

Proposition No. 1
Submitted by Pierce Transit
PRESERVATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION,
0.3% SALES AND USE TAX INCREASE



Official Ballot Title:

The Board of Commissioners of Pierce County Public Transportation Benefit Area, commonly known as Pierce Transit, adopted Resolution No. 01-068 concerning a proposed 0.3% increase in the sales and use tax. This proposition would authorize Pierce Transit to impose an additional sales and use tax, with the increased revenue being used to replace funds lost by elimination of the state Motor Vehicle Excise Tax, and thereby ensure continued delivery of the current level of public transportation, including local and express bus services, SHUTTLE services for people with disabilities, vanpools, park and ride lots, other improvements, and provide for future needs, as authorized by Resolution No. 01-068. Shall this proposition be approved or rejected?

Explanatory Statement:

If approved by the voters, this proposition would authorize Pierce Transit to replace funds lost by the state legislature's repeal of the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax through a sales and use tax adjustment of three-tenths of one percent (0.3%). This sales and use tax increase would provide the funds to preserve the public's transportation choices at current levels, including local and express bus services, Shuttle services for people with disabilities, vanpools, park and ride lots, and other services and improvements for the community. These replacement funds would maintain Pierce Transit's funding at approximately the level that existed prior to repeal of the state Motor Vehicle Excise Tax. If approved, this increase in Pierce Transit's share of the sales and use tax would be the first increase since voters authorized Pierce Transit's present share in 1979. If this proposition is rejected by the voters, Pierce Transit would not be able to provide the current level of transportation services, resulting in a reduction or elimination of transportation services.

Statement For:

Voting "Yes" will prevent transit cuts of over 40% that would harm many Pierce County neighborhoods already choked with traffic.

Congestion Relief

Pierce Transit takes 19,000 cars off our roads every weekday. Rapid growth in Pierce County has clogged streets, making getting around difficult. Voting "yes" will allow Pierce Transit to help by providing more express buses, more vanpools and expanded Park & Ride lots.

Quality of Life For Everyone

For many seniors, disabled, students and working commuters, Pierce Transit's 100% wheelchair accessible bus fleet and shuttle vans provide lifelines to work, school, shopping and medical appointments.

A Record of Excellent Service

More than 40,000 people use Pierce Transit buses every day and 11,000 citizens with disabilities use specialized shuttle vans. As one shuttle rider said, "Pierce Transit shows real caring for those of us who need this service - for many things that are a lifeline to our independence."

Committee Members Include: Barbara Skinner, Ted Bottiger, Tim Strege

Statement Against:

No statement was submitted against this issue.

*This space is available each election
for citizens and/or committees opposing measures
to publish a "Statement Against." For information, contact the
Pierce County Auditor's Office at (253) 798-7430.*

Committee Members Include: Will Baker, L. Curtis Mehlhaff, Ralph Baldwin