

KITSAP TRANSIT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES OF July 01, 2025

Board of Commissioners Present:

Driskell, Robert, Teamsters Local No. 589, *non-voting member - Absent*
Erickson, Becky, Mayor, City of Poulsbo- *Virtual*
Mockler, Anna, Councilmember, City of Bremerton
Moriwaki, Clarence, Councilmember, City of Bainbridge Island
Putansuu, Robert, Mayor, City of Port Orchard, **Chair**
Rolfes, Christine, Kitsap County Commissioner
Root, Oran, Kitsap County Commissioner
Rosapepe, Jay, Councilmember, City of Port Orchard - Absent
Walters, Katie, Kitsap County Commissioner, **Vice Chair**
Wheeler, Greg, Mayor, City of Bremerton,

Staff Present:

Sanjay Bhatt, Marketing & Public Information Director; Jackie Bidon, Clerk of the Board, Public Records Officer; Michael Bozarth, Operations Director; John Clauson, Executive Director; Dennis Griffey, Vehicle and Facilities Maintenance Director; Steffani Lillie, Service and Capital Development Director; Charlotte Sampson, Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk of the Board; Paul Shinnors, Finance Director

Also Present: David Weibel, Legal Counsel

Select the video Zoom address below or copy and paste into your browser address field to hear the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners discussion of a specific topic, or the complete meeting. Note the video time stamp beside the topic.

<https://kitsaptransit.zoom.us/rec/share/gKBNkYNi9wdjky8Za7wEM9U1bH0rKnrOncq2aX1nIM7hg6zRqdnCKT9Mo0ineNmK.3vLMUinlEnJBAfqD?startTime=1751389265000>

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1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Putansuu called the meeting of the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners to order at 10:29 AM.

2. AGENDA REVIEW

Upon review by the Board, the agenda remained unchanged.

3. CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

0:00:32, Mayor Putansuu opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees and extending well wishes for a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July weekend. He then introduced the Executive Director of the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC).

0:01:11, PSRC Executive Director Josh Brown formally presented Kitsap Transit with the Vision 2050 Award in recognition of its leadership in transportation electrification. The award specifically honors the Silverdale Transit Center for its pioneering deployment of in-ground wireless charging infrastructure for buses, the first installation of its kind in the region.

The Vision 2050 Award is PSRC's highest recognition for member jurisdictions that exemplify significant advancement toward the region's long-range planning goals. Mr. Brown praised Kitsap Transit for its forward-thinking and strategic investment in infrastructure, noting its alignment with both immediate public transit needs and broader sustainability objectives.

The Silverdale Transit Center received the award in the "On the Ground" category, which highlights projects with measurable, community-level impact. Purposefully designed to meet current transportation demands while anticipating future growth, the facility stands as a model of innovative planning and commitment to regional mobility.

0:03:34 - 0:06:56, No video or audio; system difficulties.

4. COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

0:07:33, Executive Director Clauson reported that the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) engaged in discussions regarding future funding considerations for the continuation of the Bremerton Fast Ferry route as well as other topics, which will be presented to the Board during his report. Other items included how to better advertise Kitsap Transit's Quarterly Community Meetings and extensive dialogue regarding House Bill 1418, with more discussion in the future.

The Community Advisory Committee reviewed future funding considerations for the continuation of the Bremerton Fast Ferry route throughout the upcoming biennial period.

0:12:33, Mayor Putaansuu inquired about the scheduled timing of the Board Composition Committee's review and whether that would be the appropriate opportunity to consider the implications of House Bill 1418.

0:12:47, Executive Director Clauson stated that the Board Composition Committee is scheduled to conduct its review in 2026. He interpreted House Bill 1418 to mean that the Board holds the authority to decide whether to add seats, while the Board Composition Committee would be responsible for determining the number of seats to be added.

5. CONSENT / ACTION ITEM:

- a. Warrants for May 2025
 - o Warrant numbers transit fund 172820 to 173144 of \$3,104,054
 - o Warrant numbers ferry fund 609152 to 609274 of \$1,458,591
 - o Payroll Account disbursements of \$5,281,245
 - o ACH clearing account payments of \$12,596

- Travel Account Disbursements of \$6,475
- Purchasing Card Disbursements of \$61,991
- b. Minutes of June 03, 2025
- c. Resolution No. 25-47, 25-47, Approve Appointment of New CAC Member
- d. Resolution No. 25-48, Approve Reappointment of CAC Member
- e. Resolution No. 25-49, Approve 3rd Quarter Procurements 2025

Commission Walters moved and Commissioner Rolfes seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. FULL DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

- a. Public Hearing - Presentation: Transit Development Plan 2025-2030
Hyperlink for 2025-2030 TDP <https://www.kitsaptransit.com/uploads/pdf/planning/2025-2030tdpplan.pdf>

0:32:04, Ed Coviello delivered a comprehensive overview of the 2025–2030 Transit Development Plan (TDP) to the Board and members of the public. The presentation highlighted key accomplishments from 2024, including the delivery of seventy-three (73) revenue vehicles, a 23% increase in ridership, the opening of the Silverdale Transit Center, expansion of Sunday service, and the awarding of a \$17 million RAISE Grant for the development of a new maintenance facility. The plan outlines several future initiatives, such as the construction of a new training facility, the Ruby Creek Park & Ride, and a Seattle waterfront terminal. Over the five-year period, ferry-related capital expenditures are projected to total \$186.6 million, with approximately \$151.1 million anticipated from grant funding.

The 2025–2030 TDP incorporates actual data from 2024, along with projections for operating metrics, capital investments, revenues, expenditures, and supporting appendices. Kitsap Transit has received three public comments submitted via email.

