

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In re Application the of

SPEEDISHUTTLE WASHINGTON, LLC,  
d/b/a SPEEDISHUTTLE SEATTLE

For a Certificate of Public Convenience and  
Necessity to Operate Motor Vehicles in  
Furnishing Passenger and Express Service as  
an Auto Transportation Company

DOCKETS TC-143691 & TC-160516

COMMISSION STAFF'S RESPONSE  
TO COMMISSION'S NOTICE OF  
OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO  
REQUEST FOR SUSPENSION OF  
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

1 On October 6, 2016, the Commission issued a notice calling for responses to Speedishuttle's motion to suspend the procedural schedule in the above-captioned dockets. The Commission suggested a ten-month suspension designed to coincide with the ten-month rule waiver the Commission recently granted to Speedishuttle's competitor, Shuttle Express, in Docket TC-160819.

2 Commission Staff supports a ten-month suspension of the procedural schedule. As the Commission knows, the ongoing evolution of the auto transportation industry has created an opportunity for the Commission to reexamine its regulatory role. The Commission will need to engage industry stakeholders to help determine the best path forward. But open dialogue cannot occur if three of the major participants—Shuttle Express, Speedishuttle, and Staff—are tied up in the above-captioned adjudication.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Staff understands that suspension of the procedural schedule would temporarily eliminate the ex parte wall, allowing the parties to communicate freely with the Commissioners during any workshops or other meetings that may be scheduled. It further understands that, during the suspension, Speedishuttle may continue to operate without restrictions, consistent with its certificate, within its service territory (i.e., any restrictions the Commission may impose post-hearing have yet to take effect).

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Now is a good time to hit “pause” in these dockets. There may be a greater prize to be won, from a public interest perspective, if all parties work together outside the confines of this adjudication.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED October 13, 2016.

ROBERT W. FERGUSON  
Attorney General

  
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