

News Release

Subject: Summer Bus Schedule Contact: Yakima Transit Manager Ken Mehin – 576-6415 Community Relations Manager Randy Beehler – 901-1142 Release Date: Thursday, June 14th, 2012

Yakima Transit Again Offering Free Rides on Summer Weekends

It's starting to look like summer weather outside, so Yakima Transit goes into summertime mode again with FREE bus and Dial-A-Ride service on Saturdays and Sundays! The free service will be offered every weekend throughout the summer beginning this Saturday, June 16th and ending Sunday, August 26th.

Yakima Transit Manager Ken Mehin says, "Free service weekends throughout the summer has been a very successful way for Yakima Transit to get people who have never used the bus before to try it. Removing the cost barrier is a great encouragement for many people. It has also been successful in years past to help shift some of the weekday ride load to Saturdays and Sundays, which have lower ridership. Weekends are great for trips like shopping and errand-running, and there are fewer commuters so a program like this is a great way to encourage people to get out and try shifting some of their optional trips."

Mehin added that ridership in the program has been popular last year with Yakima Transit passengers. "This is the fifth year Dial-A-Ride clients will also participate in the free Saturday and Sunday rides," said Mehin. "While response from Dial-A-Ride clients is limited, it is very much appreciated by those participating."

Yakima Transit bus and Dial-A-Ride service is available seven days a week in Yakima and Selah. Anyone wanting information on bus routes and schedules or other transit services is encouraged to go on-line - <u>www.yakimatransit.org</u> - or call Yakima Transit at 576-6175.

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