

News Release

Subject: Yakima-Ellensburg Commuter Stops Restored Contact: Yakima Transit Manager Alvie Maxey – 575-6415

Communications & Public Affairs Director Randy Beehler – 901-1142

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Original Yakima-Ellensburg Commuter Stops Coming Back

When the Yakima-Ellensburg Commuter service was first launched in late 2011, two of the original stops in Ellensburg included Super 1 Foods (200 East Mountain View Avenue) and Safeway (400 North Ruby Street). Over time, those two stops were eliminated from the route and replaced by stops elsewhere in Ellensburg.

Beginning on Monday, January 2nd, buses will again be stopping at Super 1 Foods and Safeway in Ellensburg.

"We are constantly evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of route structures in order to make sure they accommodate the needs of riders," said Yakima Transit Manager Alvie Maxey. "Recently, it was concluded that stops at Super 1 Foods and Safeway in Ellensburg would help improve the Yakima-Ellensburg Commuter route. So, those two original stops have been restored," said Maxey.

The Yakima-Ellensburg Commuter operates on weekdays (excluding nationally-recognized holidays). A one-way trip costs \$5.00. Unlimited ride monthly passes are available for \$150.00.

In addition to the Ellensburg stops at Super 1 Foods and Safeway, the commuter also stops at Central Washington University's Student Union and Recreation Center (400 East University Way). Commuter stops in Yakima include the Yakima Airport (24th Avenue and Washington Avenue), Yakima Valley College (16th Avenue and Nob Hill Boulevard), and the Yakima Transit Center (4th Street between Walnut Street and Chestnut Avenue). Riders can also access the commuter by boarding at the Selah Civic Center (216 S. 1st Street) and at the park and ride lot located on Firing Center Road just outside of Selah.

For comprehensive information about the Yakima-Ellensburg Commuter and other routes offered by Yakima Transit, visit <u>yakimatransit.org</u>.

The Yakima-Ellensburg Commuter is popular among people who live in Yakima and work or attend school in Ellensburg, and vice versa. As many as 45,000 riders use the service each year. Currently, the commuter service is provided through a contract awarded to A & A Motorcoach, a Yakima-based transportation and travel firm.

The Yakima-Ellensburg Commuter service is a partnership of Yakima Transit, the Washington State Department of Transportation, the City of Selah, and Central Washington University.