

Seamless, Statewide Transportation

All Aboard Washington
Charlie Hamilton
December 21, 2022

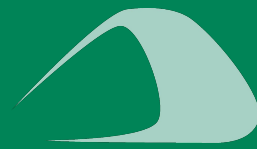
**IT TAKES
TRANSPORTATION**

What is World-Class Transportation?



It's More Than Just Trains





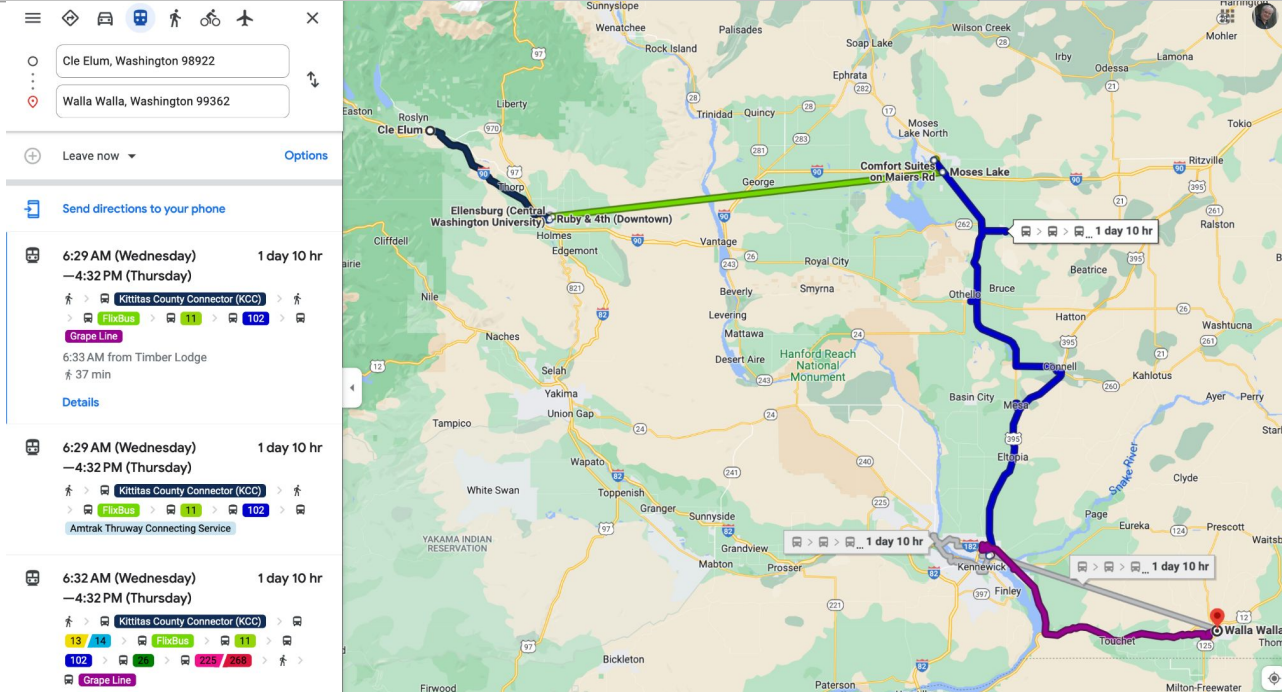
It Really Boils Down to One Simple Question

**Is it reasonably easy to
get from here to there?**

Far Too Often, It Isn't Easy At All

Cle Elum to Walla Walla: 1 day 10 hours

Driving: 3 hours 24 minutes



The screenshot shows a travel planning interface with a map of Washington state. The origin is Cle Elum, Washington 98922, and the destination is Walla Walla, Washington 99362. The transit route is highlighted in blue and purple, showing a path through Moses Lake, Kennewick, and other areas. The driving route is shown in green. The transit time is 1 day 10 hours, and the driving time is 3 hours 24 minutes.

