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Local News

## MTA 1 Month Retrospective



One month ago, April 1st, the Mason Transit Authority commemorated the opening of the MTA Transit-Community Center. To get some perspective on what the TCC's first month of operation has been like, KMAS spoke with MTA General Manager Brad Patterson.

According to Mr. Patterson the TCC has been performing remarkably through the month of April. Though it hasn't yet become the hub of activity that it hopes to be in the future, Mr. Patterson says progress was swift in reaching the first major goal of the center: becoming financially self-sustaining.

Much of the money needed to operate the center is slated to come from the MTA leasing the space to businesses large and small. During our interview Mr. Patterson said the center is currently discussing options with a client whose lease agreement would be the one to bring the TCC to its goal of having 70% of available spaces claimed.

This means within its first thirty days the MTA has already laid the ground work for the facility to begin generating funds toward its further development.

Mr. Patterson also addressed the one important accommodation which is notably missing from the facility grounds: adequate seating. He explained the grant and contracting negotiations for benches happened slower than expected, but MTA plans to have them installed in the coming weeks; along with additional trash bins.

When asked about how the increased foot-traffic in the area has affected downtown Shelton Mr. Patterson said his teams are working to ensure neighboring businesses don't fall prey to loitering and litter. He said they've worked closely with Shelton Cinemas and Safeway to help prevent any illicit activity. He says the facility has a good relationship with its neighbors and he hopes to keep it that way.

While the TCC may currently seem more like a bus station than a community center, in the end the month of April has shown the facility may in fact have the potential to become the innovative destination it was envisioned to be.

Listen to the interview



Adam J. Click, KMAS Newsradio - May 1, 2015

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