[Service Date March 29, 2006]

March 29, 2006

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN INITIAL WORKSHOP DATE (Rescheduled to Thursday, April 27, 2006, 9:30 a.m.)

NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS (Set for June 1, and June 16, 2006)

RE: Rulemaking to Consider Rules Relating to Rate Regulation for Passenger Transportation Companies, Chapter 480-30 WAC Docket TC-060177

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On February 16, 2006, the commission issued a notice of opportunity to file written comments on the Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) relating to rate regulation for passenger transportation companies regulated under Chapter 81.68 RCW.

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED WORKSHOP. The commission scheduled an initial workshop to discuss rates (fares) and ratemaking for passenger transportation companies regulated under chapter 81.68 RCW for April 4, 2006, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The commission recently learned that the April 4, 2006, workshop conflicts with the Airport Ground Transportation Association Conference in San Francisco, scheduled for April 1-5, 2006. To alleviate the conflict facing some of the affected companies, the commission decided to change the workshop date to accommodate full stakeholder participation. <u>The April 4, 2006, workshop is rescheduled to April 27, 2006.</u> The time and location of this workshop is set forth below, along with information on two additional workshops. The commission encourages your participation to discuss the issues at stake for the auto transportation industry.

DOCKET TC-060177

During a recent rulemaking for passenger transportation companies several commenters recommended that the commission adopt ratemaking rules. As a result, the commission has opened this proceeding in Docket TC-060177 to discuss the following:

- The level of competition in the industry.
- The need for continued regulation of entry, rates and service quality standards.
- Whether the current regulation of entry and rates for passenger transportation companies reflects sound public policy.
- Whether the commission should adopt rules or recommend statutory changes to the legislature.

To make informed decisions on the above topics, the commission needs specific information from the industry, including:

- Proposed ratemaking methodologies in detail including potential process.
- Proposed method and process for fuel surcharges.
- An explanation of possible statutory changes that might be necessary to implement the ratemaking and fuel surcharge methodologies.
- What other issues are facing the auto transportation industry that the Commission should know?

The commission takes this process very seriously and looks forward to working with all of the affected stakeholders. The commission will host three workshops. The commission recommends that all stakeholders attend for a face-to-face discussion of the very important issues facing your industry. The date, time and location for each of the workshops follows:

April 27	Washington Utilities and Transportations headquarters at 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, Olympia, WA 98504 Commissions' Hearing Room #206 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
June 1	Washington Utilities and Transportations headquarters at 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, Olympia, WA 98504 Commissions' Hearing Room #206 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

June 16 Washington Utilities and Transportations headquarters at 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, Olympia, WA 98504 Commissions' Hearing Room #206 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The commission's teleconference bridge line will be available for the workshops. The commission prefers and strongly recommends that interested persons participate in person and share ideas in a workshop setting. However, if this imposes a hardship, interested persons may participate at the workshop via the commission's teleconference bridge (**360**) **664-3846**. Persons desiring to participate via the bridge line must make advance reservations by calling Ms. Kippi Walker at (360) 664-1139.

WRITTEN COMMENTS. Written comments are an excellent option for those who can not be present for a workshop. Written comments may be submitted to the commission by filing with the commission Secretary either by electronic transmission at <u>records@wutc.wa.gov</u>, or by physical delivery to the following address:

Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Questions may be addressed to Penny Hansen at (360) 664-1242 or e-mail at <u>phansen@wutc.wa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

CAROLE J. WASHBURN Executive Secretary