Transit Options:

- 6:29 AM (Wednesday) — 4:32 PM (Thursday)**
 - 1 day 10 hr
 - Kititias County Connector (KCC)
 - FlixBus
 - 11
 - 102
 - 6:33 AM from Timber Lodge
 - 37 min
 - Details
- 6:29 AM (Wednesday) — 4:32 PM (Thursday)**
 - 1 day 10 hr
 - Kititias County Connector (KCC)
 - FlixBus
 - 11
 - 102
 - Amtrak Thruway Connecting Service
- 6:32 AM (Wednesday) — 4:32 PM (Thursday)**
 - 1 day 10 hr
 - Kititias County Connector (KCC)
 - 13
 - 14
 - FlixBus
 - 11
 - 102
 - 225
 - 268
 - Grape Line

Far Too Often, It Isn't Easy At All

Cle Elum to Pullman: 12 hours 46 minutes

Driving: 3 hours 38 minutes

☰ 🏠 🚗 🚌 🚶 🚲 ✈️ ✕

○ Cle Elum, Washington 98922
 ↓
 ○ Pullman, Washington 99163

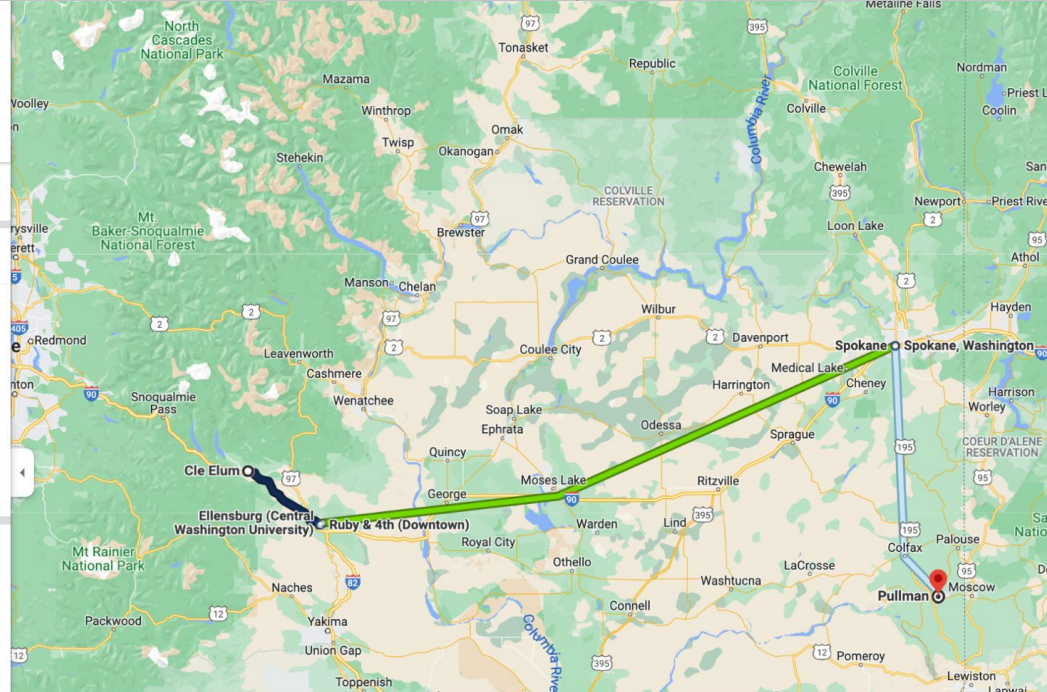
+ Leave now ▾ Options

📱 Send directions to your phone

🚌 6:29 AM (Wednesday) 12 hr 46 min
 —7:15 PM
 🚶 > 🚌 **Kittitas County Connector (KCC)** > 🚶
 > 🚌 **FlixBus** > 🚶 > 🚌
 Amtrak Thruway Connecting Service
 6:33 AM from Timber Lodge
 🚶 26 min
[Details](#)

Explore Pullman




🍴 Restaurants 🏨 Hotels 🍸 Bars ☕ Coffee ⋮ More




How About High Speed Rail?



North-South Corridor

-  Major stations
-  Major airport
-  Local service

East-West Route

-  Route option

Great, but will it get you to Pullman or Walla Walla, and sometime before 2040?

