



Ferry Maintenance Facility Project

Learn why Kitsap Transit needs a ferry maintenance facility and the process of identifying a suitable location.

January 23, 2024

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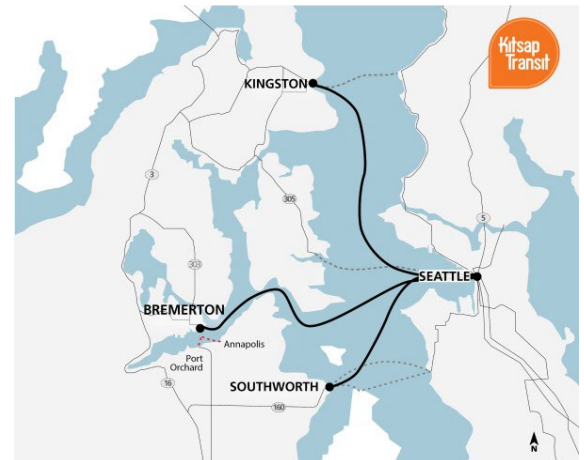
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Kitsap Ferries: A Growing Regional Service

Since launching Fast Ferry service in 2017, Kitsap Transit's ferry program has quickly grown to include 10 vessels, now Washington's second largest ferry fleet.

Kitsap ferries play an important role in the regional transportation system. In the first half of 2023, Kitsap ferries carried over 600,000 riders to their destinations.



Its high-speed ferries link Bremerton, Kingston, and Southworth with downtown Seattle. Local foot ferries shuttle Puget Sound Naval Shipyard employees and connect South Kitsap residents to Seattle through the Bremerton Fast Ferry service.

The Kitsap Ferries Fleet

The current Kitsap Transit fleet includes 10 vessels with unique moorage, maintenance, and repair needs—ranging from a 100-year-old wooden ferry to new vessels with state-of-the-art technology.



Rich Passage 1

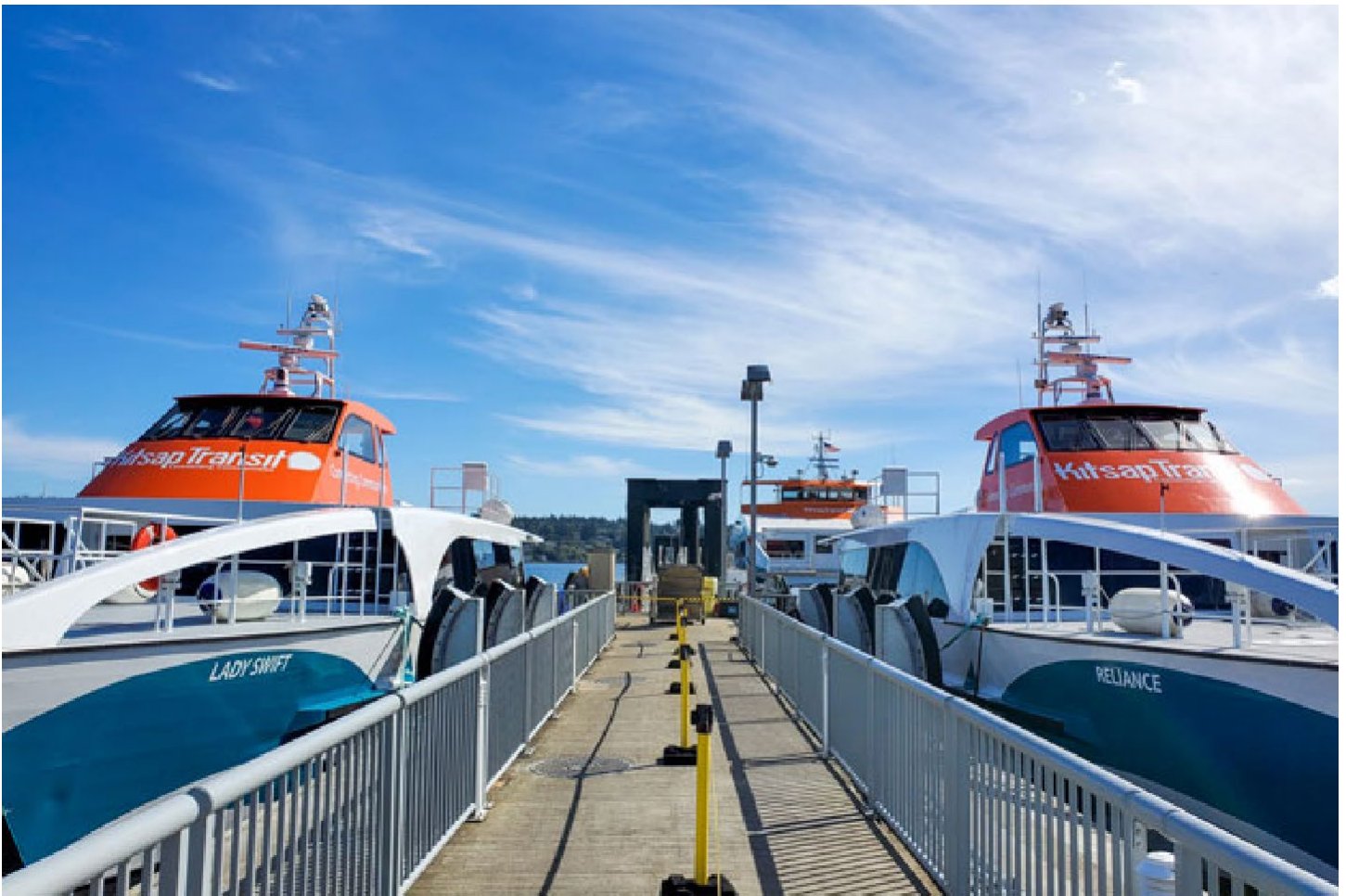
Ultra-low-wake fast ferry featuring a patented hydrofoil-assisted hull design

