

Seamless, Statewide Transportation

All Aboard Washington
Charlie Hamilton, Abe Zumwalt
June 15, 2022

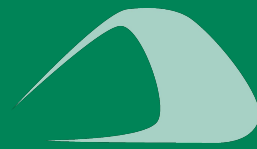
**IT TAKES
TRANSPORTATION**

What is World-Class Transportation?



It's More Than Just Trains













It Really Boils Down to One Simple Question

**Is it reasonably easy to
get from here to there?**


Far Too Often, It Isn't Easy At All





Walla Walla: 14 hours






Driving: 4 hours 31 minutes














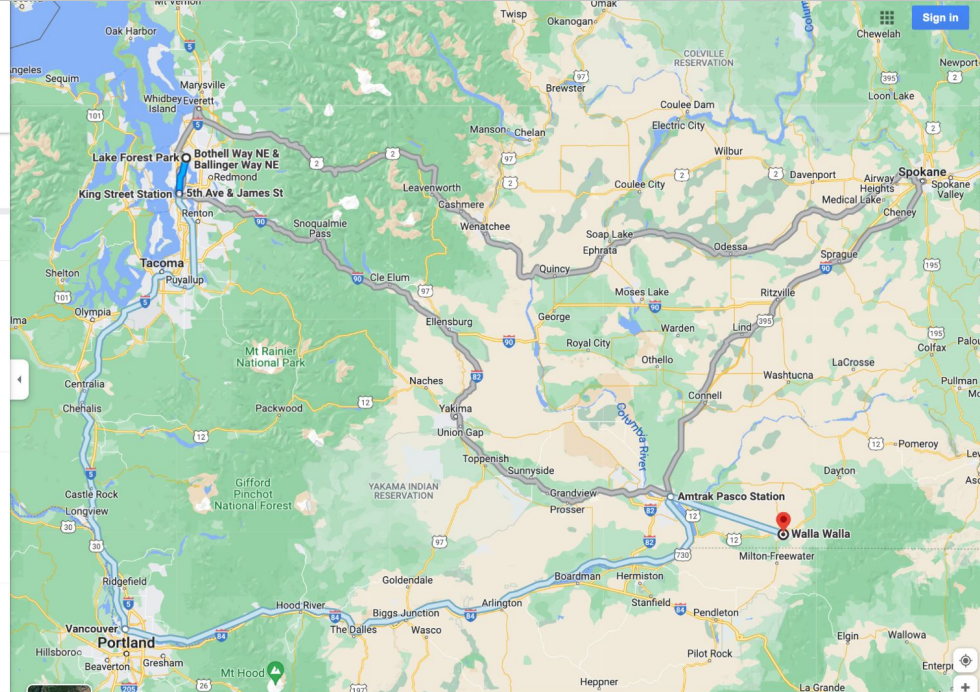
Depart at ▼ Options
 7:30 AM ◀ ▶ Wed, Jun 15 ◀ ▶

 Send directions to your phone

 **8:19 AM (Wednesday)—10:17 PM** 13 hr 58 min
 322 ➤ ➤  Coast Starlight ➤  Empire Builder ➤  Amtrak Thruway Connecting Service
 8:21 AM from Bothell Way NE & Ballinger Way NE
 11 min
[Details](#)

 **3:42 PM (Wednesday)—11:12 AM (Thursday)** 19 hr 30 min
 331 ➤ ➤  Swift Blue ➤ ➤  Empire Builder ➤  Empire Builder ➤  Amtrak Thruway Connecting Service

