

KITSAP TRANSIT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES OF September 1, 2026

Board of Commissioners Present:

Driskell, Robert, Teamsters Local No. 589, *non-voting member - Absent*
Moriwaki, Clarence, Mayor, City of Bainbridge Island, **Vice Chair**
Putansuu, Robert, Mayor, City of Port Orchard
Rebelowski, Jane, Councilmember, City of Bremerton
Rolfes, Christine, Kitsap County Commissioner
Root, Oran, Kitsap County Commissioner
Rosapepe, Jay, Councilmember, City of Port Orchard
Stern, Ed, Mayor, City of Poulsbo
Walters, Katie, Kitsap County Commissioner, **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; Mary Pauly, Human Resources Director; Charlotte Sampson, Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk of the Board; Paul Shinnars, Finance Director; Nick Zylstra, Marine Services 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/Y5A6TcPrgc6Wdg3EdxRqosISFVUBdjVRe_3oknvWFfhw_wremASVNR7mA1wGUAZy.silAmaekYulFcmZU **Passcode: rF!SZ7Lu**

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Walters called the meeting of the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners to order at 10:30 AM.

2. AGENDA REVIEW

Upon review by the Board, the agenda remained unchanged.

3. CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

0:00:29, Chairperson Walters reminded the Board of the reduced weekday sailings starting September 1, 2026. She announced the upcoming National Week Without Driving, taking place October 1–8, and encouraged Board members to participate by using transit services during the

event. Chairperson Walters, along with several members, also shared their experiences from last year's transit challenge.

4. COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

0:03:59, Executive Director Clauson briefed the Board on the August 27 Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting. He reported that CAC members discussed the new passenger ferry ramp, the request for extended hours for Route 223, and commended staff for effective communication regarding recent ferry service reductions. The committee passed a resolution concerning non-elected positions on the Transit Board and discussed potential replacements for the departing Kitsap Mental Health representative, considering organizations such as the Salvation Army, Agape, West Sound, and tribal representation. Members also viewed a presentation on the State Roadeo competition and discussed the Board Retreat, including the topics covered and the conversations held during the event.

5. CONSENT / ACTION ITEM:

- a. Warrants for June 2026
 - Warrant numbers transit fund 177259 to 177566 of \$1,811,216
 - Warrant numbers ferry fund 610448 to 610552 of \$2,918,301
 - Payroll account disbursements of \$3,991,506
 - ACH clearing account payments of \$147,152
 - Travel account disbursements of \$9,040
 - Purchasing card disbursements of \$67,318
- b. Warrants for July 2026
 - Warrant numbers transit fund 177567 to 177922 of \$3,282,790
 - Warrant numbers ferry fund 610553 to 610636 of \$2,353,617
 - Payroll account disbursements of \$3,994,360
 - ACH clearing account payments of \$115,980
 - Travel account disbursements of \$14,934
 - Purchasing card disbursements of \$73,403
- c. Minutes of July 7, 2026
- d. Minutes of July 21, 2026
- e. Resolution No. 26-45, Support National Week Without Driving 2026
- f. Resolution No. 26-46, Approve Reappointment of Community Advisory Committee Members
- g. Resolution No. 26-47, Approve Additional 3rd Quarter Procurements

0:07:01, **Mayor Moriwaki moved and Mayor Putaansuu seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**

Discussion:

None.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. FULL DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

- a. Resolution No. 26-48, Award KT 26-043 for Construction Management Services for Inductive Charger Installation

0:07:33, Executive Director Clauson reported that the resolution would award Contract KT 26-043 for construction management services to install inductive chargers at multiple transit centers, including Charleston, Wheaton Way, Poulsbo, and Bainbridge Island. The total project cost is one million six hundred fifty-three thousand eight hundred nineteen dollars (\$1,653,819). He noted that the project is intended to support enroute charging for electric buses during trunk service, with buses stopping approximately every 30 minutes to replenish energy.

0:09:09, **Mayor Moriwaki moved and Mayor Stern seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-48, authorizing staff to award Contract KT 26-043 to Accenture LLC. for Construction Management Services for the Inductive Charging Installation Project in the amount of one million six hundred fifty-three thousand eight hundred nineteen dollars (\$1,653,819).**

Discussion:

0:09:46, The Board discussed the performance of the existing chargers at the Silverdale Transit Center, noting that initial technical issues with software and communication have been largely resolved through collaboration among Maintenance Director Dennis Griffey, his staff, Gillig, and the engine manufacturer. Board members emphasized the importance of this technology and its positive impact on the communities served.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. Resolution No. 26-49, Award KT 26-050 for Lady Swift Inspection

0:26:01, Executive Director Clauson reported that the resolution would award Contract KT 26-050 to Pacific Fisherman Shipyard and Electric for the inspection of the *Lady Swift* in the amount of three hundred sixty-one thousand one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$361,175). He noted that the inspection, required every two years under Coast Guard regulations, is expected to take approximately three weeks. Executive Director Clauson clarified that the cost covers hauling the vessel out of the water for inspection and does not include any repairs that may be identified during the inspection.