Year Built: 2010

Capacity: 118 passengers, 12 bicycles

Length: 72'

Engines: 4



Reliance & Lady Swift

Ultra-low-wake fast ferries featuring a patented hydrofoil-assisted hull design

Year Built: 2019

Capacity: 118 passengers, 12 bicycles

Length: 75'

Engines: 4



Finest

Aluminum-hulled catamaran fast ferry

Year Built/Refurbished: 1996/2018

Capacity: 349 passengers, 10 bicycles

Length: 114'

Engines: 2



Enetai and Commander

Bow- and side-loading fast ferries designed to be used in the WSF Southworth dock

Year Built: 2020/2021

Capacity: 250 passengers, 26 bicycles

Length: 128'

Engines: 2



Solano

Bow- and side-loading fast ferry

Year Built: 2004

Capacity: 350 passengers

Length: 126'

Engines: 2



Waterman

The first hybrid-electric ferry to operate in the Puget Sound

Year Built: 2019

Capacity: 150 passengers, 5 bicycles

Length: 70'

Engines: 2



Carlisle II

A century-old wood ferry—the oldest continuously operated ferry in the Puget Sound

Year Built/Refurbished: 1917/2021

Capacity: 140 passengers, 5 bicycles

Length: 60'

Engines: 1



Admiral Pete

Foot ferry with a long history serving the Puget Sound

Year Built/Refurbished: 1994/2012

Capacity: 120 passengers, 5 bicycles

Length: 65'

