

C-TRAN's future will be defined by voters Nov. 2

If voters approve Proposition 1 at the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 2, C-TRAN will not only maintain county-wide service but will also provide additional express service and extend the range of routes in the county. If Proposition 1 fails, C-TRAN service will be slashed nearly in half and its service area will be restricted to the Vancouver metropolitan area.

Proposition 1 calls for a .03 percent sales tax to replace state funding lost to C-TRAN and other transit agencies throughout the state when the motor vehicle excise tax was eliminated by voters who approved Initiative 695 four years ago. C-TRAN currently is funded by fare receipts, a .03 percent sales tax, and state and federal grants. The initial sales tax was approved by county voters in 1985 when the county-wide transit agency was formed. By law, transit agencies are allowed up to .09 percent sales tax support, but only with local voter approval.

Since the sales tax proposition does not involve property taxes, the measure does not require a 60 percent supermajority of voters to approve it. The tax increase would amount to three cents on a \$10 purchase, or in terms of the purchase of a \$30,000 automobile, \$90. The former motor vehicle excise tax amounted to several hundreds of dollars annually when license tabs were purchased.

If approved, Proposition 1 would maintain county-wide service, 7 days per week, add new service, such as the 99th Street Transit Center, service to Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital and Washington State University Vancouver, the 99th Street Express, the I-5 Park & Ride Shuttle, the Fourth Plain Extension, and additional service to Battle Ground, according to **Scott Patterson**, C-TRAN's director of public affairs. C-TRAN would also begin working with the citizens of Ridgefield, La Center, and Yacolt-Amboy to discuss innovative service options that would serve those areas.

If Proposition 1 is rejected there would be a reduction in the total number of fixed bus routes from 27 to 15, thereby eliminating routes 76, 78, 105, 114, 157, 164, 173, 177, 190, all Sunday and Saturday service, and The Connector. Service would also be reduced on routes 4, 17, 25, 30, 32, 37, and 80. Weekday service hours would also be shortened to 5 a.m. - 8 p.m., weekdays only.

C-TRAN is presenting a series of public open houses to discuss the facts related to C-TRAN's Proposition 1. They are the public's chance to meet C-TRAN staff and discuss the impacts of the ballot measure.

"It's important that we provide the public with as much factual information as possible so they're able to make an informed decision about their public transportation system this November," says **Lynne Griffith**, C-TRAN executive director and CEO. The next open houses are at 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 11, in the Standard Insurance Center Building, 900 SW Fifth Avenue, Portland, and at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13, in the Hazel Dell Sewer District office, 8000 NE 52nd Court.

Port of Vancouver commissioners to ratify Vancouver Lake lineup

The names of nine local residents representing a wide range of interests will be considered for appointment to the new Vancouver Lake Watershed Partnership by Port of Vancouver commissioners at the commissioners' 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12, meeting.

The group of citizens will join the watershed partnership in considering strategies for the future of the beautiful but shallow, algae-friendly lake, just about written off by scientists as being salvageable.

The applicants are **Nancy Ellifrit**, Ridgefield, retired U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist; **Don Jacobs**, an attorney, who is a nearby resident; **Paul King**, Vancouver resident and president of the Columbia River Alliance for Nurturing the Environment; **Gary Kokstis**, commodore of the 100-plus member Vancouver Lake Sailing Club; **Clark Martin**, fourth generation resident who lives near the lake; **Thom McConathy**, director of the Clark County Water Resource Quality Council and Friends of Vancouver Lake Lowlands; **James Meyer**, Ridgefield, Bonneville Power Administration environmental manager; **Jane Van Dyke**, Columbia Springs Environmental Education Center executive director; and **Vern Veysey**, former Clark County commissioner and former Clark County Parks and Recreation employee who helped develop Vancouver Lake Park.

The partnership includes the Fruit Valley Neighborhood Association and the following governmental agencies: Port of Vancouver, City of Vancouver Department of Public Works, Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation, and Clark County Department of Public Works. Also listed on the Vancouver Lake Watershed Partnership letterhead are the Clark County Health Department, Port of Ridgefield, Clark Public Utilities, State Departments of Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife, and Ecology, and the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership.

Watch for 1-205 detours tonight, tomorrow night

Northbound lanes of I-205 at the NE 134th Avenue interchange will be closed between 10 p.m. tonight and 5 a.m. tomorrow. Traffic will be detoured at the NE 134th Street exit. Southbound lanes of I-205 at the NE 1434th Avenue interchange will be closed between 10 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 7, and 5 a.m. Friday, Oct. 8.

The closures are weather-dependent and could be delayed. The work is related to the Washington State Department of Highways NE Highway 99-NE 20th Avenue realignment project.

News briefs

The City/County Telecommunications Commission meets at 7 p.m. tonight in City Hall council chambers. 🗳️ The Vancouver Parking Advisory Committee will discuss parking rates at 7:30 p.m. tonight in the First Floor Conference Room in City Hall.

Wednesday headlines from at home and around the world:

[St. Helens eruptions to get bigger but won't match 1980--Columbian, **Tom Vogt**](#)

[Scientists drop alert level at Mt. St. Helens--KATU, **Gene Johnson**](#)

[Voters in Vancouver's urban growth area, but outside the city limits to vote on \\$1.8 million-a-year park plan to develop 35 new parks and 7.5 miles of trails--Columbian, **Erin Middlewood**](#)

["Lake Oswego investor has plans for Legacy Health System's 12-acre Salmon Creek property--Columbian, **Gretchen Fehrenbacher**](#)

[Access route from Battle Ground to I-5 will go through Duluth, state says--Oregonian, **Bill Stewart**](#)

[Gasoline prices going up in the northwest and across the nation--KGW-TV, **Antonia Giedwoyn**](#)

[Oil tops \\$52 a barrel--a record--USA TODAY, **James Healey**](#)

[Flu vaccine supply cut in half--Seattle Times](#)

[Report finds no proof of WMD--USA TODAY](#)

[VP candidates campaign in Florida following Cleveland debate--USA TODAY](#)

Wednesday on the air

Fourth Plain Corridor—4:30 p.m. CVTV

Telecommunications Commission (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

Spokane at Portland Winter Hawks (live)—7 p.m. KUPL

Vancouver Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner—9:30 p.m. CVTV

17th District Position 2 candidates (8/31)—11:30 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Nancy Parker translating. ☼ **Anissa Russell** sending entire album. ☼ **Elson Strahan** putting in good word. ☼ **Jaynie Roberts** ghosting for Ghost Stories. ☼ **Curtis Bayne** offering advise and counsel. ☼ **Wednesday**, gray in the morning, possible precipitation, 68. **Thursday**, light showers likely, 66. **Friday**, clouds and precipitation, 64.