0:27:17, **Councilmember Rosapepe moved and Commissioner Root seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-49, authorizing staff to award KT 26-050 Lady Swift, two-year (2-year) USCG Dry Dock inspection to Pacific Fisherman Shipyard and Electrical in the amount of three hundred sixty-one thousand one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$361,175).**

Discussion:

0:27:59, Board discussion included the anticipated time the vessel would be out of service, clarification on who determines the two-year inspection interval, whether that interval is necessary, and the need for Kitsap Transit to establish its own marine maintenance facility.

0:28:21, Executive Director Clauson stated that the inspection is expected to take approximately three weeks, noting that the two-year interval is set by United States Coast Guard regulations and confirming that these standards apply nationwide.

Motion passed unanimously.

c. Discussion, 2027 Goals Review

0:30:11, Executive Director Clauson reviewed the Board's 2027 Goal items compiled from the Board Retreat. He noted that Kitsap Transit is currently developing its budget and asked Board members to submit any additional items they would like considered for the 2027 Goals, particularly those that may have budget impacts, as soon as possible.

No additional items were presented by Board members.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ITEMS

0:31:15, Executive Director Clauson reported on the 50th anniversary of the Washington State Annual Transit Conference and State Roadeo competition held in Tacoma, Washington. He noted that Kitsap Transit's Maintenance team placed second and Operator Val Quill placed third, with both qualifying to advance to the national competition.

0:38:18, Executive Director Clauson informed the Board that the October 6, 2026, meeting will need to be cancelled due to the APTA Expo and the attendance of five Board members.

0:38:53, Executive Director Clauson updated the Board on the new student pass program launching with Olympic College, which will provide free transit access to all registered students across the three campuses.

0:41:19, Executive Director Clauson reported that the Kitsap Transit Board Composition Review Committee will meet on Friday, September 4, 2026, at 1:00 PM to discuss the future composition of the Board.

8. STAFF RECOGNITION / PROGRESS REPORTS

a. Fall Bid Title VI Memo Route 215

0:41:45, Chairperson Walters noted that agenda item 8.a is the Fall Bid Title VI memo for Route 215. She explained that this route expands service to Olympic College, supporting the new program that allows students to ride fare-free. Route 215 operates out of East Bremerton and serves the park-and-ride facilities in that area. The hours of operation will be extended to align with the start and end of the academic day.

b. Recognizing Drivers of the Month for June and July 2026 (10:45am)

0:13:17, Jeff Vinecourt, ACCESS Manager recognized the ACCESS Driver of the Month for June 2026, Mark Ramirez.

0:15:00, Jeff Vinecourt, ACCESS Manager recognized the ACCESS Driver of the Month for July 2026, Mark Darbous.

0:16:25, Thomas Gilbert, Routed Manager, recognized the Routed Driver of the Month for June 2026, Tyson Stewart.

0:20:00, Thomas Gilbert, Routed Manager, recognized the Routed Driver of the Month for July 2026, Deorbrah Robé.

0:21:12, Cyndi Griffey, Worker/Driver Manager, recognized the Worker/Driver of the Month for June 2026, Todd Lachelt.

0:23:37, Cyndi Griffey, Worker/Driver Manager, recognized the Worker/Driver of the Month for July 2026, Daniel Trout.

- c. September 2026 Report from KT Lobbyist
- d. Minutes of June 25, 2026, Community Advisory Committee Meeting
- e. Draft Financial Reports through July 2026
- f. Capital Work in Progress July 2026
- g. Fuel Costs Report through the end of August 2026
- h. 2nd Quarter 2026 Goals Update
- i. 2nd Quarter 2026 System Performance Report

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

0:43:17, Pete Brady of Bainbridge Island commented that Kitsap Transit's spending is less efficient on On-Demand response and Worker/Driver services compared to its routed services.

10. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

0:46:41, Mayor Wheeler reported that he attended a Navy briefing regarding the construction project in Kitsap County and its anticipated traffic impacts. He emphasized that public transit is

the way forward and urged the Board to remember the importance of worker mobility and productivity. He noted that, as the Kitsap Transit Board, members have the opportunity to provide as many transportation options as possible to support the movement of people throughout Kitsap County.

11. ADJOURN: At 11:18 AM, Chairperson Walters adjourned the regular meeting.

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Kitsap Transit at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 20th day of October, 2026.

Attest:

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Jackie Bidon

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Jackie Bidon, Clerk of the Board

Signed by:

Katherine T. Walters

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Katherine T. Walters, Chairperson