

Merchants Parking Transia

Merchants Parking/Transia is an independent, not-for-profit community association dedicated to the socio-economic advancement of the peoples of the International District through the development, management, and operation of parking and transportation services.

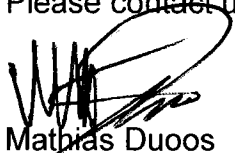
To: Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
Docket TE-160829

International District Parking Association is a small Not-for-Profit Organization doing business in the International District of Seattle. This company was started to serve the community by providing low cost or free services, donate to local organizations, and to be a warm center of communication for local residents and employees.

As a Not-for-Profit we run on a very tight budget, and do everything that we can to make every payroll, and keep all of our equipment up to professional standards. Because we offer very low cost or free services, we do not generate a lot of profit. I know that David Pratt referred to us as a "Large Organization" with a \$2,000,000 income; but the fact is that we run our business to the point where our expenses match or exceed that amount; however we often have to make sacrifices and do everything we can to extend the life of our equipment and supplies so we can make each payroll. Our #1 goal is to not miss a payroll, and our current Executive Director has done so since he was elected into that position. This company operates solely on the cash that it deposits into the bank on a monthly basis. We do not have a company Credit Card (or Debit Card) and purchase most everything via check or reimbursement (via check).

We will need to set up a monthly pay-by-check payment plan.

Please contact us at your earliest convenience.



Mathias Duoos
Operations Manager
International District Parking Association
Dba Transia
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Overview

International District Parking Association (IDPA), d.b.a. Merchants Parking Association (MPA) / Transia, is a not-for-profit organization providing parking and paratransit/shuttle van services. IDPA is a local minority and community-based agency which develops, manages and operates parking and transportation services and provides employment opportunities in and for Seattle's Chinatown International District.

MPA currently provides parking services for, or in collaboration with, the following community organizations:

Asian Counseling and Referral Services (ACRS)

International District Community Health Clinic

Chinese Information and Service Center (CISC)

Chinatown/International District Business Improvement Area (CID-BIA)

Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation and Development Authority

Uwajimaya, Inc.

MPA is also an active member of Seattle's Chinatown Chamber of Commerce.

Organization

Background and History: The International District Parking Association d.b.a. Merchants Parking Association (MPA) /Transia is a revenue-based non-profit company established in 1975 to develop, manage, and operate Parking and Transportation services. The Board of Directors meets once every other month; sets operating policies as reflected in the minutes of their meeting; maintains and updates the employee handbook, which includes drug testing policies; and other policies published on a routine basis for staff review and action. Previous Board members have included Jeff Wong, Ray Lew, Tomio Moriguchi, Al Gould, Alan Cornell, Bob Santos, Ruby Chow and other community members that have contributed to the ongoing success and operation of International District Parking Association.

IDPA's Executive Director, Michael Olson joined the organization in 1991. Graham Syed, Parking Manager, joined Merchants Parking in April 2012 and brings his 14 years of parking experience to our team. Graham has leadership qualities and can perform in various capacities. Their professional knowledge and management experience gives the organization depth and flexibility to provide service to and for our clients. The Association's administrative office is located at 214 Fifth Avenue South, Seattle, Washington, 98104. The agency currently has 45 full and part-time employees.

Transia's efforts to assist people with disabilities which includes providing reasonable accommodations, establishing links with other agencies and connecting employees with additional employment opportunities and promoting diversity within their business has earned an honor for the Governor's 2005 Medium Nonprofit "Employer of the Year Award" in November 2005. Transia was nominated by the staff at Harborview Mental Health Services, Employment Service Program.

For over 41 years, Merchants Parking Association (MPA) has been continuously engaged in the business of providing affordable parking services including the management of fifteen properties in the Chinatown/International District. Transia has provided over 1,000,000 rides for the past twenty-five years and providing services throughout DSHS para transit programs and shuttle services. Transia's fleet of 45 vans operates throughout the King County and Puget Sound area.