0:40:55, Board discussions addressed the restoration of Sunday service to levels consistent with those prior to the financial downturn, concerns regarding the costs associated with ferry vessel replacement, and the need for strategic capital planning to support future vessel replacements.

0:42:25, Executive Director Clauson clarified that implementing demand-responsive service is not currently an organizational objective; however, its future consideration will be informed by data and insights gathered from the existing demand-responsive operations.

0:44:20, Executive Director Clauson noted that funding for vessel replacement is contingent upon securing grants from the Federal Government. He indicated that, should the grant application process prove unsuccessful, project implementation would be postponed accordingly.

0:46:39, Councilmember Mockler inquired whether the 2025–2030 Transit Development Plan had been previously presented to the Board.

0:46:49, Executive Director Clauson stated that Kitsap Transit had previously presented the 2025–2030 Transit Development Plan to the Board in advance of today’s Public Hearing and is providing the community with an additional opportunity to offer feedback on the plan.

0:47:27, Ed Coviello outlined the various methods used to disseminate the Transit Development Plan throughout the community. He noted that Kitsap Transit distributed the plan via its email listserv, presented it to the Citizens Advisory Committee in May, and shared it during the Quarterly Meetings held on June 7. Additionally, public notices were published in regional newspapers, the plan was submitted to the Puget Sound Regional Council, made available on the Kitsap Transit website, and hard copies were provided at the Harborside main office.

0:47:56, Councilmember Mockler expressed concern that the Board was being presented with the plan for the first time at the current meeting and was expected to take action on it the same day. She requested that her position be noted for the record, stating that she would require an additional one to two weeks to thoroughly review the plan.

0:49:38, Commissioner Rolfes recommended that Kitsap Transit compile public feedback on an ongoing basis throughout the year, rather than limiting collection to designated formal public comment periods.

0:50:29, Ed Coviello noted that two public comments had been submitted prior to the designated public comment period. He further explained that he actively monitors feedback throughout the year and incorporates relevant input into the formal public comment process.

0:51:05, Mayor Putaansuu formally opened the Public Hearing for the 2025–2030 Transit Development Plan and invited members of the public to provide comments on the proposed plan.

0:51:41, Carrie Kale, a resident of West Silverdale, provided testimony highlighting the urgent need for public transportation in the area. She noted that 761 new residential units are currently under development, yet no nearby transit services are available to support the growing community.

0:53:40, Mayor Putaansuu closed the Public Hearing for the 2025–2030 Transit Development Plan.

b. Resolution No. 25-50, Adopt 2025-2030 Transit Development Plan

Councilmember Mockler moved and Commissioner Walters seconded the motion to postpone the Board vote on Resolution No. 25-50, Adopt 2025-2030 Transit Development Plan to the July 15, 2025, Board meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion:

None.

Councilmember Moriwaki moved and Commissioner Rolfes seconded the motion to reopen the Public Hearing, continuing until July 15, 2025, for additional comments and Board review of the 2025-2030 Transit Development Plan.

Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion:

None.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Potential Litigation RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)

0:57:45, Mayor Putaansuu announced that the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners would convene in Executive Session for a duration of fifteen (15) minutes to discuss potential litigation, in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). He noted that the Board may take further action following the Executive Session. Mayor Putaansuu stated that the Board would now adjourn to a separate Executive Session.

1:15:04, Mayor Putaansuu announced that the Executive Session would be extended by an additional fifteen (15) minutes.

1:29:44, Mayor Putaansuu announced that the Executive Session would be extended by an additional five (5) minutes.

1:36:19, Mayor Putaansuu announced that the Executive Session had been adjourned.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ITEMS

Due to time constraints, the item was not addressed.

9. PROGRESS REPORTS

a. Recognize Kitsap Transit's National Roadeo Champion

0:14:44, Executive Director Clauson recognized Routed Operator Val Quill with a slideshow highlighting her achievement. Val was honored for earning first place in the National Bus Roadeo competition in the 35-foot bus category and for reaching an impressive milestone of 40 years of accident-free driving.

0:19:24, During the Board discussion, members extended their congratulations to Val Quill for her outstanding achievements and inquired about the number of women who have received first-place honors in the National Bus Roadeo competition.

0:19:28, Mayor Putaansuu noted that Val Quill is the first woman to receive this prestigious award.

0:21:44, Val Quill shared insights into her preparation for the competition, which included practice sessions in Olympia, the development of a precise timing strategy, and refining her driving techniques for the course. She also studied extensively for the written examination, which encompassed topics such as wheelchair securement, bus inspection procedures, and overall driving proficiency.

b. Recognizing Drivers of the Month for May 2025 (10:45am)

0:27:37, Jeff Vinecourt, *ACCESS* Manager, recognized the *ACCESS* Driver of the Month for May 2025, Griselda Brodeur.

0:29:23, Thomas Gilbert, Routed Manager, recognized the Routed Driver of the Month for May 2025, Curt Harris.

0:30:33, Cyndi Griffey, Worker/Driver Manager, recognized the Worker/Driver of the Month for May 2025, Brenden Schruhl.

- c. KT Legislative Report July 2025
- d. Draft Financial Reports through May 2025
- e. Capital Work in Progress May 2025
- f. Fuel Costs Report through the end of June 2025

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no items to report at this time.

11. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Due to time constraints, the item was not addressed.

12. ADJOURN: At 12:06 PM, Mayor Putaansuu adjourned the regular meeting.

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Kitsap Transit at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 2nd day of September 2025.

Attest:

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Jackie Bidon
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Jackie Bidon, Clerk of the Board

Signed by:
Rob Putaansuu
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Rob Putaansuu, Chairperson