We Support High Speed Rail as Part of an Integrated System

- The High Speed Rail Alliance envisions an [integrated network approach](#) including high-speed, regional and shared-use lines.
- Almost all high-speed rail systems—including China, Japan and most of Europe—have been built on a foundation of a robust conventional rail system.
- We have a conventional rail system, but it is not robust

How Do We Get To High-Speed Rail?

- Get more frequent and faster trains running as soon as possible on the existing infrastructure.
- 6 daily trains was the “takeoff point” for the multi-million-rider passenger corridors in California (We have three daily trains to Portland today.)
- Start planning now for high-speed rail in twenty years.

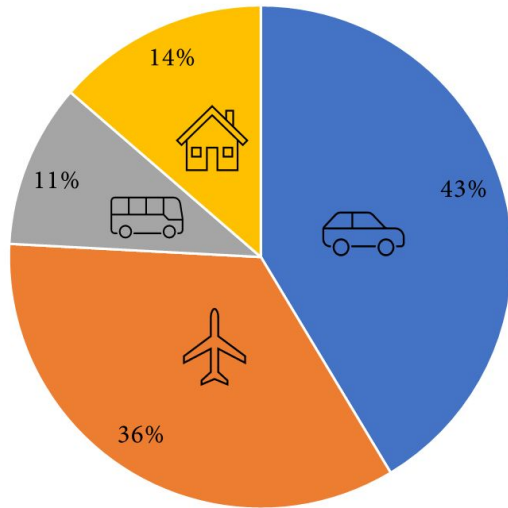
Options Available Today

- Amtrak *Cascades* to Eugene, Portland, Vancouver BC
- *Sounder* to Everett and Tacoma
- Amtrak *Coast Starlight* to Los Angeles
- Amtrak *Empire Builder* to Chicago



People Already Ride Trains

NW Rail Ridership Mode Choice
if Amtrak Unavailable



■ Auto ■ Plane ■ Bus ■ Would Not Travel

Who rides trains? Not who you expect.

- 2.25 Million Annual Amtrak Passengers from PNW (WA, OR, ID, MT) States
 - ~1 Million diverted **car trips**
 - ~700,000 diverted **plane trips**
 - ~300,000 would have **stayed home**
 - ~240,000 diverted **bus trips**

Our Vision

A transportation network that:

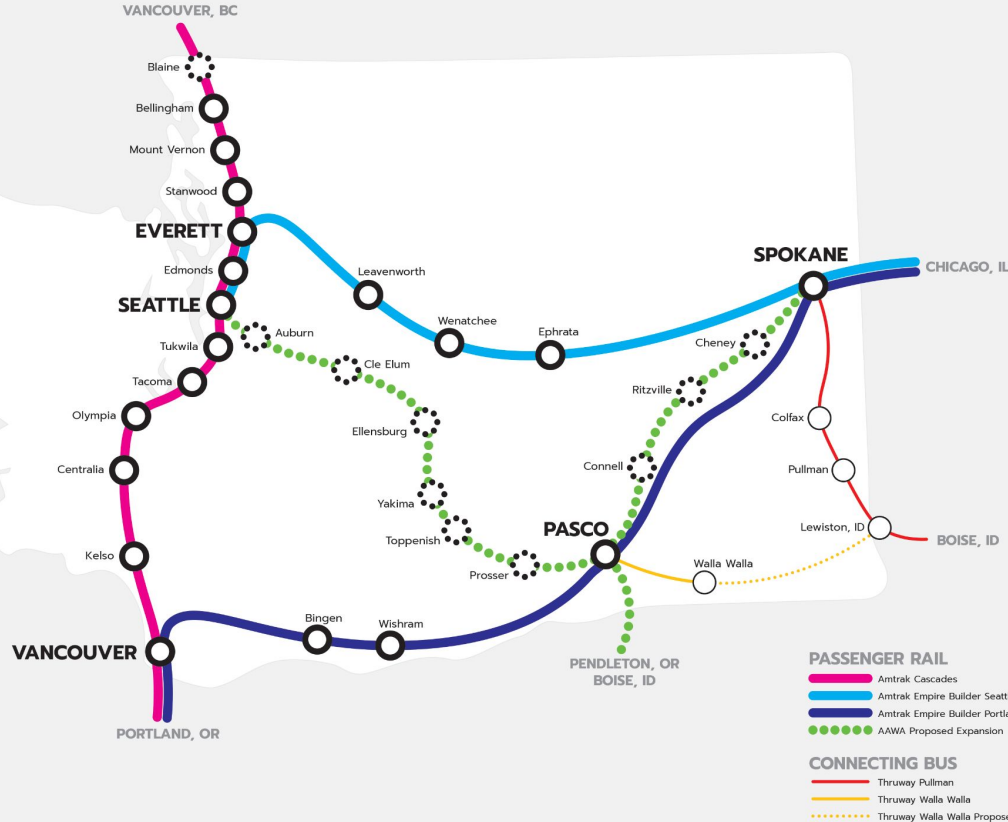
- Provides **seamless, door-to-door connectivity** to everyone in the region; and
- Offers **economic, environmental and equity benefits** to all, including *low-income, tribal, disability and rural communities*, locations where transportation **alternatives are limited**, and **those who cannot drive**

