



## PRESS RELEASE

### Sunday bus service to be phased in, Saturday fast-ferry service returns

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BREMERTON, Wash. – Kitsap Transit plans to launch Sunday service on the Port Orchard/Bremerton foot-ferry route on July 18, the first step in a phased return of Sunday service for Routed buses and the local foot ferry.

On Sundays, the Port Orchard/Bremerton Foot Ferry will start service at 9:00 a.m. from Port Orchard, with departures every half-hour, and end at 5:00 p.m.

Earlier this month the Kitsap Transit Board endorsed a plan to bring back Sunday bus service, which was slashed as part of budget cuts during the Great Recession in 2008. Kitsap Transit will need to hire and train an estimated 50 bus operators and support staff to restart Sunday service, as well as develop plans for what the service might look like, Executive Director John Clauson said.

“We would like to make sure we tailor the Sunday bus service to when and where the demand is and avoid running buses with relatively few passengers aboard,” he said. “Starting up Sunday bus service will take time. Recruiting bus operators in this strong economy is a tough challenge for our industry.”

Also back by popular demand – Saturday fast-ferry sailings, which were suspended last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kitsap Transit plans to resume Saturday sailings for the Bremerton/Seattle and Kingston/Seattle routes beginning on July 31 and ending on September 25; after that, the fast-ferry service will continue to operate on weekdays only.

The Saturday sailing schedule for the Bremerton Fast Ferry will be the same as it was in 2019, except the ferry now docks at Argosy Cruises’ Pier 54 instead of Pier 50 in Seattle. The Kingston Fast Ferry schedule will change slightly in order to accommodate new service on the Southworth-Seattle route.

Kitsap Transit is working with Washington State Ferries and King County to develop a Saturday schedule for the Southworth/Seattle route and will issue a follow-up notice when the schedule is approved.

**About Kitsap Transit**

Kitsap Transit has been operating friendly, convenient public transit since 1983. The transit agency for Kitsap County carried more than 3.8 million riders in 2019 across a multi-modal system of routed buses, passenger ferries, paratransit shuttles, vanpools, and worker/driver buses for the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.