



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK STUDY MEETING AGENDA

Date: November 19, 2024

Time: 8:30AM – 10:00AM

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. AGENDA REVIEW

3. CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

4. FULL DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

- a. Resolution No. 24-71, Approval Free Fares for Sunday Service Extension 1
- b. Presentation –
 - Update for 2025 Budget
- c. Report from Kitsap Transit Lobbyist 4
- d. Discussion – 2025 Kitsap Transit Legislative Agenda
- e. Discussion – Representation for Regional Fare Forum
- f. Discussion – Acquisition of Gillig Fuel Cell Buses
- g. Discussion – 2025 Goals

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ITEMS

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS 7

Please state your name for the record. You will have 3 minutes to address the Board.

7. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Transit Board members' comments

8. ADJOURN

Agendas and Board Packets are available online at www.kitsaptransit.com and available in large-print format upon request. If you will need accessibility accommodations for this public meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (360) 478-6230 or via email at JacquelynB@kitsaptransit.com by noon on the Wednesday before the meeting.



Board of Commissioners Agenda Summary

Meeting Date: 11/19/2024

AGENDA ITEM: Resolution No. 24-71, Free Fares for Sunday Service Extension

SUBMITTED BY: John Clauson

TITLE: Executive Director

DEPARTMENT: Executive

EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS: Resolution No. 24-71

BUDGETARY IMPACT *(if applicable)*

BUDGETED AMOUNT:

EXPENDITURE REQUIRED: \$ 75,000.00

FUNDING SOURCE:

REVIEWED BY: Executive Director

REVIEWED DATE: 11/13/2024

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Kitsap Transit has been reinstating Sunday service in stages throughout the county, starting with Bremerton in 2023. Phase 2 (Port Orchard, Silverdale, and Poulsbo) was paused from March, 2024 to June, 2024, to give the agency time to evaluate the potential financial impact of an initiative developed for the November ballot. Due to driver shortages, product development, and challenges with vehicle availability, full implementation in 2024 was delayed, causing the final phase for Bainbridge Island to be pushed to 2025.

Kitsap Transit's Fare Policy allows for free fares on new service for up to thirty (30) days. Resolution 23-52 gave staff permission to offer free fares on Sundays from the start of the phasing in September, 2023 and continuing through December, 2024. With the extension of the final phase (Bainbridge Island) into 2025, staff feels it's appropriate to continue with past practice and offer free fares on all Sunday services for 2025.

The impact of Sunday fare free service from January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025, is estimated to be seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000).

RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:

MOTION: Move to adopt Resolution No. 24-71, authorizing staff to offer Free Fares for Sunday services county-wide from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-71

A RESOLUTION OF KITSAP TRANSIT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZING STAFF TO OFFER FREE FARES FOR SUNDAY SERVICES FROM JANUARY 1, 2025, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025

WHEREAS, in September, 2023, Kitsap Transit began the phased reinstatement of Sunday service after a lengthy absence since 2009; and

WHEREAS, Phase 2, involving Port Orchard, Silverdale, and Poulsbo, was paused from March to June of 2024 to give the agency time to evaluate the potential financial impact of Initiative 2117, proposed for the November ballot; and

WHEREAS, after the resumption of Phase 2 in June, driver shortages, product development issues, and challenges with vehicle availability caused a delay in implementation of Phase 3, Bainbridge Island, pushing it to 2025; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution 23-52, the Board of Commissioners of Kitsap Transit authorized staff to offer free fares on Sundays from the start of the phasing in September 2023 through December 2024; and

WHEREAS, with the extension of the final phase involving Bainbridge Island into 2025, staff feels it's appropriate to continue with the current plan and extend the provision of free fares on Sunday services county-wide through the end of 2025.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners hereby authorize staff to offer free fares for Sunday services county-wide from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

ADOPTED by the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on the 19th day of November, 2024.

Greg Wheeler, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Jackie Bidon, Clerk of the Board

DRAFT



To: Kitsap Transit
From: Doty & Associates, Inc. (prepared by J. Dylan Doty)
Date: November 13, 2024
Re: November 2024 Study Session – Election Report

Election Recap

The dust is finally settling on the 2024 General Election. Democrats have held a 29-20 seat majority in the Senate and a 58-40 seat majority in the State House. While several races remain very tight and could lead to recount efforts, the statewide races, ballot measures, and even the legislative majorities are almost all set.

While the nation saw a tilt to the political right, Washington State bucked the trend and became the only state to see a further lean to the political left. All statewide offices will be retained by Democrats, and they will expand their majorities in the House, and potentially in the Senate as well. Although they will fall short of a 2/3 supermajority needed to change the State Constitution, Democrats are set to earn 60% supermajorities in both chambers. This is important for bond votes, which require 60%, meaning Democrats will be able to pass the Capital Budget without any Republican support, if they vote together as a bloc.

Statewide Races

Governor

With the retirement of Governor Jay Inslee (D), who has served in that capacity since 2013, Attorney General Bob Ferguson (D) handily won to become Washington's next governor. He is leading with just over 55% compared with 44% for former Congressman and King County Sheriff Dave Reichert (R). A Republican has not been in the Governor's Mansion since John Spellman (1981-1985).

Lieutenant Governor

Incumbent Lieutenant Governor Denny Heck (D) is winning handily with roughly 56% of the vote over Dan Matthews (R) at just shy of 44%.

Attorney General

Attorney General Bob Ferguson's long-awaited run for Governor opened this important position as the state's top lawyer, a seat he held for three terms. Former U.S. Attorney Nick Brown (D) is set to succeed Ferguson. Brown has secured roughly 55% compared with 44% for Second Amendment advocate Pete Serrano (R).

