

## RESOLUTION NO. 19-19

A RESOLUTION OF THE KITSAP TRANSIT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONFIRMING THE RECENT ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN RESPONSE TO THE PARTIAL FEDERAL SHUTDOWN AND GRANTING AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENACT WAIVERS TO PARTICULAR GROUPS/PERSONS FOR FUTURE INSTANCES OF FINANCIAL CRISES

**WHEREAS**, on December 22, 2018, the Federal Government initiated a partial shutdown, affecting the following departments: Agriculture, Commerce, Interior, Transportation, State, Justice, Homeland Security, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development; and

**WHEREAS**, some employees in these departments are at a pay grade for which they are least able to afford going weeks without a paycheck, yet they are considered “essential employees” and, therefore, must report to work without pay; and

**WHEREAS**, after being contacted by a representative from the US Coast Guard, asking for a temporary suspension of vanpool payments until the shutdown has ended, it became apparent there are other departments who would be in the same circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, affected employees in other affected departments will receive back wages, but it is uncertain as to whether they would receive reimbursement for Transportation Incentive Program payments; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 25, 2019, Kitsap Transit’s Executive Director received confirmation from the Board Chair to enact a stop-gap for affected employees; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 28, 2019, Kitsap Transit allowed Federal employees of affected agencies free access to Kitsap Transit’s services (buses, vanpool, and local and cross-sound ferries) to get into, out of, and around Kitsap County, simply by presenting their government identification and indicating they work for an affected employer; and

**WHEREAS**, it is possible this “waiver” of fares will continue beyond the end of the

shutdown in order to allow time for logistics and funding to become regular; and

**WHEREAS**, the financial impact of this waiver has not been determined; however, the public perception of good will and support, in addition to maintaining (or possibly increasing) ridership on Kitsap Transit's services is a benefit; and


**WHEREAS**, staff recommend the Executive Director receive authority by the Board of Commissioners to make such decisions and concessions when deemed necessary and after consultation with the Board Chair for the benefit of Kitsap County residents;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners that the Executive Director has the authority to implement fare waivers to certain individuals/groups affected by financial crises on a case-by-case basis after consultation with Board Chair.

**ADOPTED** by the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kol Medina, Chairperson

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jill A. Boltz, MMC  
Clerk of the Board