Opportunities to Build Trust and Compromise**
  Pierce Transit should ensure that discussions, particularly where there are conflicting views, are structured to allow for levels of compromise and consensus that will satisfy the greatest number of community concerns and objectives. Pierce Transit recognizes that processes which allow for consensus to be achieved are critical to enable public support for recommended actions.

1.3 Guiding Principles for Public Participation at Pierce Transit

Pierce Transit’s public involvement procedures are built on the following guiding principles:

• **Flexible**
  The engagement process should accommodate participation in a variety of ways and be adjusted as needed.

• **Inclusive**
  Pierce Transit should proactively reach out and engage low income, minority and LEP populations from Pierce Transit’s service area so these groups will have an opportunity to participate.

• **Respectful**
  All feedback received should be given careful and respectful consideration.

• **Tailored**
  Pierce Transit’s public participation methods should be tailored to match local and cultural preferences as much as possible.

• **Proactive and Timely**
  Participation methods should allow for early involvement and be ongoing and proactive so participants can influence Pierce Transit’s decisions.

• **Clear, Focused and Understandable**
  Participation methods should have a clear purpose and use for the input, and should be described in language that is easy to understand.

• **Trustworthy**
  Information provided should be accurate and trustworthy.
• **Responsive**
  Pierce Transit should strive to respond and incorporate appropriate public comments into transportation decisions.

• **Transparent in Impact**
  Pierce Transit should communicate the results of the public’s input in terms of the impact on decisions at a broad summary level, providing the major themes, the decisions reached and rationale for the decisions.

• **Authentic and Meaningful**
  Pierce Transit should support public participation as a dynamic and meaningful activity that requires teamwork and commitment at all levels of the organization.

### 1.4 Regulations and Policies Relevant to Pierce Transit’s Public Participation Plan

Pierce Transit functions under a wide variety of federal, state, and local requirements. The list below provides an overview of the basic laws, regulations, and regional policies Pierce Transit operates within.

- **Federal Requirements:**
  - Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
  - Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
  - Executive Order 13166 – Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency
  - Executive Order 12898 – Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations
  - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- **Washington State Requirements:**
  - Revised Code of Washington 36.57A – Public Transportation Benefit Areas
  - State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)
  - Open Public Meetings Act
  - Public Records Act

- **Other Requirements**
  - Pierce Transit Code (see Appendix A)

# 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION APPROACH

Transportation decision making and project development processes are regulated and follow set procedures, including the need to give the public opportunities to participate. This Public Participation Plan describes participation opportunities generally and includes specific protocols and resources that are designed to facilitate diverse and inclusive public outreach and involvement. The plan is a flexible and evolving document. As necessary, Pierce Transit will revise the PPP based on recurring assessments of successes and/or challenges associated with outreach, as well as suggestions made and the results of public engagement processes.

## 2.1 Public Participation Techniques
Pierce Transit takes pride in its work to maintain a collaborative relationship with the community and its stakeholders. Pierce Transit’s public outreach effort rests on utilizing multiple communication channels to distribute information to, and solicit input from, affected constituencies. Pierce Transit typically communicates with the general public and its customers through one or more of the following methods.

- **Pierce Transit’s Website**
  Pierce Transit website, [www.piercetransit.org](http://www.piercetransit.org), is a comprehensive resource for people wanting information about Pierce Transit’s services, programs, projects, and activities. The website offers trip planning which enables a full itinerary for bus, train, and ferry travels in Snohomish, King, and Pierce counties. Many community members are not aware of the volume of information available on Pierce Transit’s website. Informing community members of what is available on the website is an important element of public outreach. Also public notices of all Pierce Transit’s public meetings, public hearings, and public comment periods are posted on this site. Some programs and projects have dedicated web pages on Pierce Transit’s website that include information about upcoming meetings, fact sheets, and projects and plans. The website includes the ability for users to translate pages into 90 different languages using Google Translate.

- **Customer Comments**
  There are multiple ways that individuals can provide verbal or written comments about any subject to us. Comment Cards are supplied on all buses and SHUTTLE vans, at the Tacoma Dome Station Bus Shop, at Pierce Transit’s Headquarters and at most information outlets where bus schedule information is stocked. These cards have a postage-paid business reply mailer and are printed in English and Spanish. Comment Cards should be available at any public participation event. The Pierce Transit website has multiple mechanisms to receive comments including a comment form, an email button that automatically begins an email to the Agency, comment forms on project web pages, and the Customer Service phone number where staff will take comments over the phone. That same phone number and/or email address is printed on almost all printed materials, bus stop signs, and passenger vehicles.

- **Press Releases and Media Relations**
  Pierce Transit distributes press releases as appropriate on events and other important information to news media. Press releases are posted on [www.piercetransit.org](http://www.piercetransit.org). In addition, Pierce Transit’s Public Relations Officer is available to speak with reporters regarding various topics.

- **Printed Materials**
  Pierce Transit produces publications as needed such as the Report to the Community, The Bus Stops Here (TBSH) route and schedule book, maps, brochures, rack cards, and posters (see Appendix B), and makes them available to anyone. These publications include technical and policy information and often use visualization techniques to enhance understanding of transit planning. Materials are translated into other languages, as needed (see Appendix C). All publications are available free of charge.