Our Goal

We must build a transportation network that will allow anyone to get from their homes to where they need to go – **work, school, medical care, family and friends – even if they don't use a car.**

Non-drivers are [30 percent](#) of the population, including **the young, the old, the disabled, the poor,** and those who are **concerned about the planet's future.** And that percentage is increasing.

WASHINGTON VISION MAP



Our Vision

- Frequent Amtrak trains crossing the entire Northwest
- More stations
- A competitive freight rail system
- Better connections to other modes

Economy, Environment, Equity

Rail is an ideal option for addressing ‘the 3 Es’



Economy

Intercity passenger trains help strengthen local economies across the Northwest.



Environment

Intercity passenger trains provide low-emissions regional transportation.



Equity

Intercity passenger trains connect communities small and large.

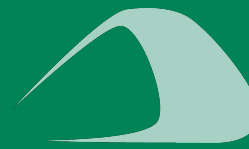


Economic Benefits

Easy travel options help strengthen local economies throughout the Northwest.

On average, communities receive \$84 per day-trip visitor, and \$366 per overnight visitor, according to Experience Washington.

**ECONOMIC JUSTICE
TAKES TRANSPORTATION**



Environmental Benefits

Rail is the optimal low-impact freight and passenger ground transportation option.

Rail does not contribute to [salmon die-off related to tires.](#)



Equity Benefits

A good freight and passenger rail network contributes to high quality of life in our region for everyone.

- **Improves reach** of local services
- **Expands access** for all communities



**A BETTER FUTURE TAKES
TRANSPORTATION**

AAWA's 2023 Legislative Priorities

1. **Restore Pre-Pandemic Rail Services**
2. **Expand Research on a Complete, Statewide Passenger and Freight Rail Network**
 - Follow in [California](#) and [Virginia's footsteps](#)
 - Benefit-Cost Analyses and Economic Impact Analyses
3. **Submit an “expression of interest” letter to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)**
4. **Establish a working group leading to an Interstate Rail Compact**

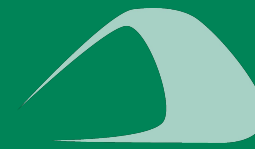
How You Can Help

Ask Legislators to
Support AAWA's
Priorities

<https://aawa.us/2023/>

Legislative Rail Caucus
meeting, Pasco, 9/28/22



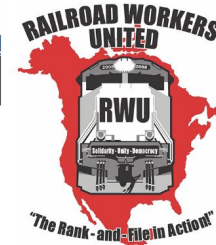


How You Can Help

Join Our Coalition



Puget Sound
Advocates for
Retirement
Action



All Aboard
NORTHWEST

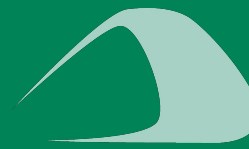


Attend the AAWA Legislative Preview

Kelso Depot

Saturday, October 8

Register at <https://www.aawa.us/events/>



AAWA
ALL ABOARD WASHINGTON

How You Can Help

Support AAWA's Work and Vision

(360) 529-5552

aawa.us/support