 **6:02 AM (Thursday)—4:32 PM** 10 hr 30 min
 320 ➤ ➤ ➤  124 ➤  'Greyhound'
➤  Amtrak Thruway Connecting Service





Far Too Often, It Isn't Easy At All

Pullman: 11 hours

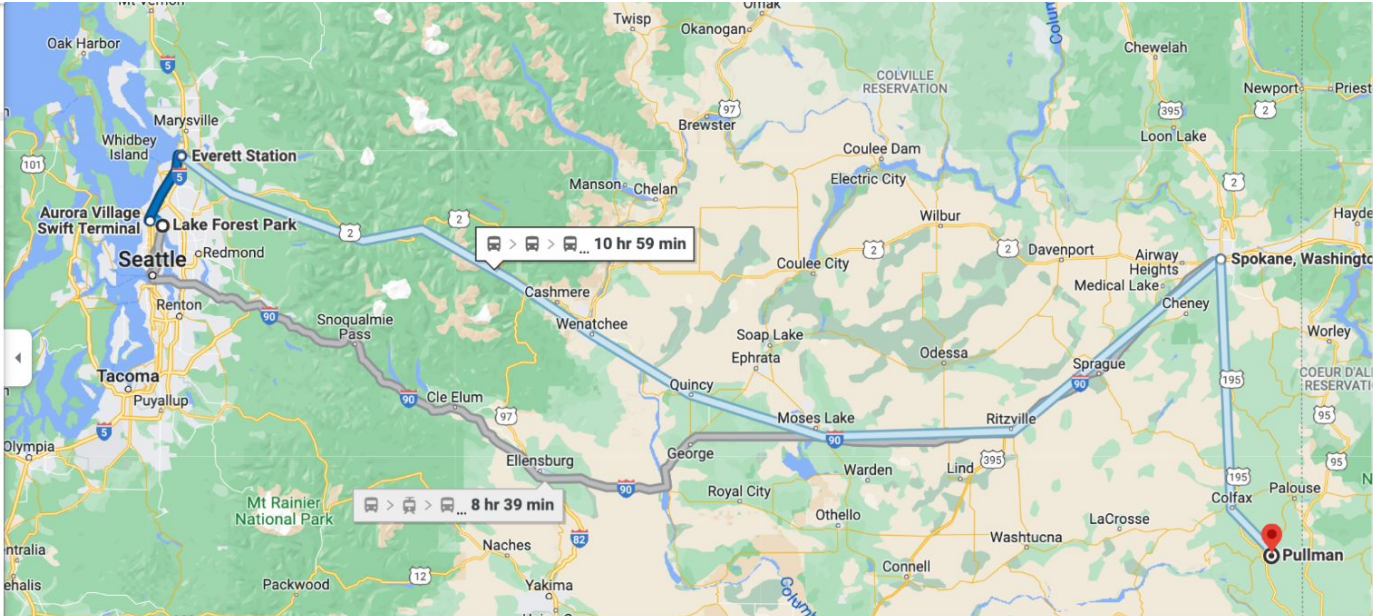
Driving: 4 hours 30 minutes

(+) Depart at ▼ Options
 7:30 AM ◀ ▶ Wed, Jun 15 ◀ ▶

(📱) [Send directions to your phone](#)

(🚗) **8:16 AM (Wednesday)—7:15 PM** 10 hr 59 min
 331 > Swift Blue > 🚶 > 🚗
 Amtrak Thruway Connecting Service > 🚗
 Amtrak Thruway Connecting Service
 8:19 AM from Ballinger Way NE & NE 175th St
 🚶 7 min
[Details](#)

(🚗) **8:52 AM (Wednesday)—7:15 PM** 10 hr 23 min
 322 > 545 > Greyhound > 🚗
 Amtrak Thruway Connecting Service





How About High Speed Rail?



Great, but will it get you to Pullman or Walla Walla, and sometime before 2040?

We Support High Speed Rail as Part of an Integrated System

- The High Speed Rail Alliance envisions an [integrated network approach](#) including high-speed, regional and shared-use lines.
- Almost all high-speed rail systems—including China, Japan and most of Europe—have been built on a foundation of a robust conventional rail system.
- We have a conventional rail system, but it is not robust

How Do We Get To High-Speed Rail?

- Get more frequent and faster trains running as soon as possible on the existing infrastructure.
- 6 Daily Trains was the “Breaking Point” for the Multi-Million Passenger Corridors in California (We have three to Portland today)
- Start planning now for high-speed rail in twenty years.

