



EVERETT TRANSIT

# Commuter News

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## Swift Gold Line

Community Transit is preparing to expand the Swift bus rapid transit (BRT) network with the Swift Gold Line. The fifteen-mile route will provide fast, frequent service between Everett, Marysville and Arlington. It will also connect to Community Transit's Swift Blue Line and Sound Transit's regional Sounder commuter rail service at Everett Station. Learn more at [communitytransit.org](https://communitytransit.org).



## Season schedule

Cascade Bicycle Club has released their season schedule filled with events like Cascade Training Series, Bike Everywhere Lunch, Walla Walla Tour and more. Club members have access to early registration and lower prices for these events.

Looking for fun and free biking opportunities? Join Cascade's free group rides led by experienced volunteer "Ride Leaders." Find a free group ride near you at [cascade.org](https://cascade.org).



## It's finally time to spring forward!

We did it — we survived the Big Dark! While we may still have some winter days until July, at least we can turn our clocks forward on March 9 and enjoy more time in the daylight. If you're riding transit, you can even enjoy the sunset without the stress of traffic. Here's a pic of my view from the top of a double-decker bus at South Everett Freeway Station.

Speaking of traffic, we had a lot of it coming our way with the Revive I-5 construction that has since been suspended until 2026. Still, get ahead of the game by exploring other transportation options like taking group rides with Cascade Bicycle Club, signing up on RideshareOnline.com to find a carpool buddy or getting to know the transit options near you. On top of being more fun than sitting in traffic, these options help you do your part to reduce the greenhouse gases that are driving global warming.

I hope this edition of the newsletter informs you with the knowledge and resources you need to empower employees with transportation options and elevate your company. 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.

# 2024 is the new hottest year on record



## Test your knowledge!

Take a [renewable energy quiz](#) and email a screenshot of your results to Alessandra at [agonzalez@everettwa.gov](mailto:agonzalez@everettwa.gov) for a chance to win a \$25 gift card!

All emailed entries will be entered into a raffle on March 31, 2025 and three winners will be notified via email.

Since 1880, [NASA](#) has been keeping track of the Earth's temperature and reporting record increases. For the past few years, our planet has reached new records due to emissions from fossil fuels. In 2023, temperatures rose by 1.18 degrees Celsius and in 2024, global temperatures reached 1.28 degrees Celsius above the 20<sup>th</sup>-century baseline. For context, the [United Nation's Paris Agreement](#) has a goal to maintain temperature gains below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Global warming is fueled by carbon dioxide, methane and other greenhouse gases being trapped in the Earth's atmosphere. Frontline communities are the first to experience the impacts of extreme heat, flooding and wildfire smoke among other climate hazards in our region. The [Pacific Northwest](#),

including Washington, Oregon and Idaho, is home to 43 Federally Recognized Tribes who depend on the region's ecosystem in their day-to-day lives. In addition to climate-related health risks, Tribes face the potential of losing connections to their heritage and culture as place-based communities.

As climate disasters continue to devastate communities, it's important to build resilience and prepare for tomorrow's climate challenges. The first step in the [U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit](#) is to identify a climate champion that understands their community's vulnerabilities and implements a plan centered around equity. There are plenty of [case studies](#) to learn from by trailblazers who have already started taking action.

Learn more at [climate.gov](https://climate.gov).



## Revive I-5

Since I-5 was originally built in the 1960s, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has been working on major preservation and renovation projects. The 9-month long project that was set to start in Spring 2025 between Yesler Way in Seattle and the Northgate vicinity has since been delayed another year due to a significant gap in funding. Learn more about the project at [wsdot.wa.gov](https://wsdot.wa.gov).

While major double-lane closures are [postponed until 2026](#), travelers can still expect some overnight work, weekend closures and possible lane reductions. WSDOT will be prioritizing the rehabilitation of the Ship Canal Bridge. There is no need to worry about the integrity of the bridge structure as the work's focus is on the roadway surface.

