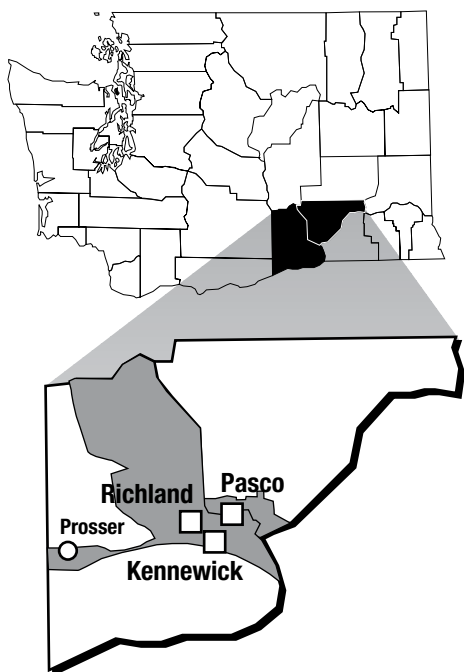




Timothy J. Fredrickson
General Manager

1000 Columbia Park Trail
Richland, WA 99352-4851
(509) 735-4131
Web site: www.bft.org



System Snapshot

- Operating Name: Ben Franklin Transit (BFT)
- Service Area: Central Benton and Franklin Counties
- Congressional District: 4
- Legislative Districts: 8 and 16
- Type of Government: Public Transportation Benefit Area
- Governing Body: Nine member board of directors with one Benton county commissioner, two Franklin county commissioners, and one councilmember each from the cities of Benton City, Prosser, Kennewick, Pasco, Richland, and West Richland.
- Tax Authorized: 0.6 percent total sales and use tax—0.3 approved in May 1981 and an additional 0.3 percent approved in March 2002.
- Types of Service: 24 fixed routes, dial a ride (paratransit) service for persons with disabilities who cannot use fixed route service, vanpool, Trans+PLUS night, Sunday service and general public demand response service in rural areas.

Performance Measures for 2006 Operations

	Fixed Route Services		Demand Response Services	
	Ben Franklin Transit	Small Urban Averages	Ben Franklin Transit	Small Urban Averages
Fares/Operating Cost	6.19%	7.39%	2.44%	2.47%
Operating Cost/Passenger Trip	\$3.39	\$4.86	\$17.52	\$24.46
Operating Cost/Revenue Vehicle Mile	\$4.60	\$6.09	\$4.63	\$5.35
Operating Cost/Revenue Vehicle Hour	\$78.31	\$94.10	\$66.81	\$73.37
Operating Cost/Total Vehicle Hour	\$73.79	\$87.56	\$58.10	\$65.37
Revenue Vehicle Hours/Total Vehicle Hour	94.22%	93.88%	86.96%	90.21%
Revenue Vehicle Hours/FTE	1,052	1,053	1,513	1,135
Revenue Vehicle Miles/Revenue Vehicle Hour	17.01	15.74	14.43	13.68
Passenger Trips/Revenue Vehicle Hour	23.1	20.7	3.8	3.1
Passenger Trips/Revenue Vehicle Mile	1.36	1.36	0.26	0.23

- Days of Service: Weekdays, between 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; Saturdays, between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; with Trans+PLUS service between 7:00 p.m. and 2:30 a.m.; Sunday Trans+PLUS service between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Base Fare: \$0.85 per boarding, fixed route and dial a ride (paratransit).

Current Operations

BFT operates fixed route service, Mondays through Saturdays, as follows:

- 21 urban local routes (Richland/Kennewick/Pasco urbanized area) and three urban intercity routes.
- One rural intercity route (Richland/Benton City/Prosser).
- Rural general public demand response service in Prosser and Benton City area.

BFT provides dial a ride (paratransit) service for persons with disabilities six days a week.

BFT contracts for Trans+PLUS, a curb-to-curb demand response service for the general public during evening hours, six days a week.

BFT operates a vanpool program with 167 vans and provides ride matching services.

Revenue Service Vehicles

Fixed Route – 62 total, 28 equipped with wheelchair lifts; model years ranging from 1988 to 2004.

Paratransit – 98 total, all ADA accessible; model years ranging from 1992 to 2003, 13 operated by contractors.

Vanpool – 243 total, one equipped with wheelchair lift; model years ranging from 1996 to 2004.