- **Surveys**
  Pierce Transit may conduct surveys in print, by telephone and online to collect public opinion on specific topics or issues. Depending on the data being collected, Pierce Transit considers the methodologies that provide statistically valid data when possible. Pierce Transit also considers strategies for letting people know that surveys are available in multiple languages, so as to increase the response rate from low income, minority, and LEP populations.
• **Telephone Information Line**
  Pierce Transit's phone system offers pre-recorded information about bus routes that may detour during snowstorms, and location and service hours for our Bus Shop.

• **Newsletters**
  Newsletters or Project Fact Sheets can be developed and used throughout the public participation process to share information and provide information on how people may share their comments with Pierce Transit.

• **On-Board Announcements**
  On board fixed route buses, Pierce Transit may broadcast audio and scrolling announcements as needed. Topics include items such as detours, route and schedule changes, and public meeting notices.

• **Mailings and Email Lists**
  Pierce Transit regularly provides information about its services through mass mailings to targeted households near its routes.

• **Social Media**
  Pierce Transit uses Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to distribute information and interact with a wider audience on a near daily basis. The Agency may utilize other social media mediums as the technology changes.

• **Paid Advertisements**
  To promote its services or collect public comments, the Agency may place paid advertisements in local printed or online publications or websites.

• **Focus Groups**
  At times, the complexity of a project, controversial issues, or the reality of having multiple large Title VI groups to address may require engaging targeted audiences of stakeholders.

• **Community Investment Teams**
  The purpose of the Community Investment Team (CIT) is to bring together several parties with a vested interest in the success of demonstration projects. Collectively, the team guides the design of the service innovation, partners on critical needs that must be met to deliver service (e.g., service routing, marketing, communications and outreach, funding), and establishes a clear scope for the demonstration project and evaluation of the project. Membership of the CIT is composed of several partnering organizations (e.g., cities, chambers, colleges, retailers, hospitals, and senior centers).

• **Transit Center Outreach**
  Pierce Transit, on occasion, will proactively staff transit centers to distribute pertinent information to riders.

• **Community Outreach Booths**
  Occasionally, Pierce Transit staffs tables or booths at community events and public gathering spaces to raise awareness of our services and/or promote ridership.

• **Open Houses**
  Open houses are informal settings where people can obtain information about a plan, program, or project. They do not have formal agendas, and no formal discussions or presentations take place. At open houses, people receive information informally from exhibits and staff, and they are encouraged to give opinions, make comments, and state preferences to staff, orally or in writing. Informal
presentations, slide shows, and one-on-one discussions take place continuously throughout the event. Since there is no fixed agenda, open houses are usually scheduled for substantial portions of a day or evening, so that people can drop in at their convenience and fully participate. The number of locations for open houses depends on the project and audience. Staff makes every effort to be as inclusive as possible and to schedule open houses at convenient locations along bus routes.

- **Board Meetings**

  The Board of Commissioners meets the second Monday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at Pierce Transit's Training Center, Rainier Conference Room, 3720 – 96th ST SW, Lakewood, WA. These meetings are open to the public and include an opportunity for the public to comment on any item relating to transit. The following section describes what the public can expect in terms of notification, agendas, location, and visualization techniques at these meetings.

  - **Public Notification**
    Pursuant to Board-Approved Resolution, Pierce Transit Board meetings are held monthly on a fixed day, time and location unless cancelled. Agendas are distributed and posted to the Agency’s website (www.piercetransit.org) prior to each meeting per Washington State law.

  - **Agendas**
    Agendas with supporting materials are sent electronically to the Board of Commissioners, parties of record and posted on Pierce Transit’s website in advance of the meeting pursuant to Washington State Law. Agendas include information for the following items: a) special accommodations for the hearing impaired; b) accommodations for those eligible under the American Disability Act (ADA); and c) Registered SHUTTLE customers who wish to attend the hearing.

  - **Public Hearing**
    A public hearing may be part of the Board of Commissioners’ meeting when required by law, a state or federal program, service or fare changes, or in exceptional circumstances these hearings can be special meetings. The purpose of the hearings is to accept public comment relevant to a particular topic. Advance public notification, meeting the legal requirement, is advertised requesting public participation. Pierce Transit’s Code Ch. 1.60.010 B states: “Pierce Transit will publicize the hearing in a major newspaper with general circulation in the urbanized area of Pierce County and other newspapers which are directed at specifically affected groups. Legal notices will be advertised at least 7 calendar days and not more than 14 calendar days in advance of the hearing date.”

  - **Public Comment**
    A public comment period is part of each Board meeting. Time limits are set on public comments. Written comments can be forwarded to Pierce Transit headquarters or the public comment can occur in person during the comment period.

  - **Visualization Techniques**
    Pierce Transit uses visualization techniques such as maps, charts, graphs, illustrations, presentations and videos at all types of meetings, including board meetings, to explain concepts behind actions and decision-making. Pierce Transit may also use handouts and posters to display visual information. Pierce Transit’s boardroom is equipped with computers, projectors, and sound systems for displaying visual and audio information. Pierce Transit uses style guides for data presentation and PowerPoint presentations to present a consistent, streamlined, and easy to understand visual message.

  - **Meeting Times, Locations, and Accessibility**
All Pierce Transit public meetings, including committee meetings, open houses and other events are conducted in facilities that are accessible to persons with disabilities and to people who rely on public transit. Public meetings, such as open houses, community outreach events or hearings may be held at various times and locations throughout the county to allow people with traditional and non-traditional schedules to attend. Pierce Transit maintains an accessible website.