Insurance Commissioner

Embattled Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler (D) announced his retirement earlier this year and consumer advocate and State Senator Patty Kuderer (D-48) quickly emerged as the



frontrunner in the race to succeed him. Kuderer has earned over 56% compared, compared with 43% for State Senator Phil Fortunato (R). Fortunato will return to the Legislature, and King County will appoint a successor to fill Kuderer's Senate seat.

Public Lands Commissioner

King County Councilmember and environmental advocate Dave Upthegrove (D) is in line to succeed Hilary Franz (D) in the race for Public Lands Commissioner. Upthegrove checks in with just under 53% of the vote. Former Congresswoman from Southwest Washington Jamie Herrera Beutler (R) came closer than any other Republican in a statewide race, but is still fell short with nearly 47%.

Superintendent of Public Instruction

Incumbent Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal is maintaining a lead over school board member David Olson with just shy of 53% compared to 46%.

State Auditor

Incumbent State Auditor Pat McCarthy (D) will retain her seat over investor and businessman Matt Hawkins (R), securing just over 58% compared to just shy of 42% for Hawkins.

Treasurer

Incumbent State Treasurer Mike Pellicciotti (D) is winning handily with over 57% of the vote over CPA Sharon Hanek (R) who is earning roughly 42%.

Secretary of State

Incumbent Secretary of State Steve Hobbs (D) will hold his seat easily over Dale Whitaker (R) with over 59% to just over 40% of the vote, respectively.

Initiatives

Initiative No. 2066 (concerning natural gas and electrification) will be the only of the four initiatives to pass, earning over 51% in favor, compared with just over 48% against. This measure repeals a law passed in the 2024 legislative session that established a regulatory framework for Puget Sound Energy to move away from providing natural gas services. A legal challenge to the initiative is likely from opponents who argue it violates the single-subject requirement.

Initiative No. 2117 (repealing carbon tax credit trading) is failing with roughly 62% voting No compared to just shy of 38% supporting. This means the Climate Commitment Act will remain in place.

Initiative No. 2109 (repealing capital gains taxes) is similarly failing with over 64% voting no compared to just shy of 36% supporting. The capital gains tax will remain in place.



Initiative No. 2124 (repealing long-term care taxes) is failing 55% to 44.5%. The controversial long-term care tax will remain in place.

6th Congressional District

State Senator Emily Randall (D-26) will be heading to the other Washington, having defeated fellow State Senator Drew MacEwen (R-35) in the race to succeed outgoing Congressman Derek Kilmer (D). Randall has secured over 56% of the vote compared to 43% for MacEwen, who will now return to the Legislature. An appointment will be made to fill Randall's Senate seat for the 2025 Legislature. Whoever is appointed to the seat would serve until a special election in fall 2025. The position will be up for election again in 2026, its normal cycle.

Legislative Races

Heading into the election, Democrats have enjoyed a 29-20 seat majority in the State Senate and a 58-40 seat majority in the State House. Current counts would have the Democrats picking up one seat in the House (26th LD – Gig Harbor/Bremerton), as well as one seat in the Senate (18th LD – Clark County). At the time of this writing, several other races remain too close to call, but current counts have the incumbent party holding those seats. At least one may head to recount, while late tallies are making a few other seats interesting.

Election results are certified by each county on November 26, 2024. The Secretary of State certifies final results by December 5, 2024.

Kitsap Transit Legislative Districts

In the 26th LD (Bremerton/Port Orchard/Gig Harbor), the retirement of one-term Representative Spencer Hutchins (R) created an open seat in what has become one of the few remaining swing districts in Washington State. Attorney Adison Richards (D) has flipped the seat, defeating former Representative Jesse Young (R) in a tight race. Richards has over 51% of the vote compared to just over 48% for Young.

In the other 26th LD House seat, incumbent Representative Michelle Caldier (R) defeated Tiffany Mitchell (D). Caldier is earning nearly 55% compared to nearly 45% for Mitchell, keeping the 26th among the few remaining districts with mixed representation in the Legislature.

In the 23rd LD (North Kitsap), the incumbents all prevailed handily. Senator Drew Hansen (D) defeated Lance Byrd (R) by a margin of 64% to 35%. On the House side, Tarra Simmons (D) defeated Kurt Robinson (R) with nearly 63% compared to just shy of 37%, while Greg Nance (D) is topping the others with nearly 66% compared to 34% for Jamie Miles (R).

In the 35th LD (Mason County/parts of Kitsap), incumbent Representative Dan Griffey (R) was unopposed and will return to Olympia. Seatmate and fellow incumbent Travis Couture (R) will also return to Olympia, earning over 58% compared with 41% for James DeHart (D).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

November 19, 2024

**Presented at the Kitsap Transit Board of
Commissioners Meeting**

Jackie Bidon

From: Cari Tillery
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 3:14 PM
To: Jackie Bidon
Subject: Public Comment and Date Board Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

First off, THIS IS NOT FROM ME!! I am passing along a suggestion that a rider wanted to submit. He was upset that his reduced fare card doesn't get him reduced fare on ACCESS I explained that it works on fixed route but not us. He said that he would like to suggest that seniors get free fare just like the youth do. He also would like a response if that is not possible explaining exactly why not. His name is Bob Wheeler 360-509-2998. I told him that I would pass along the information. Thank you for your time.

Cari Tillery

[Redacted signature block]

Messages to and from this e-mail address may be available to the public under Washington's Public Records Act.