The [City of Seattle](#) has been encouraging the public to plan ahead by riding transit, traveling during non-peak hours and using alternate routes for regional travel. The Link 1 Line to Lynnwood offers commuters an alternative to driving on I-5. Lynnwood City Center Station also offers connections to stops in Everett via [Community Transit](#) routes including 103, 201, 202, 270, 271, 280, 907 and Swift service, as well as [Sound Transit](#) routes 510, 512, 513 and 532. You can also sign up on [RideshareOnline.com](https://rideshareonline.com) to start or join a carpool or vanpool.

Every car on the road contributes to traffic congestion, including yours, so make sure to explore your options and minimize your footprint.



## E-bike programs

Washington State’s [electric bicycle rebate](#) program is launching in April to help more people use electric bicycles, or e-bikes. There will be 8,500 vouchers available for eligible applicants. Anyone can get a \$300 discount and income-eligible individuals can get a \$1,200 rebate. Rebate recipients can apply the rebate toward eligible e-bikes, bike helmets, bike lights, bike locks and any maintenance agreement sold at the time of purchase. When the program launches this spring, people will have two weeks to enter their name into a pool for the chance at being selected. Selected participants will have an additional two weeks to submit supporting documentation and receive their rebates electronically.

Learn more at [wsdot.wa.gov](http://wsdot.wa.gov).

## FEATURED COMMUTE MODE:

# Biking



If you’re just getting started, Cascade’s beginner riding tips are here to help you [Ride SMART](#).

1. Keep your body loose and adjust your body so that your core is holding you up.
2. Stop with both brakes. The front brake accounts for about 70% of your braking power. Gently pull on both your front and back brakes until you stop.
3. Signal your intentions. Hand signals are a vital communication tool, and you should use them as much as possible to show those around you where you are going. As a beginner, it is more important to feel safe with your hands on your brakes than it is to signal.

You can also take Everett’s [bicycle friendly driver course](#) to gain a better understanding of how to share the road with bicyclists and how to avoid the most common crashes involving people driving cars and people riding bikes. Once you finish, [take the quiz](#) and get your bicycle friendly driver sticker!

# ETC of the Quarter



The City of Everett, as an employer, has its own “Smart MOVE” commuter program that rewards employees for choosing alternate forms of transportation to get to work.

The City’s ETC is one of Everett Transit’s fantastic customer service experts. If you’ve ever called for trip planning assistance, she probably pointed you in the right direction in her uniquely cheerful and spirited way.

Emma has recently led the charge in updating the City’s “Smart MOVE” program using employee feedback from CTR survey results. City employees are lucky to have an ETC so committed to making sure they are considering all their transportation options and taking advantage of their commuting benefits.

**Congratulations to Emma Calvert at City of Everett!**

# Upcoming Events



## Everett Farmers Market

March 23 & April 27 | 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Enjoy fresh food and cool finds from a variety of vendors in the heart of Downtown Everett. Learn more at [everettfarmersmarket.com](http://everettfarmersmarket.com).



## Earth Day

April 22

This year marks the 55th anniversary of Earth Day and is themed “OUR POWER, OUR PLANET™”

Discover more resources to help you celebrate Earth Day at [earthday.org](http://earthday.org).



## Snohomish PUD Block Party

Saturday, April 26 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Join Snohomish PUD’s Earth Day event and enjoy the Truckstravaganza, electric vehicle car show, energy-savings giveaways and more! Learn more at [snopud.com](http://snopud.com).



## National Bike Month

May 2025

Celebrate National Bike Month with your friends and family in May by biking to work, or recreationally! Get rewarded on [rideshareonline.com](http://rideshareonline.com).



## Bike Everywhere Day

Friday, May 16 | 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Join Everett Transit at Everett Station to celebrate biking in Everett with games, prizes and other giveaways while learning about new bike network developments, safe riding tips and more! Learn more at [everetttransit.org](http://everetttransit.org).

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 June.

## 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.