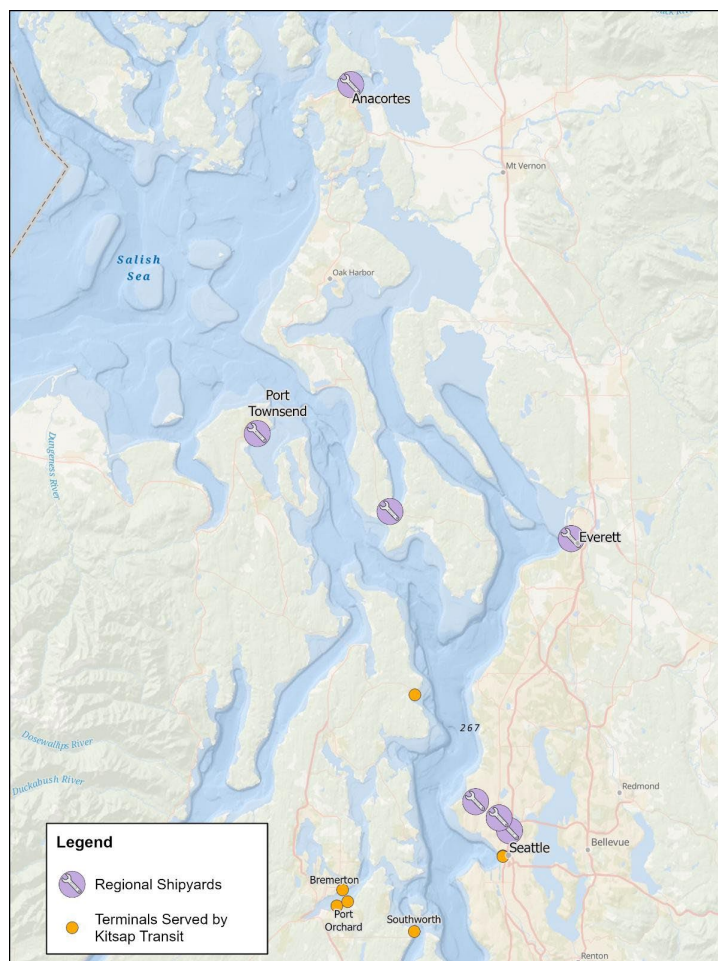
Engines: 2

RIDER ALERT RIDER ALERT RIDER ALERT RIDER ALERT

The Challenge of Vessel Maintenance

Without a dedicated maintenance facility, Kitsap Transit faces several challenges:

- Increased costs and time out of service to transport vessels and staff to area shipyards
- Inefficiencies from use of multiple storage locations for vessel equipment and inventory
- High cost of dive contract for underwater inspections
- Reliance on local shipyards' with limited availability



Vessels must be transported to one of these regional shipyards, and when Kitsap Transit is completing the repairs, maintenance staff must travel to and from the shipyard each day.

Planning for a Future Maintenance Facility

Facility Needs and Capabilities

In-water Facility Components



- » Boat lift to remove vessels from water for inspections, maintenance, & repairs
- » Slips to provide overnight vessel moorage
- » Charging for future electric vessels

Shoreline Facility Components



- » Maintenance shop customized to & for ferry fleet
- » Centralized storage for vessel inventory & equipment
- » Office & working space for maintenance staff

Upland Facility Components



- » Parking Spaces
- » Delivery Access

Future Ferry Maintenance Program

Kitsap Transit staff currently completes routine vessel maintenance at terminals. A dedicated Ferry Maintenance Facility would expand Kitsap Transit's capabilities to include intermediate maintenance that currently must be completed at a shipyard.

Routine



Regular vessel upkeep and minor repairs which can be completed at the dock

Routine maintenance would continue to be completed by Kitsap Transit.

Intermediate



Planned and/or unplanned maintenance and repairs which require the vessel to be taken out of service