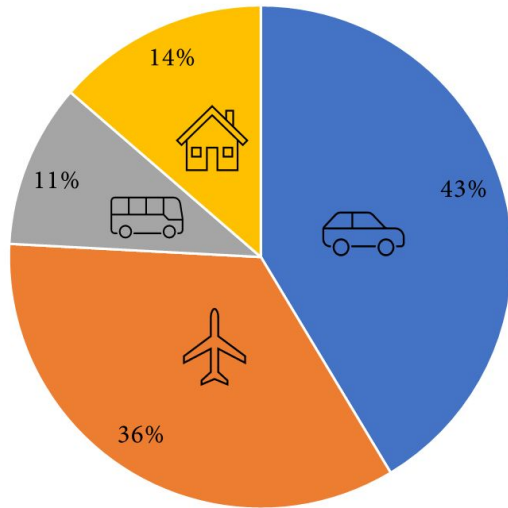
Options Available Today

- Amtrak *Cascades* to Eugene, Portland
- *Sounder* to Everett and Tacoma
- Amtrak *Coast Starlight* to Los Angeles
- Amtrak *Empire Builder* to Chicago



People Already Ride Trains

NW Rail Ridership Mode Choice
if Amtrak Unavailable



■ Auto ■ Plane ■ Bus ■ Would Not Travel

Who rides trains? Not who you expect.

- 2.25 Million Annual Amtrak Passengers from PNW (WA, OR, ID, MT) States
 - ~1 Million diverted **car trips**
 - ~700,000 diverted **plane trips**
 - ~300,000 would have **stayed home**
 - ~240,000 diverted **bus trips**



Cascades Delayed



News

Weather

Near Me

VERIFY

Watch
Live



ADVERTISE WITH US

CORONAVIRUS

EVENING

NEW DAY

SPORTS

FACING RACE

LOCAL NEWS

Suspended for over two years, Amtrak delays train service to Canada until late 2022

The route served Seattle, Edmonds, Everett, Stanwood, Mount Vernon, Bellingham and Vancouver, BC but has been suspended since May 2020.



Our Vision

A transportation network that:

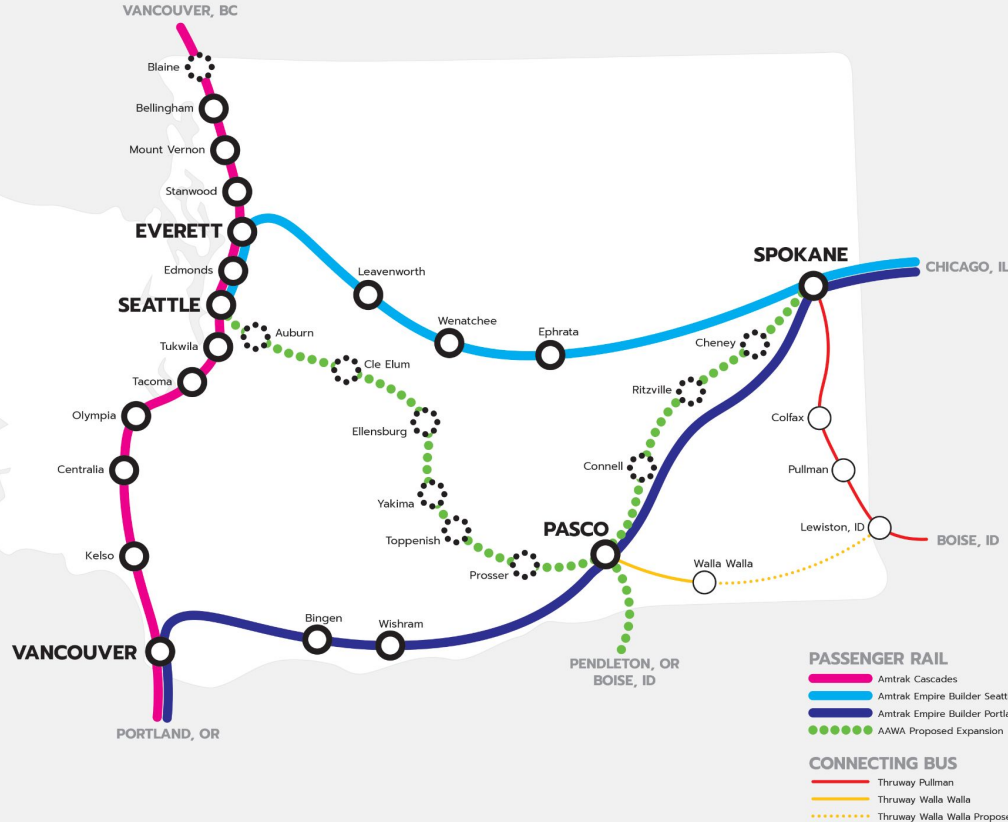
- Provides **seamless, door-to-door connectivity** to everyone in the region; and
- Offers **economic, environmental and equity benefits** to all, including *low-income, tribal, disability and rural communities*, locations where transportation **alternatives are limited**, and **those who cannot drive**

