

Strategies for the 2017 Interim: Building Relationships and Staying Connected

Identify Your Legislators

- The legislative website, <http://leg.wa.gov/> contains helpful contact information for your Senators and Representatives. You can use the information on the website to contact the appropriate legislative assistant to schedule time for a meeting.
- If you do not know the names of your legislators, you can go the “district finder” on the legislative website. <http://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>

Suggested Actions

- Invite your legislators to a board meeting
- Offer a tour of your facility
- Meet them for coffee
- Attend community events that matter to them
- Reach out on a regular basis, so they do not only hear from you with a request

Suggested Conversation Topics

- Data on your service—number of riders, types of trips provided, cost to provide service, and any plans to service expansion or cuts
- Circumstances that are unique to your agency—legislators will be less likely to support “one size fits all” legislation if they understand your individual circumstances
- Be a resource—ask how you can help them
- Thank them for any support provided in recent legislative sessions and thank them for taking the time to meet with you