

May 2, 2023

KITSAP TRANSIT PORT ORCHARD TRANSIT CENTER PLANNING STUDY

PROJECT PURPOSE & NEED

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

The purpose of the Project is to improve regional mobility through an expanded transit center in the downtown Port Orchard area. Expansion of the Port Orchard Transit Center will increase bus capacity, provide increased capacity for passengers, improve rider and driver amenities, and provide safer traffic patterns. Additionally, the Project seeks to incorporate the Downtown Port Orchard Subarea Plan into its design process, supporting the sustainable growth and livability of the downtown area.

The Project aims to identify a site that will increase integration of routed bus travel with other non-motorized modes and maintain or improve rider access to ferry terminals between downtown Port Orchard and Bremerton. The Project strives to provide a link between employment, cultural, healthcare, and retail destinations. An expanded Port Orchard Transit Center will accommodate the long-term operation of KT routed service, with the goal to improve access to jobs and housing opportunities in regional growth centers while expanding mobility options for minority and low-income populations. Port Orchard and Bremerton have the highest concentrations of low-income and minority residents in the County.

NEED FOR AN EXPANDED PORT ORCHARD TRANSIT CENTER

KT buses are currently using the very limited space outside of the downtown Port Orchard library to load and unload passengers. The current site is small and lacks the amenities necessary for long-term transit system growth. The Port Orchard library site is the second busiest transfer point for KT's routed bus and ferry operations behind the downtown Bremerton Transportation Center. After seeing unprecedented growth in the area, KT is seeking better options for a transit center which could better serve multimodal transit riders, KT operators (both ferry and bus), community members, and ADA passengers. The Project would address the very limited accommodations faced by ADA riders at the current space by developing more equitable facilities.

As stated in KT's Long Range Transit Plan (LRTP), Kitsap County is expected to grow by approximately 100,000 residents and 57,000 jobs over the next thirty years. Much of this growth will be concentrated in the dense downtown areas of Port Orchard and Bremerton. Kitsap County recently surpassed 300,000 residents at the end of 2022. Given the geographical layout of Kitsap County and the limited availability of highway space, the Kitsap Peninsula is known for its difficult driving and traffic challenges. Transportation capacity constraints will only continue with the projected increase in population.

The Project aims to mitigate the effects of increased traffic on our local downtown communities, support multimodal transportation systems, and increase convenience for ridership. Picking a site that addresses KT's needs and expectations is a critical component to project success. Future development plans for the subject area outlined in the Downtown Port Orchard Subarea Plan along with KT's LRTP should help guide project decision making.

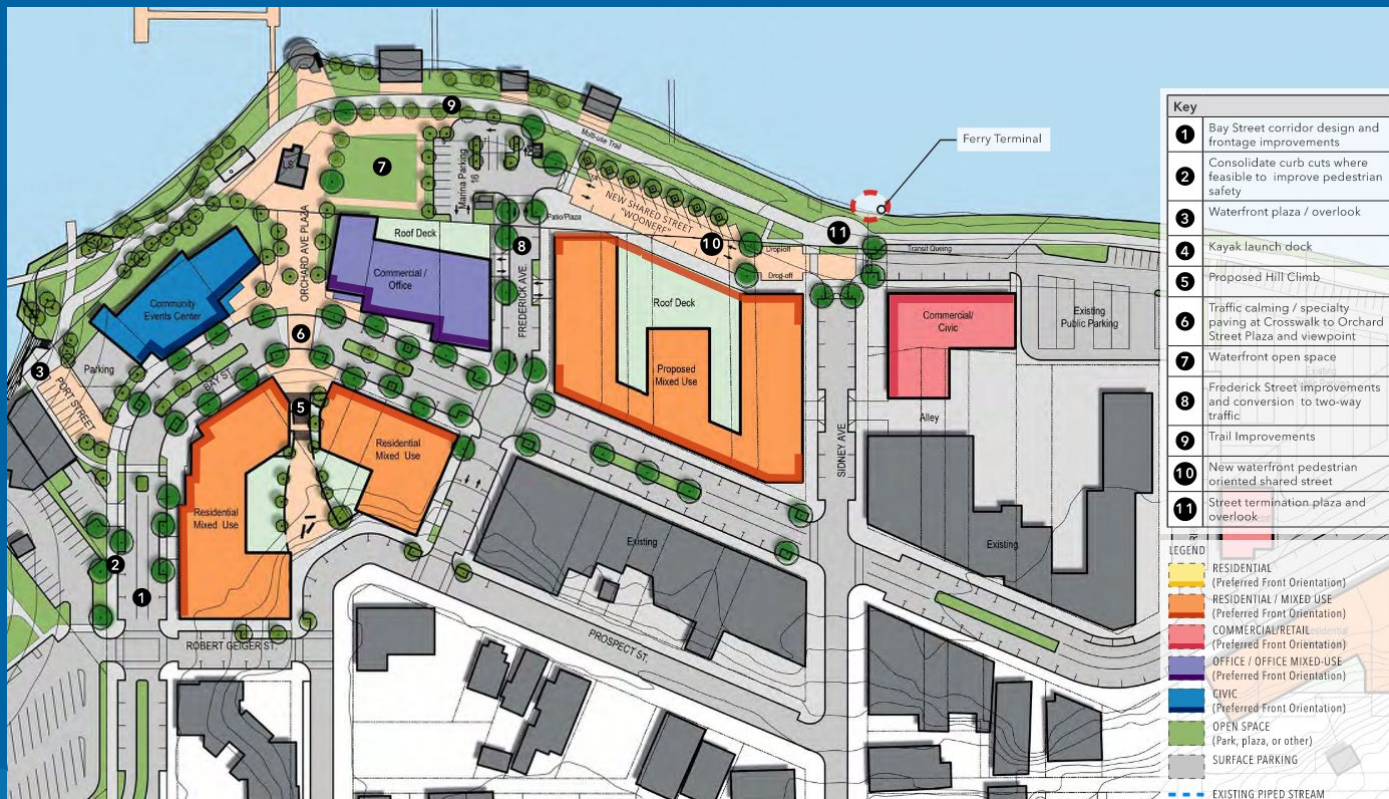
KEY CONSIDERATIONS RELATIVE TO TRANSIT CENTER SITING STUDY

- Port Orchard Transit Center located within ¼ mile of existing Port Orchard Foot Ferry Dock
- New Port Orchard Community Events Center POCEC to open at former Kitsap Bank site
- Existing Port Orchard (Kitsap Regional) Library to relocate to new POCEC and vacate existing building
- Existing Port Orchard Farmer's Market to relocate in proximity to POCEC
- Transit Center fits within context of Downtown Port Orchard Subarea Plan

DOWNTOWN PORT ORCHARD STUDY AREA



DOWNTOWN PORT ORCHARD SUBAREA PLAN



CURRENT SITE OPTIONS UNDER STUDY

kpff

Thank You!