Facilities

BFT has a maintenance, operations, and administration facility located in Richland, covering nine acres. Three major structures at the facility include a 21,500 square foot maintenance building, a 8,500 square foot operations and administration building, and a 2,100 square foot bus wash.

There are six transit centers within BFT's service area: Knight Street, Richland; Huntington, Kennewick; Sterl Adams-22nd Avenue, Pasco; Benton City; Prosser; and West Richland. BFT has 50 bus shelters along its routes.

Intermodal Connections

BFT serves the Tri-Cities Airport via SR 225 on request, and Trans+PLUS (demand response) night and Sunday service.

Greyhound Lines connects passengers at the Knight Street Transit Center on its Seattle service.

BFT provides service to the Pasco multimodal facility providing connections with Greyhound and Amtrak through fixed route 62 and Trans+PLUS night and Sunday service.

Almost all schools in the area are near a BFT fixed route. Overload or tripper buses have been added to selected routes due to load factors increased by school aged passengers. BFT also serves Columbia Basin Community College and Washington State University-Tri-Cities.

BFT provides service to seven park and ride lots in the service area.



2006 Achievements

- Increased service hours in all service modes.
- Increased overall system ridership in all service modes by 8.1 percent.
- Acquired new replacement vehicles for fixed route, dial a ride, and vanpool services.
- Replaced vehicle fueling system and added additional vehicle parking at maintenance operations and administration facility.

2007 Objectives

- Increase ridership in all modes.
- Improve maintenance operations and administration facility by replacing bus wash, installing small vehicle wash, and making improvements in maintenance shop.
- Acquire replacement vehicles for the fixed route service.
- Acquire replacement vanpool vehicles.
- Build Richland Way Park and Ride.
- In cooperation with Franklin County, build park and ride lot at TRAC.

Long-range Plans (2008 through 2012)

- Increase dial a ride service 3.0 percent per year.
- Expand present maintenance, operations, and administration facility.
- Acquire 26 new accessible transit buses.
- Acquire 92 new paratransit vehicles.
- Acquire 223 new vanpool vehicles.
- Increase system ridership in all system modes.



Ben Franklin Transit

	2004	2005	2006	% Change	2007	2008	2009	2012
Annual Operating Information								
Service Area Population	182,735	196,278	201,390	2.60%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Fixed Route Services								
Revenue Vehicle Hours	133,786	140,634	146,179	3.94%	148,000	148,000	148,000	148,000
Total Vehicle Hours	143,571	151,153	155,141	2.64%	157,000	157,000	157,000	157,000
Revenue Vehicle Miles	2,308,549	2,397,242	2,485,890	3.70%	2,579,000	2,579,000	2,579,000	2,579,000
Total Vehicle Miles	2,493,233	2,553,261	2,709,620	6.12%	2,811,000	2,811,000	2,811,000	2,811,000
Passenger Trips	2,929,267	3,060,390	3,376,832	10.34%	3,560,000	3,631,000	3,704,000	3,931,000
Diesel Fuel Consumed (gallons)	574,060	582,173	592,388	1.75%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Fatalities	0	0	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Reportable Injuries	1	0	3	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Collisions	0	0	2	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Employees FTEs	126.6	131.7	139.0	5.54%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Operating Expenses	\$11,757,755	\$12,798,404	\$11,447,181	-10.56%	\$11,327,000	\$11,908,000	\$12,422,000	\$14,052,000
Farebox Revenues	\$645,895	\$681,582	\$708,239	3.91%	\$810,000	\$826,000	\$842,000	\$894,000
Demand Response Services								
Revenue Vehicle Hours	139,471	151,084	172,453	14.14%	184,000	187,000	190,000	193,000
Total Vehicle Hours	158,535	171,419	198,321	15.69%	212,000	216,000	216,000	219,000
Revenue Vehicle Miles	2,375,523	2,663,603	2,487,851	-6.60%	2,760,000	2,802,000	2,844,000	2,888,000
Total Vehicle Miles	2,625,035	2,906,569	3,235,182	11.31%	3,146,000	3,194,000	3,194,000	3,243,000
Passenger Trips	526,641	569,682	657,762	15.46%	635,000	646,000	656,000	667,000
Diesel Fuel Consumed (gallons)	172,572	181,451	189,295	4.32%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Gasoline Fuel Consumed (gallons)	116,736	134,745	159,794	18.59%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Fatalities	0	0	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Reportable Injuries	2	2	2	0.00%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Collisions	0	2	2	0.00%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Employees FTEs	98.2	102.1	114.0	11.66%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Operating Expenses	\$7,011,467	\$8,196,034	\$11,521,700	40.58%	\$10,639,000	\$11,371,000	\$12,086,000	\$14,469,000
Farebox Revenues	\$186,253	\$204,937	\$281,148	37.19%	\$313,000	\$322,000	\$328,000	\$349,000

