



World-Class Transit

CELEBRATING & BUILDING COMMUNITY: Part Duex

- submitted by Brad Patterson, General Manager

It is with tremendous pride that I am pleased to announce that our Mason Transit Authority has been selected as the ...

2015 Rural Community Transportation System of the Year

... by the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA)! **WOW!!**

CTAA is the national transit industry organization focused on rural and small urban transit agencies, with over 4,000 members of which MTA has long been one. CTAA provides education, training, lobbying and support for their member transit agencies.

CTAA gives annual awards for demonstrating "Excellence in Motion". My predecessor, Dave O'Connell, was selected as CTAA General Manager of the Year in 2008. The Rural Community Transportation System of the Year is nominated & selected by peers. MTA was nominated by Ann Freeman-Manzanares, GM of Intercity Transit & Geri Beardsley, Executive Director of The Washington State Transit Association.

In a video call, CTAA Membership Director Caryn Souza stated that, "The

Awards Committee decided that your organization deserved distinctive recognition for its commitment to improving mobility, community service, inspired leadership, and extraordinary innovative achievements." This includes:

- 23 years of providing innovative, creative and caring services within the community,
- Being responsive to its customers and the community's needs,
- Actively coordinating and collaborating with other public and special services transportation,
- Effectively helping the community accomplish their goals,
- Creating partnerships with a wide range of organizations, both public & private,
- Providing an accessible transportation service; and
- Building transportation alternatives that are intended to meet a wide range of the communities' needs.

MTA was recognized specifically for:

- Our commitment to providing transit access to everyone by being a fare-free service.
- Our partnership with the Shelton Schools CO-OP in providing the

After School Activities Bus service.

- The wide breadth of services we offer, from the Community Van & Volunteer Driver programs to our Worker-Driver service and Park & Ride work.
- The partnerships with the Squaxin Island Tribe, maintaining their buses & assisting them with the Canoe Journey, and with the Skokomish Tribe on the Cushman Pilot Project.
- Our creation of the first Transit-Community Center in the nation!

I am also happy to announce that Jeri Wood, Kathy Geist, Kim Atterberry, Lisa Davis, Marshall Krier and Trina Gwerder will be joining me in Tampa, Florida on June 3rd at the 2015 CTAA Expo to receive the award on behalf of MTA.

This is a huge honor for all of us. As Caryn Souza, Geri Beardsley, and David Chenaur of WSDOT's Public Transportation Division made very clear, this recognition is due to the world-class service of care we – all of us - provide to our community every day, day after day. We believe in ourselves, and we believe in each other. Our community believes in us, and now our peers have recognized us.

CONGRATULATIONS TEAM!!

DRIVER SAFETY QUIZ!

- by Safety Mike

1. What are some common distractions when driving?
2. What are three main types of distractions?
3. What is the fine for distracted driving in WA?
4. What is the possible fine for a distracted CDL driver?
5. What is the possible fine for MTA if a CDL driver is cited for distracted driving on duty?
6. A Missouri trucking company was just recently ordered to pay _____ for damages which killed 3 and injured 15 —the accident was caused by distracted driving.
7. According to the Transportation Institute, a distracted driver is _____ times more likely to be in an accident.
8. Does the below photo demonstrate distracted driving?



9. How many items can you find in the below photo that should not be in the driver's area?



VACATION TIP

- by Rikki Johnson, HR Manager

It's vacation time! But imagine this – you're out of state and you get ill or injured. What do you do and will Regence pay for out-of-state coverage?

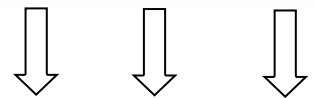
Here's the answer:

Your Regence member card has a suitcase in the lower, left-hand corner that identifies you as a Regence Blue-Card member. When you arrive at a participating Blue Plan doctor's office or hospital, simply present your card.

To locate a BlueCard plan doctor or hospital:

- Call 1 (800) 810-BLUE (2583) at any time (24 hours a day, seven days a week), or
- Visit the [Blue National Doctor and Hospital Finder](#) website.

Happy Travels!



Dehydration can trigger headaches. It's one more reason to drink your water!

FINANCE TEAM REPORT

- by Mary Ann Norquist, Finance Manager

Sales tax collections for the first two months of 2015 are exceeding budget projections. It is unknown at this point how the closure of Simpson will impact future sales tax collections.