Our Goal

We must build a transportation network that will allow anyone to get from their homes to where they need to go – **work, school, medical care, family and friends – even if they don't use a car.**

Non-drivers are [30 percent](#) of the population, including **the young, the old, the disabled, the poor,** and those who are **concerned about the planet's future.** And that percentage is increasing.

WASHINGTON VISION MAP



Our Vision

- Frequent Amtrak trains crossing the entire Northwest
- More stations
- A competitive freight rail system
- Better connections to other modes

Economy, Environment, Equity

Rail is an ideal option for addressing ‘the 3 Es’



Economy

Intercity passenger trains help strengthen local economies across the Northwest.



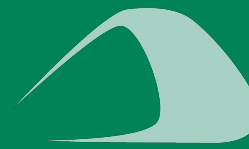
Environment

Intercity passenger trains provide low-emissions regional transportation.



Equity

Intercity passenger trains connect communities small and large.

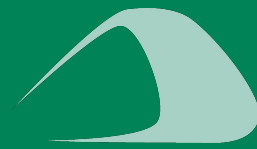


Economic Benefits

Easy travel options help strengthen local economies throughout the Northwest.

On average, communities receive \$84 per day-trip visitor, and \$366 per overnight visitor, according to Experience Washington.

**ECONOMIC JUSTICE
TAKES TRANSPORTATION**



Environmental Benefits

Rail is the optimal low-impact freight and passenger ground transportation option.

Rail does not contribute to [salmon die-off related to tires.](#)



Equity Benefits

A good freight and passenger rail network contributes to high quality of life in our region for everyone.

- **Improves reach** of local services
- **Expands access** for all communities



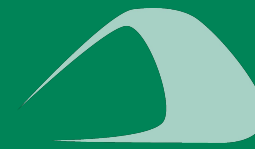
**A BETTER FUTURE TAKES
TRANSPORTATION**

AAWA's 2023 Legislative Priorities

1. **Restore Pre-Pandemic Rail Services**
2. **Expand Research on a Complete, Statewide Passenger and Freight Rail Network**
 - Follow in [California](#) and [Virginia's footsteps](#)
3. **Form a Washington Rail Advisory Committee**
 - Give rail users and stakeholders a voice, similar to the [Ferry Riders Opinion Group](#) and [organizations in other states](#)
4. **Improve Rail Safety**
 - [HB 1418](#)

How You Can Help

- 1. Ask Legislators to Support Local Match Funding for IIJA**
 - Flexible match funds prepare us for federal grants
- 2. Rethink the Conversation on Transportation and Access**
 - Be open-minded, discuss a broad list of ideas
- 3. Priority Projects List**
 - Locally-supported projects to bring to Olympia

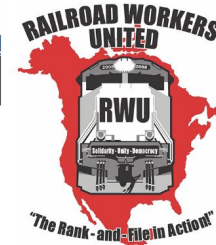


How You Can Help

Join Our Coalition



Puget Sound
Advocates for
Retirement
Action

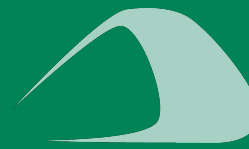


Attend the AAWA Legislative Preview

Kelso Depot

Saturday, October 8

Register at <https://www.aawa.us/events/>



How You Can Help

Support AAWA's Work and Vision

(360) 529-5552

aawa.us/support

