

C-TRAN to cut Portland commuter service in January

Over 54 percent of Clark County voters were rejecting C-TRAN's proposed .03 percent sales tax measure Tuesday, leaving the transit agency no choice but to begin reductions in service beginning as early as January 2005, according to C-TRAN executive director **Lynne Griffith**.

All of C-TRAN's commuter routes to downtown Portland will end Saturday, Jan. 1. C-TRAN service will be provided only to the nearest TriMet light rail stations at Delta Park/Vanport and the Parkrose/Sumner transit centers.

In addition, the following service will be completely eliminated in January: The Connector, Route #114 Camas, Route #173 Battle Ground, and all Sunday service.

Additional reductions will take place in May, September.

The increase in revenue from the sales tax proposal would have balanced C-TRAN's budget. The budget will have to be balanced by a 46 percent reduction in services, according to Griffith.

"Our goal, at this point, is to educate our riders on upcoming service changes so they're able to plan appropriately," says Griffith.

C-TRAN directors will hold a public hearing at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, in the Rose Besserman Room at the Fisher's Landing Transit Center to adopt the final service reductions.

Board of County Commissioners faces changing with the times

Marc Boldt, veteran 17th District legislator, last night defeated Vancouver City Council member **Jeanne Harris** to become the first Republican to serve on the three-member board since **Mel Gordon**, who was elected in 1998 but was unseated by Democrat **Craig Pridemore** four years later. Harris, a Democrat, retains her seat on the city council. Boldt succeeds Democrat **Judie Stanton**, who is retiring after two terms on the board. He will represent commissioner District 2.

Democratic District 1 county commissioner **Betty Sue Morris** is leading her challenger, 18th District Republican state representative **Tom Mielke**, by 62,725 votes to 60,659, in unofficial and incomplete tabulations. Although more than 10,000 additional absentee votes are yet to be counted, they are not expected to change the outcome.

Meanwhile, Pridemore, who has two more years remaining on his county commissioner term representing District 3, is in an extremely tight race to unseat veteran legislator and 49th Legislative District state Sen. **Don Carlson**, the Republican.

The most recent vote tally early this morning gives Pridemore the lead by 521 votes out of 33,835 tabulated.

If Pridemore's lead prevails, he will resign from the board of commissioners.

The remaining two years of his term would be filled by one of three persons selected by the Clark County Democratic Central Committee. If Pridemore were to resign before his term ends, commissioners Morris and Stanton would select his replacement. If he resigns effective with the end of his term, Morris and Boldt would make the selection. If the two commissioners were deadlocked, the governor would make the selection.

Local voter turnout huge

Upwards of 80 percent of Clark County's registered voters will have voted in the Nov. 2 election, predicts county auditor **Greg Kimsey**. Vote totals this morning showed that 89,515 voters voted by absentee ballot and 45,968 voted at the polls. By election day Clark County had a record 207,6121 registered voters.

The vote count, which includes at least another 10,000 absentee ballots, will continue as the mail brings in new ballots postmarked by Tuesday, Nov. 2. The official vote is to be certified in ten days.

State representative races decided

In the 49th District, Democratic incumbents **Bill Fromhold** and **Jim Moeller** easily won races to retain their seats in the House of Representatives:

Fromhold 23,558, Republican **Justin Riley** 14,073, a 62.6 percent margin.

Moeller 22,259, Republican **Mike W. Smith** 14,749, a 60.37 percent margin.

In the 18th District, incumbent Republican Sen. **Joseph Zarelli** turned away his Democratic challenger **Dave Seabrook** by a 54 to 46 percent margin. Republican incumbent Position 2 state representative **Ed Orcutt** defeated Democratic challenger **Brian D. Beecher** by a 60 to 40 percent margin. Republican **Richard Curtis** beat Democrat **Pam Brokaw** by a 57 to 43 percent margin to win the seat vacated by **Tom Mielke**.

Don Benton, 17th District Republican, beat his Democratic challenger **Paul Waadevig** by a margin of 56 percent to 44 percent. Democratic 17th District incumbent representative **Deb Wallace** bested her Republican challenger **Roy Rhine** by a margin of 53 to 47 percent. **Jim Dunn**, a former 17th District state representative, beaten by Wallace two years ago, returned as a winner for position 1 by beating Democrat **Pat Campbell** 55 percent to 45 percent.

Charter amendments adopted

Two amendments on the Tuesday's ballot were approved by voters by 45 to 55 percent margins.

The first changes the term length for mayor from two years to four years. The second makes mostly housekeeping changes to the city's initiative and referendum rules.

Changes in the initiative and referendum codes will require the city attorney to review and point out procedural flaws in proposed initiatives, and spells out that initiatives proposing something contrary to state law cannot be considered.

Wednesday headlines from at home and around the world:

[Clark County voters lean to GOP side--Columbian, Don Jenkins](#)
[County by county vote for president in Washington--Columbian](#)
[Gregoire, Rossi in a cliffhanger for governor, results may not be known for a week--Seattle P-I, AP, David Ammons](#)
[California approves stem cell research funding--USA TODAY, AP](#)

Wednesday on the air

General Election Night Coverage—4 p.m. CVTV
Telecommunications Commission (live)—7 p.m. CVTV
Prince George at Portland Winter Hawks (live)—7 p.m. KUPL
Portland Blazers at Golden State (live)—7:30 p.m. KGW-TV, KXL
Portrait of Vancouver Follow-Up—9:30 p.m. CVTV
Clark County Close Up—11:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Bruce Bosch reviewing election day results. 🗳️ **John Caton** supplying logical answers. 🗳️ **Barbara Kerr** getting her job done. 🗳️ **Bob Moser** returning to the scene. 🗳️ Greg Flakus should be fined for gloating over green bill-cap 🗳️ **Wednesday**, still soggy, but some dry periods, 56. **Thursday**, mostly sunny, no precipitation, 57. **Friday**, sunshine, 59.