



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

November 17, 2011

INTERCITY TRANSIT HELPS TRAVELERS IN WINTER WEATHER Agency Encourages Bus Riders to Prepare

Intercity Transit operates in most weather conditions, including snow. If the upcoming winter weather may make your area travel difficult, do what thousands of area travelers do regularly - rely on transit to get around safely.

Intercity Transit officials encourage area residents and commuters to prepare now for winter weather travel by monitoring the weather forecast and planning their transit travel before the snow starts falling or temperatures dip and cause icy roads. Before winter storms hit:

- ◆ **Find out if bus service operates in your neighborhood and near your work or other primary destination.** Contact Intercity Transit Customer Service staff with your questions and for an individualized transit trip plan. Your customized trip plan and a helpful Transit Guide can be sent to you upon request.
- ◆ **Get lots of helpful transit information** at www.intercitytransit.com, by calling Intercity Transit Customer Service at 360.786.1881 or 1.800.287.6348, or emailing customerservice@intercitytransit.com
- ◆ **Do your own transit trip planning** by using Intercity Transit's online Google Maps trip planner at www.intercitytransit.com. (Note: the stops and/or transit route and schedule may be impacted by winter/snow conditions, depending on the severity of the storm.)
- ◆ **Get set up on OneBusAway transit tracker program**, which provides you with real-time information about when your bus will be arriving at your transit stop. To get started, visit www.intercitytransit.com, and click on the green OneBusAway icon in the upper right corner. Information can be accessed via phone, web, or mobile devices. (Note: OneBusAway will **not** provide arrival times for buses on detour.)

During severe winter weather, some transit routes may operate on detour as dictated by road conditions. All standard snow detour routes are listed online at www.intercitytransit.com and in Intercity Transit's Transit Guide, available at area Safeway Stores, Timberland Libraries, and the Olympia Transit Center in downtown Olympia.

During winter storm conditions, transit officials encourage you to keep these tips in mind for safe winter travel:

- ◆ **Check for updates on transit schedules and route detour information** at www.intercitytransit.com or www.theolympian.com and via area radio stations (**KGY 1240AM**; **KRXY 94.5FM**, **KAOS 89.3FM**, and **KXXO 96.1FM**). Updates are also posted on Intercity Transit's facebook page (**Intercity Transit**), twitter (**Intercitytransi**), or by calling Customer Service (**360.786.1881 / 1.800.287.6348**).
- ◆ **Please be patient** as buses may be delayed and phone calls to Customer Service may be busier than usual.
- ◆ **Be aware that even if your bus route is not on detour, your bus may run behind schedule** due to difficult road conditions or traffic.
- ◆ **Use www.OneBusAway.org to check the status of your bus** arrival time at your bus transit stop. To use OneBusAway, visit www.intercitytransit.com and click on the green OneBusAway icon in the upper right corner. Information can be accessed via phone, web, or mobile devices. (Note: OneBusAway will **not** provide arrival times for buses on detour.)
- ◆ **Dress warmly** for the walk to the bus stop, allow plenty of time, expect delays, and be patient.
- ◆ **Wait at a bus stop where the road is flat or at the top or bottom of a hill**, as it may be difficult for buses to stop or start on a hill.
- ◆ **Walk to the nearest main street** when unsure whether the bus can make it to your bus stop or if you live in a lightly traveled area. Call Customer Service staff for instructions or check Intercity Transit's web site for the closest operating route.

In addition to regular Intercity Transit bus service, **Dial-A-Lift** will continue to operate in winter weather conditions except in areas where it is determined unsafe. For information, call **360.754.9393**.

Intercity Transit's van transportation programs, **Community Vans** and **Village Vans**, may not operate in severe weather, based on road conditions. For information, please call **360.786.8800** for Community Vans and **360.705.5840** for Village Vans information. **Vanpool** commuters using Intercity Transit vanpools should plan travel with their respective group.

For more information, visit www.intercitytransit.com , e-mail customerservice@intercitytransit.com or call **360.786.1881 (1.800.287. 6348)**.

For more information contact:
Meg Kester, 360-705-5842
www.intercitytransit.com