3. EVALUATION AND UPDATE OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Pierce Transit’s Public Participation Plan is intended to be a living document that will be informed by current and future practices, successes and lessons learned. Pierce Transit will continue to adapt and modify its public participation practices over time.

4. EXAMPLES OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH

The following is a summary of two examples of different projects that describes Pierce Transit’s public involvement and outreach programs. These summaries demonstrate the steps each project or service takes to ensure out Title VI goals, guidelines and procedures are being met.

4.1 Demonstration Project – Route 425 Puyallup Connector

Route 425, the Puyallup Connector, operated as a one year demonstration from June 8, 2014 to June 6, 2015. After a demonstration period, the Pierce Transit Board of Commissioners approved the Puyallup Connector as a regular, fixed route service effective June 7, 2015. The route connects residents in Puyallup with shopping, recreation, local events, and medical facilities in Downtown Puyallup and South Hill. The route also provides convenient connections to other local services including Pierce Transit routes 4, 400, 402, 409, and 495. The Puyallup Connectors are visually distinct 25-foot vehicles, with artwork and graphics that reflect the unique history of the City of Puyallup.

The Puyallup Community Investment Team (CIT) helped design the service and provided guidance during the demonstration period. The CIT is comprised of representatives with a vested interest in the success of the Puyallup Connector including the City of Puyallup, MultiCare-Good Samaritan Hospital, Puyallup Main Street Association, Puyallup/Sumner Chamber of Commerce, Puyallup Senior Center, Pierce College, Washington State Fair, Senior Housing Assistance Group (SHAG), and the South Hill Mall. The CIT concept was described as a model for interagency coordination by leaders at the City of Puyallup. Local residents describe the service as critical to the senior population living in the area. The Sunset Garden apartments operated by SHAG is located along the route; during the demonstration period staff regularly visited the site to assist seniors with the purchase of ORCA cards, educate riders on how to purchase their passes, and answer questions about the service. Pierce Transit staff also regularly visited the Puyallup Senior Center, participating in their outreach events. Even though the service has been operationalized, Pierce Transit continues to work with the community and riders to build awareness for the service.

Pierce Transit developed a Public Outreach Plan (see Appendix D) for the Puyallup Connector demonstration project which contained the following elements:
Purpose

- Awareness: Make public aware of community partnerships with Pierce Transit and the work that has been done to provide innovative solutions for the community.
- Education: Educate the public on the Agency’s strategic direction to deliver tailored community services and allow opportunity for them to view service concept(s) designed by Community Investment Team.
- Input: Provide opportunities for the public to offer comments and opinions on concept design(s).
- Decision-making: Compile resident survey findings and collect feedback and public comment for Board review prior to Public Hearing.

People

- General Public: Offer opportunity for anyone to comment on concept.
- Puyallup Residents: Utilize data from Resident Community Survey and drive residents to also offer opinion on proposed concept(s).
- Riders: Solicit options from Route 400, 402, 495, and 410 riders.
- Community Groups: Solicit viewpoints of local community services along or close to the designed route.
- Business: Implore viewpoints of local community services along or close to the designed route.

Methods

- Open house: Pierce Transit hosted two open houses where displays, handouts and other materials were used to expose attendees to the designed concept(s). Attendees gave feedback about planning information in both oral and written form. Meeting format allowed for one-on-one verbal comments. Meetings were held in accessible locations. Translation services were available as needed.
- Public hearing: Hearing consisted of summary of why demonstration project is being done, alternative solutions, consequences, and impacts, and reactions to proposed action.
- Survey: Conducted rider and community surveys to systematically collect opinions on demonstration project. Surveys were conducted via intercept on vehicles, through mailers, and online.
- Brochures: Printed brochures were created to provide the public with demonstration information including map, schedule, and fare information (see Appendix E). Translation block was included on brochure stating translation service was available in more than 200 languages. TTY Relay information also provided. Brochures distribution list included Fred Meyer, Good Samaritan Hospital, Hampton Inn, Pierce College, Puyallup Activity Center, Puyallup City Hall, Puyallup Library, Puyallup Main Street Association, Puyallup Motel, Puyallup/Sumner Chamber, Safeway, South Hill Mall, St Francis, Sunset Garden, Washington State Fair, Wal-Mart, and YMCA.
- Displays and exhibits: Maps, pictures, and text arranged in poster style and posted in high traffic public places or during meetings to share information with general public.
- Community information booth: Hosted informational booth at Sunset Garden (SHAG), Puyallup Senior Center, Emeritus at Puyallup, Silvercrest Senior Residence, Pierce College, and Willow’s Garden.
- Events: Pierce Transit made the most of opportunities at events already taking place in the community, such as Hatchery Grand Opening, Meeker Days, Puyallup Spring Fair, Puyallup Concerts in the Park, and Hounds on the Hill. This gave the public direct access to the planning process and its staff.
• A-Boards: Placed at South Hill Mall Transit Center, Puyallup Sounder Station, and Pierce College notifying the public of demonstration project.
• Electronic signage: Information regarding demonstration project were displayed at the Washington State Fair grounds.
• Newspaper ads: Print and online ads in local newspapers.
• Community mailer: Sent to 3,658 households within 1/4 mile of demonstration route. Mailer included a two week ride free punch out promo pass.
• Project web page: Hosted a variety of information on all aspects of the demonstration project and solicited feedback from the public.
• Vehicle posters: placed on Puyallup Connector vehicles to notify riders of upcoming events, activities, and route information.

