



Recognizing transportation is fundamental to access needed medical, employment, education and other vital services necessary to live, work and play, the Gorge TransLink Alliance was formalized in 2008. The Alliance seeks to enhance regional connectivity and develop a seamless network of transportation services within the Columbia River Gorge area while linking these services to the metropolitan cities of Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, Washington.

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Expanded Annual GORge Pass Offers Unlimited Travel to and from Portland/Vancouver and Around the Columbia Gorge

This new innovative GORge Pass allows for unlimited travel in Hood River, Wasco, Klickitat and Skamania Counties as well as to Portland, Multnomah Falls and Troutdale for one low price in 2021.

THE DALLES, OR (June 21, 2021) Gorge Translink is happy to announce the expansion of the GORge Pass, now offering an easy and affordable way to travel to and from Portland/Vancouver and around the Columbia Gorge on both sides of the river. Four Gorge transit providers have teamed up to offer unlimited, fixed route rides to riders with a GORge Pass:

- Columbia Area Transit (CAT), including the Columbia Gorge Express and the Gorge-to-Mountain Express in winter
- The Link Public Transit (The Link)
- Mt. Adams Transportation Service (MATS)
- Skamania County Transit

The GORge Pass provides local riders, commuters, tourists, adventurers, and everyone in between with an easy, affordable way to get from here to there. Transferring from one service to the next is as simple as showing your GORge Pass. For only \$30 per adult for year-long use (\$15 for youth under 17), the GORge Pass can be downloaded onto your smartphone via downloading the Token Transit app or purchased as a physical pass that fits in your wallet.

HOW THE GORge PASS WORKS:

PRICE:

- \$30 Adults
- \$15 Youth under 17

WHAT YOU GET:

- An annual pass connecting Portland/Vancouver and the Columbia Gorge. The GORge Pass is good for the calendar year, ending on December 31.
- Unlimited fixed route rides on CAT (including the Columbia Gorge Express and the Gorge-to-Mountain Express), The Link, MATS, and Skamania County Transit buses.
- To relax and enjoy the scenery while we drive—and no driving or parking hassles!

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you have a disability that requires any special materials, services or assistance, please contact MCEDD at 541-296-2266 (TTY 711) at least 48 hours before the meeting.

MCEDD is an equal opportunity lender, employer and provider.

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WHERE YOU CAN GO:

CAT

(Hood River County, OR)

- Cascade Locks
- Hood River
- Parkdale
- Odell
- Portland & Troutdale via Columbia Gorge Express
- The Dalles & Moser
- Mt. Hood Meadows (in winter)

The Link

(Wasco County, OR)

- The Dalles

MATS

(Klickitat County, WA)

- Bingen
- Dallesport
- Goldendale
- White Salmon
- Wishram
- The Dalles
- Mt. Hood

Skamania County Transit

(Skamania County, WA)

- Carson
- Stevenson
- Skamania
- Washougal
- Vancouver
- Dog Mountain Shuttle (in spring)

HOW TO BUY:

1. Buy a virtual GORge Pass to download to your phone at **gorgepass.com**.
2. Buy a printed GORge at any of the offices for CAT, The Link, MATS and Skamania County Transit—details are available at **gorgepass.com**.

The GORge Pass makes a great gift for employees, commuters, friends, and family. Employers may buy passes for their employees, and senior centers and senior organizations may purchase printed passes for their residents and customers. For multiple-pass purchases call 833-3GO-PASS.

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Additionally, downtown Hood River employees will be able to obtain free GORge Passes sponsored by the City of Hood River and CAT, and low-income residents of Hood River and Wasco Counties will be able to receive discounted GORge Passes sponsored by CAT, The Link, and the City of Hood River. Additional details on these programs are available at **gorgepass.com**.

Online schedules are available for all routes at **gorgepass.com**, and printed schedules are available at all transit provider offices, on buses, at local Chambers of Commerce and various business locations throughout the Gorge. (For specific locations **gorgepass.com**.)

USE YOUR GORge PASS TO TAKE THE GORge PASS ICE CREAM CHALLENGE

Use your GORge Pass to chill this summer with our GORge Pass Ice Cream Challenge. Visit these ice cream shops around the Gorge and post a picture on your social media with **#GorgePass** and **#GorgeIceCream**. Prizes will be awarded to those who post the most Gorge ice cream photos in July & August.

- Mike's Ice Cream, 504 Oak St., Hood River, OR
- Shannon's Ice Cream, 318 E. 4th St., The Dalles
- Bake My Day, 119 E Main St, Goldendale, WA
- Columbia Gorge Bakery, 740 E Steuben St., Bingen, WA
- Pizza Leona, 100 E Jewett Blvd., White Salmon, WA
- East Wind Drive Thru, 395 Wa Na Pa St., Cascade Locks, OR
- Scooby's Social Club, 198 2nd St., Stevenson, WA

For more information about GORge Pass visit **gorgepass.com** or call 833-3GO-PASS.

About Gorge Translink

Recognizing transportation is fundamental to access needed medical, employment, education, and other vital services necessary to live, work and play, the Gorge TransLink Alliance was formalized in 2008. The Alliance seeks to enhance regional connectivity and develop a seamless network of transportation services within the Columbia River Gorge area while linking these services to the metropolitan cities of Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, Washington. Learn more about Gorge Translink at www.gorgetranslink.com or call (833)-3GO-PASS.

About CAT

CAT is a service of the Hood River County Transportation District, which provides public transportation services throughout Hood River County and is the operator of the Columbia Gorge Express to Portland, Troutdale, Multnomah Falls, Moser and The Dalles seven days a week. Transit Services are funded with local, state, and federal funds. Learn more about CAT at www.rideCATbus.org or call (541) 386-4202.

About Mid-Columbia Economic Development District

Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) was established in 1969 by Klickitat, Skamania, Hood River, Wasco, and Sherman counties to benefit from better access to economic development loans

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and grants, pooled technical assistance, marketing, and administrative resources, and a regional approach to economic development efforts. Over the years MCEDD's membership has grown to include counties, cities, ports, and chambers of commerce within the five county region. It is governed by a twenty-one member Board representing its members and the key economic interests in the region. MCEDD promotes the creation of family-wage jobs, the diversification of the economic base, and the growth, development and retention of business and industry. More information may be found at: <http://www.mcedd.org>

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