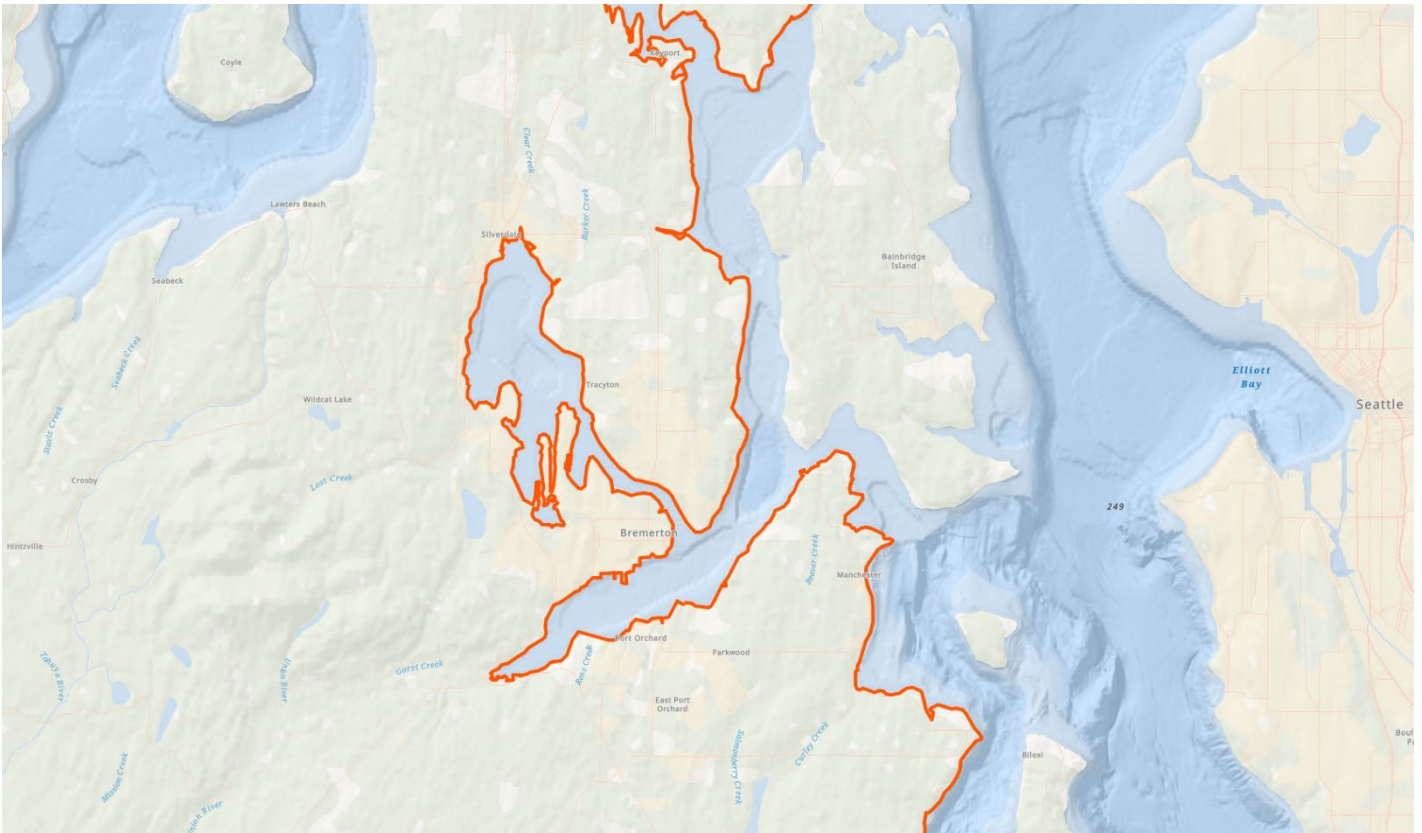
Intermediate maintenance is currently conducted by regional shipyards. With its own maintenance facility, Kitsap Transit would complete this type of work.

Extensive



Major repairs or maintenance projects requiring specialized equipment or expertise

Extensive maintenance would continue to be completed at regional shipyards.