4.2 Title VI Policy Development & Approval

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issued Title VI Requirements and Guidelines for Federal Transit Administration Receipts Circular 4702.1B on October 1, 2012. The purpose of the circular is to provide recipients of FTA financial assistance with guidance and instructions necessary to carry out U.S. Department of Transportation Title VI regulations. One such requirement in the circular is the setting of Title VI policies related to Major Service Change, Disparate Impact, and Disproportionate Burden.

Transit agencies receiving federal financial assistance must establish policies that define the threshold for major service changes and the determination of disparate impact/disproportionate burden applied to Title VI service and fare equity analyses. These analyses examine the impact to minority and low-income populations of any fare change or major service change proposed by Pierce Transit.

To develop this proposed policy language Pierce Transit staff studied the new circular and participated in FTA webinars to learn about the new guidance and to develop policies we felt best reflected our service area. We also coordinated directly with FTA technical staff seeking their guidance and input on the policies recommended. Staff contacted other transit agencies to learn about their Title VI policies, processes, and lessons learned through their experiences.

A variety of outreach methods were utilized to provide information to individuals who would potentially be interested in these policies. The Board of Commissioners ultimately approved the policies on February 11, 2103 (Appendix F). The outreach methods prior to Board approval are summarized below.

Purpose
• As with all major decisions that affect our community, Pierce Transit is committed to a robust communication effort and providing opportunities for input by the community.

People
• General Public: Offer opportunity for anyone to comment on concept.
• Minority and low-income riders and groups who serve them: Solicit input on whether the thresholds proposed were fair and made sense.

Methods
- Public meetings: A public meeting was hosted on February 5, 2013 at Sheridan Elementary School and February 6, 2013 at Centro Latino to share the proposed policies and gather input. Both of these locations represent areas along existing Pierce Transit routes with minority and low income populations.

- Community meetings: Staff met with numerous groups including the Eastside Neighborhood Advisory Council of Tacoma, Tacoma Ministerial Alliance, Centro Latino, Aging and Disability Resource Center Community Forum, and Tacoma Area Coalition of Individuals with Disabilities (TACID) to share information about the proposed policies and public hearing. Staff also requested that these groups notify their constituents of the draft policy.

- CTAG: Pierce Transit’s CTAG reviewed the policies and made recommendations to the Board for approval.

- Legal notice: A legal notice for the public hearing held on February 11, 2013 at a regular meeting of the Pierce Transit Board of Commissioners was advertised to provide 20 and 5 calendar days’ notice.

- Public Hearing: Following the public hearing on February 11, 2013, the Board of Commissioners approved the Title VI Policies.

- Email notification: Each jurisdiction in the PTBA was sent an email with information on the public hearing and comment period.

- Rider alerts: were distributed through the system and on buses to notify passengers of the public hearing and comment period (see Appendix G).

- Social media: Facebook and PT NewsFlash were utilized to communicate information about the policies and the comment period.
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Appendix A

Pierce Transit Code

Public Hearing Procedures
PIERCETRANSCODE

Chapter 1.60 - PUBLIC HEARING PROCEDURES

1.60.010 - Legal communication requirements.

A. Pierce Transit will hold a public hearing when any fare changes lasting longer than a 6-month demonstration period are proposed or any major service changes are proposed. A major service change shall be defined as any change in service lasting 12 months or more on any individual route that would add or eliminate twenty percent or more of the route revenue miles or twenty percent or more of the route revenue hours. All major service changes and all non-demonstration, system-wide, fare changes will be subject to an equity analysis which includes an analysis of adverse effects on minority and low income populations.

B. Pierce Transit will publicize the hearing in a major newspaper with general circulation in the urbanized area of Pierce County and other newspapers which are directed at specifically affected groups. Legal notices will be advertised at least 7 calendar days and not more than 14 calendar days in advance of the hearing date.

C. Beyond these legal notice requirements, both before and after a public hearing, Pierce Transit will take other appropriate steps to alert riders, notify the community, and inform staff and other stakeholders of any fare or major service changes. Along with any legal notice, Pierce Transit will publish the legal notice and the proposed fare change(s) or major service change(s) on Pierce Transit’s website.

(Res. No. 14-008, § 1, 3-10-2014)

1.60.020, 1.60.030 - Reserved.

Editor's note—Res. No. 14-0008, § 1, adopted March 10, 2014, repealed §§ 1.60.020, 1.60.030, which pertained to public hearings, beyond legal requirements. See Code Comparative Table for complete derivation.
Appendix B
Fife/Milton/Edgewood Introduction Poster
In English and Spanish
We Need Your Input
Custom tailored service for your community

The proposed Fife-Milton-Edgewood Community Connector includes two route concepts developed by a committed Community Investment Team, in partnership with Pierce Transit. The team focused on improving bus services within the Fife, Milton, and Edgewood communities and recommended service adjustments to Route 402 and Route 301 to integrate the proposed routes.

PROPOSAL
We Want Your Feedback

1. Add a local tailored Community Connector linking the communities of Milton and Edgewood with Fife.

2. Add a local tailored Community Connector linking Fife to Puyallup Station.

3. Adjust our weekday Route 402 trips to make better connections with Sounder Train service at Puyallup Station.

4. Eliminate selected Route 501 trips, integrating remaining service with proposed tailored Community Connectors.

Take A Survey

We want to hear what the community thinks about the proposed Fife - Milton - Edgewood tailored services. We have set up two open houses and a public hearing to receive your feedback. For your convenience, we’ve also created a short survey online to help guide us in providing these innovative services.

