



EVERETT TRANSIT

# Commuter News

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## Getting to light rail

Struggling to find parking at the new Lynnwood City Center light rail station? You're not alone. Parking fills up fast, so consider taking the bus. There are various routes that stop at each light rail station, which can save you the hassle of looking for parking. Learn more about your getting-to-light-rail options at [communitytransit.org](http://communitytransit.org).

More light rail projects are continuing to make ground in [West Seattle](#), [Ballard](#) and right here in [Everett](#). Sound Transit currently has all three in the planning stages for Link extension with West Seattle up first to enter final design in 2025. Learn more about Link extensions and other expansion projects at [soundtransit.org](http://soundtransit.org).

## Winter is not a season, it's a celebration!



This year has dealt us quite the hand – whether our focus was on campaign chaos or cleaning up post-cyclone, I hope everyone is remembering to take care of themselves. Something new coming our way every day gives us all the more reason to find joy in the small moments. My favorite way to do this is by romanticizing my life as I stare out the bus window and watch rain droplets hit the ground. Nothing is more enchanting to me than not having to deal with traffic!

Cheers to a new year full of hope and opportunities to make some lifestyle changes for the better. Whether you're looking at your diet, financials or commute, continue reading to learn more about climate-friendly ways to take on 2025. Happy holidays!

If there is anything you would like to see in the next edition of this newsletter, please share your thoughts by emailing Alessandra at [agonzalez@everettwa.gov](mailto:agonzalez@everettwa.gov) or by calling 425.257.7782 with any suggestions.



## The weather outside is frightful

Bumper to bumper traffic is back. Let a professional bus driver take you across the slippery roads and get you to your destination safely. Make sure you're signed up for rider alerts as buses may soon have to start taking snow routes as the weather changes.

Have questions? Call Everett Transit's Customer Service team at 425-257-7777 to help you plan your next trip with any transit agency in the region.



## Solar for All

The state has received [\\$156 million](#) to support low-income households in overburdened communities with access to solar power. The communities benefitting include single-family homeowners, affordable housing buildings and households on tribal lands.

On a nationwide level, the [Solar for All program](#) will distribute solar energy among 900,000 households and result in the annual savings of \$350 million on electric bills. This results in the reduction of 30 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions cumulatively. The Department of Commerce plans to kick off this program and have funding available in the fall of 2025.

The [Department of Commerce](#) allocates federal and state funds to local agencies that specialize in insulation, air sealing, ventilation, and more to ensure your home stays cozy in the winter and cool in the summer. Weatherization is adding insulation, sealing cracks and making other changes that reduce heat loss, save you money on heating bills and make your home or apartment healthier.

## Being pro-active about food waste



Most of us are guilty of making “eat healthier” or “cook at home more” our New Year’s resolutions and end up buying too many vegetables that spoil in our fridge. According to the U.S. [Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA), more than one-third of the food produced is never eaten. This has resulted in food waste becoming the single most common material landfilled and incinerated across the nation. Worry not – there are a [few ways](#) you can stick to your goals and not contribute to excessive food waste.

Before you head to the grocery store, take a survey of what’s already in your fridge and pantry. Even if you don’t have the exact ingredient a recipe calls for, you may have a [viable substitute](#). This eliminates having two half-empty jars of a similar product taking up space in your kitchen.

A little organization could also go a long way in making sure you don’t forget about any greens before they start rotting in the bottom drawer of the fridge. Think like a chef and start labeling your products using clear or glass containers and dry-erase markers. This can help you save money, time and sanity thinking about what’s for dinner.

As you reimagine what your diet can look like, take the opportunity to rethink your ingredients too. Instead of trashing or composting the edible stems and tops of vegetables, consider repurposing the scraps into other meals. Get creative and try stir-frying, pickling or using them for stock. Whatever your resolutions may be this upcoming year, the key is to start slow in order to cultivate long-lasting lifestyle changes.



## Funding opportunities

Fund Hub WA connects you to climate and clean energy funding opportunities to help improve your home, business or community. You can explore funding by sector or applicant type.

