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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 6, 2016

Kitsap Transit Achieves International Environmental Certification

Kitsap Transit is pleased to announce that its Charleston Base facility has been registered to International Standards Organization (ISO) 14001:2004 for environmental management. The certification is for the public transit vehicle staging, fueling, lubrication, washing, maintenance, dispatch and administration support activities located at the 200 Charleston Avenue base in Bremerton. Completion of the certification process ensures that Kitsap Transit is on the forefront of environmental management and meeting or exceeding federal recommendations for environmental sustainability.

In 2013, Kitsap Transit applied for and was selected to participate in a voluntary, two-year Environmental Sustainability Management System training program through Virginia Tech's Center for Organization and Technological Advancement program and the Federal Transit Administration. At that time, 38 transit agencies across the United States had been selected for the program. Kitsap Transit now stands as one of just 15 transit agencies in the country that have been awarded certification.

"This certification speaks to the environmental commitment made each day at every level of Kitsap Transit, from the Transit Board to the individual employee," said Executive Director John Clauson. "We will continue to strive for excellence as stewards of the environment by implementing innovative transportation services and exploring alternative fuel options while maintaining the best possible practices of recycling and reducing waste."

As part of the certification process Kitsap Transit developed an environmental policy, identified the environmental aspects that have a 'significant' impact on the environment and set objectives to manage those aspects. Kitsap Transit's targeted objectives were CO2 reduction, spill prevention, electricity use reduction, stormwater pollution prevention and solid waste recycling. To date, the agency has realized savings of nearly \$50,000 implementing pieces of the environmental plan. Projects have included reducing vehicle idle times, expanding recycling efforts and upgrading to LED lighting in transit offices, parking areas and shops.

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