



## ***PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL***

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fircrest is served by Pierce Transit, which provides essential public transportation services by way of bus, SHUTTLE paratransit, and Rideshare services; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2024, Pierce Transit provided almost 6.8 million passenger trips by bus, 308,021 SHUTTLE trips, and 362,661 Rideshare trips – of which 1 million bus rides were free trips for youth 18 years and younger; and

**WHEREAS**, 55% of Pierce Transit riders do not have access to a personal vehicle, 32% have annual incomes under \$30,000, over half rely on transit to get to work or to look for work, and nearly 40% use transit to get to healthcare appointments; and

**WHEREAS**, for the past 45 years, Pierce Transit has served as the South Sound's primary, locally-based public transportation system – providing over 473 million bus trips in the Public Transportation Benefit Area since 1980, and connecting people to work, school, medical appointments, errands, and social and community events; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1980, Pierce Transit has delivered approximately 16 million paratransit trips to individuals who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and more than 24 million Rideshare trips, offering accessible and cost-effective travel options across the region; and

**WHEREAS**, public transportation in Washington State reduces carbon emissions by an estimated 371,000 metric tons annually, and if all single-occupancy drivers shifted to transit, we could save an additional 130,000 metric tons per year, equivalent to removing about 28,272 passenger vehicles from the road for one year; and

**WHEREAS**, public transportation investments generate 31% more jobs per dollar than new road and bridge construction, supporting approximately 49,700 jobs per \$1 billion invested, with an economic return on investment of five to one; and

**WHEREAS**, greater transit use is associated with higher physical activity levels, better health outcomes, and reduced health risks, while also providing essential transportation and employment access for communities of color, low-income individuals, and people with disabilities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS OF THE CITY OF FIRCREST, do hereby proclaim** the month of June 2025 as **Ride Transit Month** in the City of Fircrest, Washington, and encourage residents to ride, promote, and celebrate public transportation as a key aspect of mobility in our community.

Passed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025

Shannon Reynolds, Mayor