Let Us Have Your Input by Nov 8th

Contact Tino Lee
253-568-6837
tino@piercetransit.org

Take a short survey.
Visit piercetransit.org

OPEN HOUSES AND PUBLIC HEARING
Join us and voice your opinion

Open House
4:30PM - 7:30PM
Fife City Hall
5411 23rd Street East, Fife

OCT 30

Open House
11AM - 2PM
Milton/Edgewood Library
900 Meridian East, Milton

NOV 2

Public Hearing
4PM
Pierce Transit Training Center
3720 96th Street SW, Lakewood

NOV 18

Registered SHUTTLE customers may receive specialized transportation to and from the hearing by calling SHUTTLE at 253-568-8000, option 2, from one to five days in advance of the hearing. An interpreter for the hearing impaired will be provided upon request with a minimum notice of two weeks.
Solicítanos sus opiniones

Servicio adaptado para su comunidad

El File-Milton-Edgewood Community Connector que se propone incluye dos conceptos de recorridos desarrollados por un equipo dedicado a la inversión en la comunidad, asociado con Pierce Transit. El equipo enfocó en mejorar los servicios de autobús dentro de las comunidades de File, Milton, y Edgewood y recomendó modificaciones del servicio al Recorrido (ruta) 402 y al Recorrido (ruta) 501 para integrarlo con los recorridos (rutas) propuestos.

**PROPUESTA**

Nos gustaría su reacción acerca de lo siguiente:

1. Añadir un Community Connector local y adaptado que une las comunidades de Milton y Edgewood con File.
2. Añadir un Community Connector local y adaptado que une File con la terminal Fuyallup.
3. Modificar cuatro Recorrido (ruta) 402 viajes para mejorar el servicio en la terminal Fuyallup.
4. Eliminar algunos viajes escogidos del Recorrido (ruta) 501 y luego integrar el servicio que queda con el servicio Community Connector nuevo y adaptado.

**Haga una encuesta**

Nos gustaría escuchar lo que la comunidad piensa sobre los servicios adaptados propuestos. Por eso, le ofrecemos dos exposiciones y una reunión pública para recibir sus reacciones. Cuando lo convenza, además crearemos una encuesta breve por el Internet para guiarlos en proveer estos servicios innovadores.

**Favor de responder antes del 8 de noviembre**

Para más información, favor de contactar a:
Tina Leo
253.589.6887
thee@piercetransit.org

Para participar en una encuesta breve, favor de visitar:
percetransit.org

**Las dos exposiciones y la reunión pública**

¡Únase con nosotros para dar su opinión!

**Exposición el 30 de octubre**
4:30PM - 7:30PM
De 4:30 pm a 7:30 pm
File City Hall
5411 23rd Street, File
Servicio por ruta 501

**Exposición el 2 de noviembre**
Da 11:00 am a 2:00 pm
Biblioteca de Milton/Edgewood
900 Mervian East, Milton
Servicio por ruta 402

**Reunión Pública el 18 de noviembre**
A las 4:00 pm
Centro de Instrucción de Pierce Transit
3720 96th Street SW, Lakewood
Servicio por ruta 48 y 300

Los directos registrados con el servicio SHUTTLE pueden obtener transporte especializado de una y vuelta de la exposición por llamada SHUTTLE a 239-501-8888, o póngase en contacto con alguno de los lugares de la exposición. Le informaremos de los horarios de viaje previstos con un mínimo de dos semanas de anticipación.
Appendix C
Fife/Milton/Edgewood Overview
In English and Spanish
Background
The proposed Fife-Milton-Edgewood Community Connector is the result of a committed Community Investment Team who, in partnership with Pierce Transit, developed two route concepts focused on improving fixed route services within the Fife, Milton, and Edgewood communities. Proposed service concepts focus on:

- Community Needs: Serve key Fife, Milton, and Edgewood community destinations including shopping, medical, libraries, churches, parks, community centers, and post offices.
- Connections: Transport Fife, Milton, Edgewood commuters to and from Puyallup Sounder Station during commute times.
- Integrating tailored service with existing transit system: Link community connector to Routes 402 and 500 for easy access.

Community Investment Team
- City of Edgewood
- City of Milton
- City of Puyallup
- Edgewood F.I.S.H. Food Bank
- Puyallup Tribe of Indians
- Mountain View Community Center
- Radiance Homeowner's Association

Public feedback sought
We want to hear what the community thinks about the proposed Fife-Milton-Edgewood tailored services.
Contact: Tina Lee | Pierce Transit | Service Innovation Administrator
Phone: 253.589.6887
Email: tlee@piercetransit.org
Mail: Pierce Transit | P.O. Box 99070 | Lakewood, WA 98496-0070

Timeline
Wednesday, Oct 30
Open House - 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
City Hall
5411 23rd Street East, Fife

Saturday, November 2
Open House - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Milton Edgewood Library
900 Meridian East, Milton

Monday, November 18
Public Hearing - Pierce Transit Board Meeting
4:00 p.m.
Pierce Transit Training Center
3701 96th Street SW
(Meeting at which Board is expected to decide whether to approve tailored service for implementation February 2014 service change)
Fife-Milton-Edgewood Solución innovadora
Conector Comunitario