Mason Transit Authority								
Sales Tax Collected as of 4/30/2015								
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	2015 Budget Variance
JAN	223,403	220,895	223,999	219,231	237,528	234,652	279,122	19.0%
FEB	220,311	213,228	241,132	217,929	227,815	229,156	281,559	22.9%
MAR	263,166	271,661	257,893	260,652	278,053	276,836		
APR	247,785	239,498	240,541	236,931	260,396	255,421		
MAY	238,633	283,554	262,716	265,167	274,641	277,564		
JUN	283,691	297,471	280,801	282,753	323,498	311,116		
JUL	280,582	265,454	280,429	291,925	329,201	318,840		
AUG	278,377	298,329	282,521	292,782	323,336	316,400		
SEP	310,007	286,873	301,658	306,051	349,872	336,612		
OCT	260,011	260,452	252,888	285,612	296,170	299,140		
NOV	258,127	259,066	234,915	243,571	249,648	253,661		
DEC	304,470	302,470	290,378	312,900	330,297	330,602		
Total	3,168,563	3,198,952	3,149,871	3,215,506	3,480,456	3,440,000	560,681	
Year over year change	1.4%	1.0%	-1.5%	2.1%	8.2%			

SHOP SQUAWK

- by Marshall Krier, Maintenance Manager

Currently, Maintenance is working on the roofing grant we received last year. We are reviewing the results of a roof assessment from an engineering firm and deciding the best corrective action to take.

The two medium duty buses will be on the assembly line the middle of May and we expect them to be delivered no later than the first of July. This has been a challenging project, but when completed MTA will have two great buses that will bridge the gap between a cutaway and a full size bus.

Maintenance has ordered three replacement ramps for busses 300-302.

Although the ramps met the ADA requirements for proper ramp angles, it became apparent those ramps would not work well at the T-CC and our testing verified that most types of wheelchairs would drag or scrape on the ramp when loading and unloading. We expect to have the ramps retrofitted by the middle of June.

On the janitorial side of things, Leo and Steve are doing a great job of keeping all of our facilities clean and maintained. Leo is currently spending Tuesday and Wednesday week performing clean-up duties at the T-CC and has limited clean-up and Johns Prairie. If you find something needing

attention please do not hesitate to contact Maintenance using the facility help desk e-mail and we will be happy to assist.

In maintenance we are always looking at ways to reduce cost and waste. One example of that is, we switched from purchasing brake clean solvent in 12oz spray cans to 20 gallon barrels and reusable dispensers. This means we will save \$427 per year. From an environmental standpoint we will not be tossing aerosol cans into the waste stream. **I want to give Chris a big thank you for making this project happen!**

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

- by Mike Oliver, Development Manager

I am busy working on our very first TIGER Grant application. This is an opportunity that MTA has not been able to take advantage of in past years. The opportunity is unique in a couple of ways. MTA is normally a sub-recipient of federal funding, which means all our federal funding is funneled through WSDOT. This is because of our rural designation. For the TIGER grant, the State has recommended that we apply directly to the program. If we are awarded the funding, it would still be administered through WSDOT as part of the federal requirement for state oversight and administration of the funds.

TIGER or Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, is a capital investment opportunity that will provide 500 million dollars in funding for everything from road construction to pier and dock building and rehab across the nation and Transit Programs. We are submitting two projects. The first is for an Express Service between Olympia and Bremerton. We are proposing to provide four commuter coaches to the tune of a little over \$1.7 million. The second, and largest project, will be the Park and Ride Development. We are proposing to add, or upgrade, eight Park and Ride Lots in Mason County. This would increase the number of current parking spaces at Park and Ride Lots from 154 to 506 total. The project will consist of property procurement, building and finishing parking areas at new locations. It would also include the installation of amenities like Electric Vehicle Charging Stations, and a base of operations in the north end of Mason County where we can park our vehicles and conduct our business in

one location. This project cost is estimated at approximately 10 million dollars.

A personal note: You may have heard the announcement of Mason Transit Authority being selected as the 2015 CTAA Rural Transit Service of the Year, this is an amazing accomplishment. It clearly shows the hard work and continuing innovative efforts that MTA has become known for across the nation. This is no small task and each and every one of you should be proud of yourselves. It's through the everyday efforts put forth by each of you that this type of recognition comes, you deserve it! **Congratulations to all!**

world-class
adjective

1. The definition of world class is something that is the best of the best, of the highest class internationally.

WHAT DOES SERVING PEOPLE WITH WORLD-CLASS TRANSIT LOOK LIKE TO YOU?





DRIVER SAFETY QUIZ ANSWERS

- by Safety Mike

1. Technology/cell phones, Passengers, Scenery, Incidents, Weather conditions, Signage, Eating/drinking, and Personal grooming.
2. Yes
3. 7 (if you can't find them all, please come and see me)
4. **Visual** — taking your eyes off the road, **Manual** — taking your hands off the wheel, and **Cognitive** — taking your mind off what you're doing.
5. \$124
6. \$2,750
7. \$11,000
8. \$24.7 Million dollars
9. 23 times—let me say that one more time 23 times. This is why I am doggedly trying to get the distractions off of the dash.