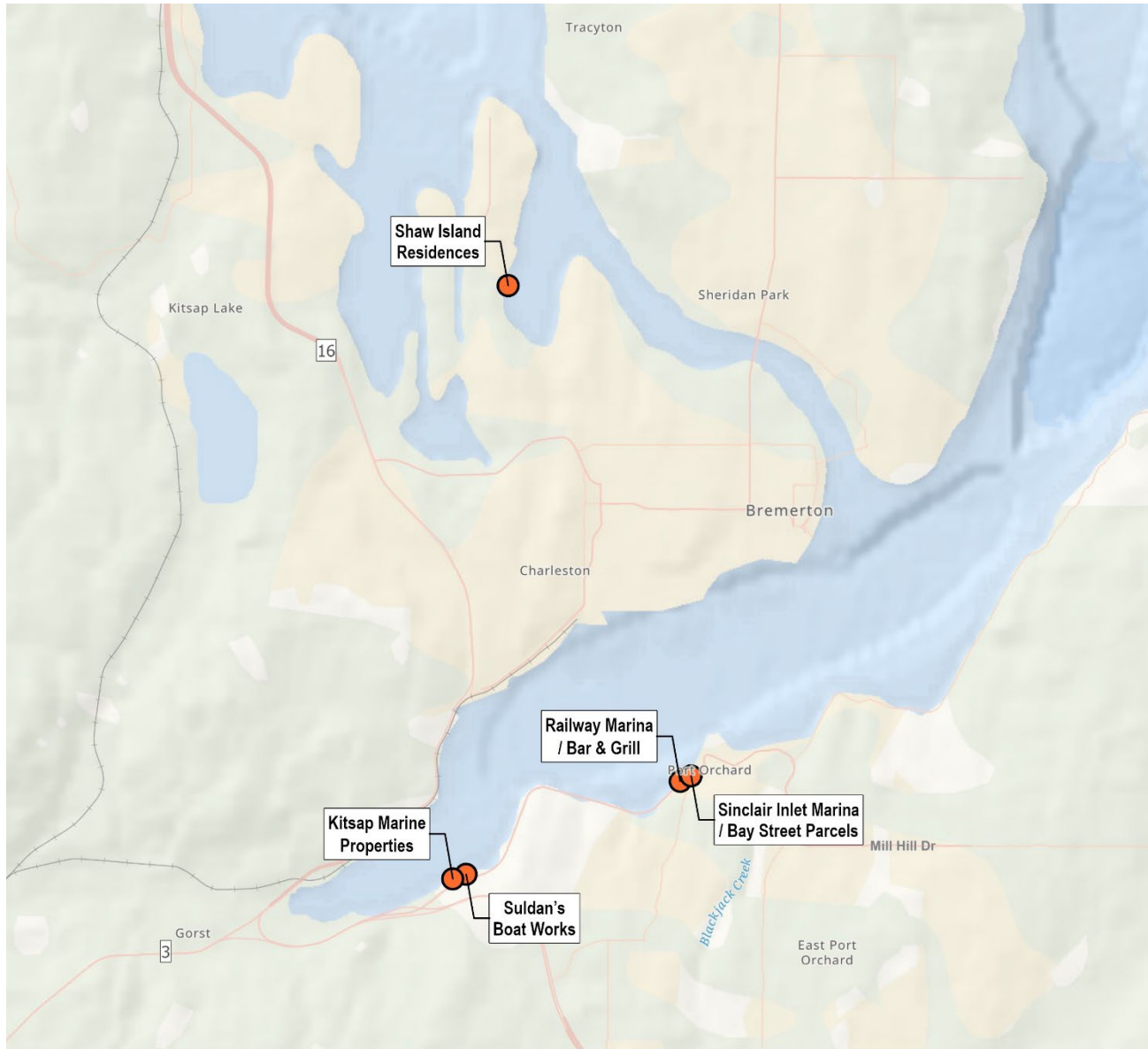


Initial Site Screening

Kitsap Transit has completed a comprehensive screening process to find suitable locations for a ferry maintenance facility.