Antecedentes
La propuesta de Fife-Milton-Edgewood en Conectar la Comunidad es el resultado de una Comunidad comprometida, un equipo de inversión, que en asociación con la ruta de Pierce Transit, dos conceptos desarrollados se centró en el mejoramiento de rutas fijas dentro de las Comunidades de Fife, Milton, y Edgewood. Conceptos de servicio propuesto se centran en:

- Las necesidades de la comunidad. Servicios principales en Fife, Milton, Edgewood y destinos en la comunidad incluyendo tiendas, médicos, bibliotecas, iglesias, parques, centros comunitarios y oficinas de correos.
- Las conexiones. De transporte en Fife, Milton y Edgewood, los viajeros a la estación del Sounder Tren en Puyallup en tiempo de viaje.
- Servicio personalizado integración con sistema de tránsito existentes. Conector del enlace comunitario para las rutas 402 y 500 para un fácil acceso.

Equipo de inversión comunitaria

- La Ciudad de Edgewood
- La Ciudad de Milton
- La Ciudad de Puyallup

Edgewood F.I.S.H. banco de alimentos
Puyallup Tribu de los indios
Centro de Comunidad Mountain Veiw
La asociación de propietarios resplandor

Buscamos comentarios público
Queremos escuchar lo que la comunidad piensa sobre la propuesta de Fife-Milton y Edgewood de servicios personalizados.
Comuníquese con: Tina Lee | Pierce Transit | Innovación en el servicio administrador
Teléfono: 253.589.6887
Correo electrónico: tlee@piercetransit.org
Correo: Pierce Transit | P.O. Box 99070 | Lakewood, WA 98496-0970

Fechas

Miercoles, Oct 30
Puertas abiertas • 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Fife City Hall
5411 23rd Street East, Fife

Sabado, Noviembre 2
Puertas abiertas • 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Milton/Edgewood biblioteca
900 Meridian East, Milton

Lunes, Noviembre 18
Comentario Público- Pierce Transit reunión de la Junta directiva
4:00 p.m.
Pierce Transit Centro de capacitación
3701 96th Street SW
(Reunión en la que se espera que la junta decida si aprueben servicio adecuado a las necesidades y a la aplicación de los cambios de servicio en Febrero 2014)
Appendix D

Puyallup Tailored Community Service

Public Outreach Plan
## Overview
Puyallup Community Investment Team is currently designing a tailored service concept for the community. Upon concept design, Pierce Transit will organize and implement public outreach to collect public comments on the proposed tailored service.

### Purpose
1. **Awareness:** Make public aware of community partnerships with Pierce Transit and the work that has been done to provide innovative solutions for the community.
2. **Education:** Educate the public on the Agency’s strategic direction to deliver tailored community services and allow opportunity for them to view service concept(s) designed by Community Investment Team.
3. **Input:** Provide opportunities for the public to offer comments and opinions on concept design(s).
4. **Decision-making:** Compile resident survey findings and collected feedback and public comment for Board review prior to Public Hearing.

### People
To obtain a collection of feedback, we will target the following groups.

1. **General public:** Offer opportunity for anyone to comment on concept.
2. **Puyallup Residents:** Utilize data from Resident Community Survey and drive residents to also offer opinion on proposed concept(s).
3. **Riders:** Solicit opinions from Route 400, 402, 409, 495, and 410 riders.
4. **Community Groups:** Solicit viewpoints of local community services along or close to the designed routing.
5. **Businesses:** Solicit viewpoints of local community services along or close to the designed routing.

### Methods
**Awareness/Education**

1. **Public Notice:** The minimum legal requirement necessary to advertise opportunities for public participation.
2. **Displays and exhibits:** Maps, pictures, and text arranged in poster style and posted in high traffic public places or during meetings to share information with general public.
3. **Website:** Share maps, demonstration project description and process, and interactive survey or opportunity to provide comment on concept(s).

**Input**

1. **Open House:** Informal setting using displays, handouts and other materials to expose attendees to the designed concept(s). Attendees can provide feedback about planning information in oral or written form.
2. **Public Hearing:** The minimum legal requirement for public participation. Hearing consisting of summary of why project is being done, alternative solutions, consequences, and impacts, and reactions to proposed action.
3. **Web and paper survey:** Brief questionnaire used to systematically collect opinions on proposed concept(s).
### Key Locations & Dates for Outreach:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distribute Brochures &amp; Posters</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merrill Gardens Assisted Living</td>
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<tr>
<td>Puyallup Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Puyallup Main Street Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Puyallup Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<tr>
<td>S Hill Mall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington State Fair</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Community Open Houses:**
- Puyallup City Hall: January 16th - 4:30pm - 6:30pm
- South Hill Mall: January 25th - 2:00pm - 4:00pm

**Community Organization Presentations:**
- S.H.A.G lunchtime meeting – 1/15/2014
- Senior Center presentation
- Summer, Puyallup Chamber Update
- Downtown Merchants Association Update
- Multi-Care meeting opportunity?
- Lunchtime at Pierce College in student areas?
- Pierce College Student Government Update
- Others?