	2004	2005	2006	% Change	2007	2008	2009	2012
Vanpooling Services								
Revenue Vehicle Miles	2,489,084	2,778,031	2,694,265	-3.02%	2,795,000	2,914,000	2,914,000	2,949,000
Total Vehicle Miles	2,529,522	2,822,018	2,748,150	-2.62%	2,851,000	2,972,000	2,972,000	2,949,000
Passenger Trips	657,877	733,445	693,562	-5.44%	716,000	746,000	746,000	755,000
Vanpool Fleet Size	199	198	236	19.19%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Vans in Operation	167	168	200	19.05%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Diesel Fuel Consumed (gallons)	67,498	83,290	53,405	-35.88%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Gasoline Fuel Consumed (gallons)	65,648	81,986	126,263	54.01%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Fatalities	0	0	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Reportable Injuries	1	0	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Collisions	1	0	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Employees FTEs	7.1	7.1	9.0	26.76%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Operating Expenses	\$1,005,880	\$1,248,035	\$1,621,326	29.91%	\$1,666,000	\$1,830,000	\$1,917,000	\$2,187,000
Vanpooling Revenue	\$1,040,056	\$1,204,748	\$1,177,092	-2.30%	\$1,295,000	\$1,349,000	\$1,349,000	\$1,366,000

Ben Franklin Transit

	2004	2005	2006	% Change	2007	2008	2009	2012
Annual Revenues								
Sales Tax	\$18,752,230	\$20,633,101	\$20,566,211	-0.32%	\$20,872,000	\$21,811,000	\$22,792,000	\$26,259,000
Farebox Revenues	\$832,148	\$886,519	\$989,387	11.60%	\$1,123,000	\$1,148,000	\$1,170,000	\$1,243,000
Vanpooling Revenue	\$1,040,056	\$1,204,748	\$1,177,092	-2.30%	\$1,295,000	\$1,349,000	\$1,349,000	\$1,366,000
State Special Needs Grants	\$464,892	\$0	\$1,133,373	N.A.	\$400,000	\$500,000	\$520,000	\$585,000
Other	\$471,158	\$443,859	\$506,147	14.03%	\$515,000	\$467,000	\$369,000	\$266,000
Total	\$21,560,484	\$23,168,227	\$24,372,210	5.20%	\$24,205,000	\$25,275,000	\$26,200,000	\$29,719,000
Annual Operating Expenses								
Annual Operating Expenses	\$19,775,102	\$22,242,473	\$24,590,207	10.56%	\$23,632,000	\$25,109,000	\$26,425,000	\$30,708,000
Total	\$19,775,102	\$22,242,473	\$24,590,207	10.56%	\$23,632,000	\$25,109,000	\$26,425,000	\$30,708,000
Annual Capital Purchase Obligations								
Federal Section 5309 Capital Grants	\$0	\$0	\$836,322	N.A.	\$4,750,000	\$495,000	\$0	\$0
Federal Section 5307 Capital Grants	\$1,792,843	\$3,086,770	\$1,794,125	N.A.	\$2,459,000	\$2,582,000	\$2,711,000	\$2,989,000
State Vanpool Grants	\$953,379	\$290,490	\$172,085	N.A.	\$235,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$1,222,019	\$2,554,821	\$1,312,605	N.A.	\$1,827,000	\$794,000	\$703,000	\$771,000
General Fund	\$1,222,019	\$0	\$0	N.A.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$5,190,260	\$5,932,081	\$4,115,137	-30.63%	\$9,271,000	\$3,871,000	\$3,414,000	\$3,760,000
Ending Balances, December 31								
General Fund	\$9,444,095	\$8,060,660	\$6,753,798	-16.21%	-\$1,246,746	\$3,072,548	\$2,644,548	-\$1,757,837
Insurance Fund	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	-50.00%	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Total	\$10,444,095	\$9,060,660	\$7,253,798	-19.94%	-\$746,746	\$3,572,548	\$3,144,548	-\$1,257,837