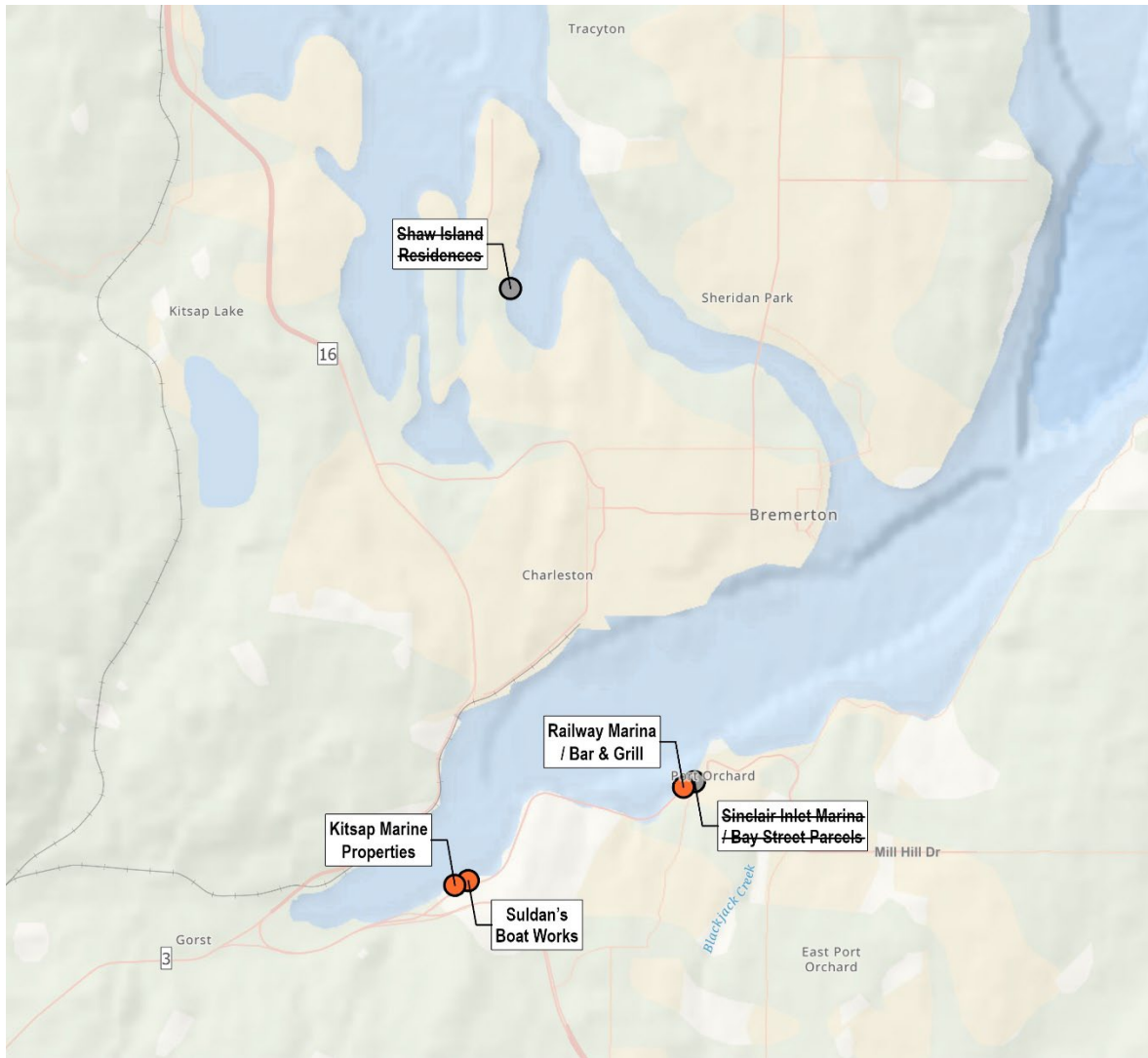
The initial screening criteria included the following:

- Must be on the east side of the Kitsap Peninsula to reduce travel time
- Must have zoning compatibility and established shoreline use or context
- Should be accessible by more than one roadway
- Must be large enough to accommodate a ferry maintenance facility



The screening process identified five potential alternatives that met necessary criteria:

- Kitsap Marine properties
- Suldán's Boat Works
- Port Orchard Railway Marina and the Bar & Grill combined parcels
- Sinclair Inlet Marina and the Bay Street combined parcels
- Shaw Island Residences



Preliminary Site Evaluation

The sites were scored relative to each other with a ranking system of:

- **Acceptable**
- **Better**
- **Best**

Three sites were recommended for further analysis:

- Kitsap Marina properties
 - Kitsap Marina and Suldán's Boat Works combined properties
 - Port Orchard Railway Marina and Bar & Grill combined properties
-



Kitsap Marine Properties

Owner: Private (single owner)

Site Uses: Private boatyard and marina

Site Space:

- Sufficient uplands space for vessel laydown area
- Approximately 52,000 square feet of usable shore space, with room to accommodate vessels ashore but with limited room to place maintenance facilities.

