



# SPECIAL MEETING of the Link Transit Board of Directors

**May 6, 2026**

**4 p.m.**

Columbia Station 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
300 South Columbia Street

The Link Transit Board of Directors has scheduled this special meeting to evaluate the qualifications of the two finalists for the position of Link Transit CEO. An action item is scheduled for the Board to authorize next steps in the CEO hiring process. The meeting will be held via Zoom from the Link Transit Boardroom. Members of the public may attend the meeting in person or join via the Zoom link below:

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89180665003?pwd=yDrH47ep6vTRVXgWXwFSuEujG8m1dW.1>

**Meeting ID: 891 8066 5003**

**Passcode: 933058**

## AGENDA

<b>1. CALL TO ORDER</b>	Chair Erin McCardle	<b>Action</b>
<b>2. EXECUTIVE SESSION: RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment</b>	Board Chair	Discussion
<b>3. Authorizing next steps in the Link Transit CEO hiring process</b>	Board Chair	<b>Action</b>
<b>4. MEETING ADJOURNMENT</b>	Board Chair	

### **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990**

- It is Link Transit’s policy to assure that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any federally funded programs and activities.
- All meeting sites are accessible to persons with disabilities. Accommodations for people with disabilities can be arranged with advance notice.
- Any person, who wishes to obtain more information, or, who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with Link Transit’s Title VI Coordinator at 509-664-7600.

**Link Transit Job Description Summary:**

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) serves as the primary leader of Link Transit, responsible for overall agency performance, strategic direction, and alignment with Board policies. The role oversees long-range service planning, fiscal stewardship of both operating and capital budgets, and ensures delivery of efficient, cost-effective, and community-responsive transportation services. The CEO acts as the key liaison to the Board of Directors, elected officials, and community stakeholders, while managing complex operational, financial, and governance responsibilities in a growing, multi-jurisdictional transit system.

**Candidate – Donald Billen:**

Donald Billen currently serves as Planning Manager for Link Transit and brings extensive experience in transit planning, capital project development, and regional coordination. His background includes leadership roles at Sound Transit, where he contributed to major system expansions and long-term planning initiatives. His work has focused on service design, capital planning, and securing grant funding, with an emphasis on data-driven decision-making and collaboration with local, state, and federal partners.

**Candidate – Patrick Preusser:**

Patrick Preusser is a highly experienced, operations-focused executive with nearly three decades in transit leadership across large, complex systems. He has led multimodal operations—including bus, rail, and paratransit—with substantial budget and staff oversight and has a strong track record in improving service reliability, safety, and customer satisfaction. Preusser's profile highlights strengths in organizational leadership, stakeholder engagement, and system-wide performance management, with extensive experience working directly with boards, elected officials, and major capital and operational initiatives.