**Pierce Transit Service Change Process:**
- Pierce Transit Executive/Finance: Thursday, November 21, 2013, 3 pm
- Update on CIT Progress and Request to Seek Pierce Transit Board Approval for Demonstration at Dec 2013 meeting
- Pierce Transit Board Meeting: Monday, December 9, 2013, 4 pm
- Authority to Develop Demonstration
- Pierce Transit Public Hearing: Monday, February 10, 2014, 4 pm
- Public Testimony
- Pierce Transit Board Decision: Monday, March 10, 2014, 4 pm
- Decision to Implement Demonstration
Appendix E
Puyallup Brochure
Riding Is Easy
Here are a few basics to get you started.

1. Look for your closest bus stop. The numbers on the bus stop sign shows which routes stop there. More bus stops have schedules posted on a pole.
2. Arrive at the stop at least 5 minutes early. Bus drivers will wait for the stop sign.
3. Have your fare ready. Use your ORCA card, ticket, or Exact fare. Bus drivers do not carry change.
4. As the bus approaches, check the sign above the window to make sure it’s the destination you want.
5. Stay back from the curb and wait until the bus comes to a complete stop. If you need to use a boarding ramp or lift, just ask the operator.
6. Board and pay your fare. Regular local Pierce Transit fares are charged.
7. Ask your driver for the stop closest to your destination. When you’re a block away, push the yellow button or tell the driver.
8. Call 253.581.5000, option 1, if you don’t know how to reach your location by bus. A Customer Service Representative will assist you with your travel plans.

Integration with existing transit system. This demonstration route connects with existing Routes 400, 460, 409, 410, 495 and the new Route 503 from Puyallup Sounder Station. Riders can transfer between routes, taking advantage of this integrated system.

Community Investment Team
The demonstration Puyallup Connector is the result of a collaborative Community Investment Team who, in partnership with Pierce Transit, continues to collaborate in the implementation of this mixed-use solution to meet the needs of the Puyallup community.

- City of Puyallup
- MultiCare – Good Samaritan
- Puyallup Main Street Association
- Puyallup Chamber of Commerce
- Puyallup Senior Center
- Pierce College
- Washington State Fair
- Senior Housing Assistance Group (SHAG)
- South Hill Mall

Translation service is available in more than 200 languages. These are the most requested:

- Spanish, call 253.798.5000 or Chinese, call 253.923.5000
- Vietnamese, call 253.798.5000 or Tagalog, call 253.798.5000

Puyallup Connector
This new demonstration route connects to key Puyallup and South Hill community destinations including retail, shopping, and recreation. Route now serve stops adjacent to the trunk routes to Steilacoom Hill and I-5.

Effective Sept 28, 2014

425 Weekdays

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<th>425 Saturdays &amp; Sundays</th>
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FARES

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<th>Adult fare</th>
<th>Youth fare</th>
<th>Senior fare</th>
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<tr>
<td>Local PT Service (one ride)</td>
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<td>$1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local PT Service – All Day Pass</td>
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<td>$3.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly Regional Pass</td>
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<td>$77</td>
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</table>

Cash fares (all times of day). Not exact change in the farebox next to the driver. Children 5 and younger ride free with a paying passenger.

Public Participation Plan
August 2015

25
Appendix F
Title VI Policies for Service and Fare Changes
**POLICY**

Effective Date: July 1, 2015

Review Due: July 1, 2016

Replaces: POL-1200.22, March 27, 2012

See Also: PRO 1200.22A Conducting Title VI Service Equity Analyses
PRO 1200.22B Conducting Title VI Fare Equity Analysis

Approved By: Board of Commissioners February 11, 2013 and March 10, 2014

**POL-1200.22 TITLE VI POLICIES FOR SERVICE AND FARE CHANGES**

The requirement for these policies comes from Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Circular 4702.1B, "Title VI Requirements and Guidelines for Federal Transit Administration Recipients" which became effective October 1, 2012. The Circular requires any FTA recipient that operates 50 or more fixed route vehicles in peak service and serving a population of 200,000 or greater to evaluate any fare change and any major service change at the planning and programming stages to determine whether those changes have a discriminatory impact.

Circular 4702.1B requires agencies to have in place a Major Service Change Policy, a Disparate Impact Policy, and a Disproportionate Burden Policy. These policies were approved by the Pierce Transit Board of Commissioners on February 11, 2013. The Major Service Change Policy had minor amendments approved on March 10, 2014. The definition of Major Service Change is also documented in Pierce Transit Code Chapter 1.60 - Public Hearing Procedures.

**PIERCE TRANSIT MAJOR SERVICE CHANGE POLICY**

The purpose of this policy is to establish a threshold that defines a major service change and to define an adverse effect caused by a major service change.

A major service change is defined as any change in service lasting 12 months or more on any individual route that would add or eliminate twenty percent or more of the route revenue miles or twenty percent or more of the route revenue hours. All major service changes will be subject to an equity analysis which includes an analysis of adverse effects on minority and low income populations.

An adverse effect is defined as a geographical or time-based reduction in service which includes but is not limited to: span of service changes, frequency changes, route segment elimination, re-routing, or route elimination.

**PIERCE TRANSIT DISPARATE IMPACT POLICY**

The purpose of this policy is to establish a threshold which identifies when adverse effects of a major service change or any fare change are borne disproportionately by minority populations.

A disparate impact occurs when the minority population adversely affected by a fare or service change is ten percent more than the average minority population of Pierce Transit’s service area.
Disparate impacts on routes with either span of service changes and/or frequency changes will be determined by analyzing all routes with such changes together. Disparate impacts on routes with segment elimination, re-routing, or route elimination will be determined on a route by route basis.