Site Access:

- Water depths are sufficient to support safe navigation. There is no commercial or recreational vessel traffic in close proximity.
- Sufficient depths to reasonably accommodate in-water components of a maintenance facility.
- Located off state-owned and maintained Hwy 166 (SW Bay St) in the city of Port Orchard, the site has good roadway access to major thoroughfares.



Kitsap Marine Properties

Built Environment:

- Major impact to active private boatyard and marina that serves the local population and maritime community.
- Facility would be consistent with existing viewshed.

Natural Environment:

- There is no mapped eel grass and no known eagle's nests at this site but smelt spawning does occur in this area of Sinclair Inlet. A culvert on site identified as a fish passage barrier could be improved and a critical habitat created after correction.



Kitsap Marine Properties and Suldán's Boat Works Combined Properties

Owner: Private (two owners)

Site Uses: Private boatyard and marina

Site Space:

- Approximately 69,000 square feet of usable shoreline with room to comfortably accommodate both vessels ashore and maintenance facilities.

Site Access:

- Water depths are sufficient to support safe navigation. There is no commercial or recreational vessel traffic in close proximity.
- Sufficient depths to reasonably accommodate in-water components of a maintenance facility.
- Located off state-owned and maintained Hwy 166 (SW Bay St) in the city of Port Orchard, the site has good roadway access to major thoroughfares.



Kitsap Marine Properties and Suldán's Boat Works Combined Properties

Built Environment:

- Major impact to active private boatyard and marina that serves the local population and maritime community.
- Facility would be consistent with existing viewshed.

Natural Environment:

- There is no mapped eel grass and no known eagle's nests at this site but smelt spawning does occur in this area of Sinclair Inlet. A culvert on site identified as a fish passage barrier could be improved and a critical habitat created after correction.



Port Orchard Railway Marina and Bar & Grill Combined Properties

Owner: Private (two owners)

Site Uses: Private boatyard and marina

Site Space:

- Sufficient uplands space for vessel laydown area.
- Approximately 59,000 square feet of usable shore space, with room to accommodate vessels ashore but with limited room to place maintenance facilities.

Site Access:

- No navigational restrictions, with no commercial vessel traffic but moderate recreational vessel usage in close proximity.
- Sufficient waterfront and water depths to support the in-water components of a maintenance facility.
- Located off state-owned and maintained Hwy 166 (SW Bay St) in the city of Port Orchard, the site has good roadway access to major thoroughfares, although slightly more distant than other sites.



Port Orchard Railway Marina and Bar & Grill Combined Properties

Built Environment:

- Acquisition of this site would likely eliminate the Port Orchard Railway Marina that provides recreational vessel moorage. This site would also displace an existing approved proposal for development on the Bar and Grill property.
- Facility would be consistent with existing viewshed.

Natural Environment:

- There is no mapped eel grass and no known eagle's nests at this site but smelt spawning does occur in this area of Sinclair Inlet. There is a fish bearing stream directly adjacent to this site.

What's Next

Next on the horizon is a detailed design and environmental evaluation of the three site alternatives:

- Kitsap Marina properties
- Kitsap Marina and Suldan's Boat Works combined properties
- Port Orchard Railway Marina and Bar & Grill combined properties

This phase will involve developing conceptual layouts for the facility at each site, developing detailed cost estimates and completing an environmental review. This supports the selection of a site that is operationally, financially, and environmentally feasible.

Evaluation will be informed by feedback from local and regional agencies and interested organizations, Kitsap Transit users, members of the public, and Tribes. Evaluation findings and identification of a proposed preferred alternative is anticipated in early 2024.

Keep Up To Date!

Stay in the Loop

Follow the [project website](#) for updates and we'll keep you informed every step of the way.

We Want Your Feedback!

Survey submissions are now closed, thank you for your participation and feedback as we move forward in this process.

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