Learn about more funding opportunities available at [fundhub.wa.gov](https://fundhub.wa.gov).





## Zip shuttle pilots in Snohomish County

Community Transit is piloting its microtransit service, Zip Shuttle, in Arlington, Darrington and Lake Stevens for Snohomish County residents. You can use Zip to get to work, medical appointments, community events and wherever you need to be. Zip gives you the freedom to go whether you're buying groceries or visiting a friend.

Zip costs the same as a local bus fare: \$2.50 or less per trip, can be paid with a bus pass (ORCA card) and youth 18 and younger ride for free. Arlington and Lake Stevens will have daily service hours from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Darrington will provide service from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Zip riders will be able to book a ride by calling or through the new Zip Shuttle app (coming soon).

Zip Shuttle pilots will begin testing in early December. Pending a successful testing period, Zip will be available in the three new cities starting Dec. 17. Learn more about Zip Shuttle pilots and service areas at [communitytransit.org](https://communitytransit.org).

### FEATURED COMMUTE MODE:

## Microtransit



Microtransit offers a wide range of riders with several benefits to help fill travel gaps and barriers.

Nearest bus stop too far away? Microtransit offers flexible service to meet you where you are and take you anywhere within the service area.

Having trouble keeping track of transit schedules and stops? Microtransit simplifies that as an on-demand service. You can get picked up at your requested location and get dropped off anywhere within the service area.

Tired of waiting on availability from family, friends or paratransit? Accessible vehicles are available for riders traveling with mobility devices.

As a complement to public transit, microtransit can help more people get around by combining trips with other riders and providing connections to popular transit centers.

If you're not in Snohomish County, you can also try King County's on-demand microtransit service "Metro Flex." Learn more about how to ride at [kingcounty.gov](https://kingcounty.gov).

## ETC of the Quarter



Funko joined the City's CTR Program in February of 2024 with a commitment to reduce commuter traffic in Everett. You have probably taken a trip to their iconic headquarters in Downtown Everett and may even have a few collectables around your office.

As the Office Manager to nearly 300 employees, this ETC has quickly taken to championing alternate commute methods. In less than one year in this role, Logan has led Funko's CTR program with various commuting incentives including biking amenities, preferred carpool parking and a Guaranteed Ride Home program via Uber. The cherry on top – Logan achieved a **93.91%** response rate on the CTR survey.

**Congratulations Logan Hard at Funko!**

# Upcoming Events



## Wintertide in Everett

Nov. 23 to Dec. 24, 2024

Wintertide is back with plenty of holiday celebrations to choose from. From beloved traditions like the tree lighting and Nutcracker performances to creative workshops and inspiring concerts, there's something for everyone in the family to enjoy. Learn more about all the holiday happenings at [visiteverett.com/wintertide](https://visiteverett.com/wintertide).



## Stuff-a-Bus in Everett

Dec. 7–8 and Dec. 14–15, 2024

Volunteers of America Western Washington is partnering with ATU Local 883, Everett Transit and Fred Meyer to host the annual "Stuff-a-Bus" toy and food drive at Fred Meyer on Murphy's Corner (12906 Bothell Everett Hwy). Shoppers are invited to help load an Everett Transit bus with gifts and donations for local families in need. Join a weekend event from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Donate a gift, spread the joy!

If you have a commute-related event (virtual or otherwise) open to the public that you'd like to see on this list, please send us your event. The next newsletter will be published in March.

happy new year  
2025

## Need anything?

If you need trip-planning or transit assistance, please contact Everett Transit Customer Service by phone at 425.257.7777 or by email at [ETmail@everettwa.gov](mailto:ETmail@everettwa.gov). If you need assistance as an ETC, please contact Alessandra Gonzalez, [agonzalez@everettwa.gov](mailto:agonzalez@everettwa.gov), 425.257.7782.



This Commute Trip Reduction Program is brought to you by a partnership between WSDOT and Everett Transit.