If Pierce Transit finds a potential disparate impact, the agency will take steps to avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts then reanalyze the modified service plan to determine whether the impacts were removed. If Pierce Transit chooses not to alter the proposed changes, the agency may implement the service or fare change if there is substantial legitimate justification for the change AND the agency can show that there are no alternatives that would have less of an impact on the minority population and would still accomplish the agency’s legitimate program goals.

PIERCE TRANSIT DISPROPORTIONATE BURDEN POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to establish a threshold which identifies when the adverse effects of a major service change or any fare change are borne disproportionately by low-income populations.

A disproportionate burden occurs when the low-income population adversely affected by a fare or service change is five percent more than the average low-income population of Pierce Transit’s service area.

Disproportionate burden on routes with either span of service changes and/or frequency changes will be determined by analyzing all routes with such changes together. Disproportionate burden on routes with segment elimination, re-routing, or route elimination will be determined on a route by route basis.

If Pierce Transit finds a potential disproportionate burden, the agency will take steps to avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts then reanalyze the modified service plan to determine whether the impacts were removed. If Pierce Transit chooses not to alter the proposed changes, the agency may implement the service or fare change if there is substantial legitimate justification for the change AND the agency can show that there are no alternatives that would have less of an impact on low-income population and would still accomplish the agency’s legitimate program goals.

Definitions:

Minority Population – Persons identifying themselves as a race other than white, self-reported in the U.S. Census.

Low-Income Population – Persons reporting as being under the federal household poverty limit as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau.
Appendix G
Rider Alert - Public Hearings
Pierce Transit
Notice of Public Hearing
Proposed Pierce Transit Policies in Accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

The purpose of the hearing is to allow public comment on proposed Pierce Transit policies in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. These policies define the procedures related to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which states: "no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." As required by the Federal Transit Administration’s new Title VI Circular 4702.18, Pierce Transit will hold this hearing on proposed policies related to "major service change," "disparate impact," and "disproportionate burden.

The circular affects transit providers receiving federal funding in urbanized communities of more than 200,000 people and operating at least 50 vehicles during peak service hours. These agencies must establish policies that define the threshold for major service changes and the determination of disparate impact/disproportionate burden applied to Title VI equity analyses. These analyses will examine the impact to minority and low-income populations of any fare change or major service change proposed by Pierce Transit.

If approved, the proposed Title VI policies will take effect by March 12, 2013.

The information about these policies is available through Pierce Transit website piercetransit.org or by calling Pierce Transit at 253.581.8000. If you are unable to attend the public hearing, written comments will be accepted through February 8, 2013.

Please address your comments to:

ATTN: Janine Robinson, Senior Planner
Pierce Transit
P.O. Box 99070
Lakewood, Washington 98496-0070
or email to jrobinson@piercetransit.org

Registered SHUTTLE customers may obtain specialized transportation to and from the hearing by calling SHUTTLE at 253.581-8100 from one to five days in advance of the hearing. An interpreter for the hearing impaired will be provided upon request with a minimum notice of two weeks.

253.581.8000 piercetransit.org

Pierce Transit
Notice of Public Hearing
2013 Vanpool Fare Revision, Toll Recovery and Service Area Change Proposal

The purpose of the hearing is to allow public comment on the 2013 vanpool fare revision, toll recovery and service area change proposals.

If approved, the proposed vanpool related revisions take effect on the following dates:
- Vanpool fare revision: May 1, 2013
- Toll recovery: May 1, 2013
- Service area change: July 1, 2013

1. Proposed Vanpool Fare Revision:

Commuter Vanpool Fares

Monthly rider fare increase ranges from $5.00 to $55.00. Increase is based on vanpool round trip commute miles and workweek schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workweek Commute Schedule</th>
<th>Per Person Fare Increase</th>
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<td>$205.00</td>
<td>$220.00</td>
<td>$235.00</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
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</table>

2. Proposed Vanpool Tacomawide Toll Recovery:

Commuter vanpools will pay Pierce Transit for the Tacoma Narrows Bridge (TNB) tolls. (Applies only to vanpools crossing TNB.) The monthly rate is subject to change, based on actual toll costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monthly Toll Rate, Per Vanpool</th>
<th>Work Week</th>
<th>Monthly Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hourly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seven Day</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBD</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
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Community Use and Special Use vanpools will reimburse Pierce Transit for Tacoma Narrows Bridge (TNB) tolls.

3. Proposed Vanpool Service Area Change:

All Pierce Transit vanpools must either have an origin or destination within Pierce Transit’s service area/Public Transportation Benefit Area. (http://www.piercetransit.org/pog-library/maps/PT_FBBA_May2012.pdf)

The public is invited to appear at the hearing to offer testimony for or against any part of the vanpool proposals.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing, written comments will be accepted through February 8, 2013.

Please address your comments to:

ATTN: Lani Fowlkes
Pierce Transit
P.O. Box 99070
Lakewood, Washington 98496-0070
or email to lfowlkes@piercetransit.org

Registered SHUTTLE customers may obtain specialized transportation to and from the hearing by calling SHUTTLE at 253.581-8100 from one to five days in advance of the hearing. An interpreter for the hearing impaired will be provided upon request with a minimum notice of two weeks.

253.581.8000 piercetransit.org