

RESOLUTION NO. 21-08

A RESOLUTION OF KITSAP TRANSIT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZING KITSAP TRANSIT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GORST COALITION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

WHEREAS, the Highway 3/304 Interchange and the Gorst corridor congestion are a continued source of frustration for Kitsap County residents; and

WHEREAS, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has made attempts to relieve and mitigate the congestion in recent years; and

WHEREAS, Kitsap Transit's Mission is to provide safe, reliable and efficient transportation choices that enhance the quality of life in Kitsap County; and

WHEREAS, Kitsap Transit's Worker/Driver Program transports residents to and from Naval Bases Kitsap and Bangor in an effort to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicles; and

WHEREAS, most of our Worker/Driver buses rely on the Gorst corridor for the daily transport of civilian workers supporting our shipyards and United State Military; and

WHEREAS, the Gorst corridor is a vital transportation link for Kitsap County and is the gateway to Mason, Jefferson and Clallam Counties; and

WHEREAS, the SR 3/SR16 – Gorst corridor have been designated as a "Critical Urban Freight Corridor" by the Federal Highway Administration; and

WHEREAS, losing access to the Gorst Corridor due to a natural disaster such as flooding or earthquake would be detrimental to critical emergency response and services on the Kitsap Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, finding a long-term solution to the Highway 3/304 Interchange and the Gorst corridor has become increasingly important for the quality of life, economy, safety and security of our region; and

WHEREAS, the Gorst Coalition has been formed bringing together stakeholders, in an effort to coordinate state and federal resources in support of the recommended strategies outlined by the Washington State Department Transportation (WSDOT); and

WHEREAS, in support of Kitsap Transit's Mission staff is recommending participation in the Gorst Coalition Memorandum of Understanding with an annual contribution of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000); and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Executive Director to enter into the Gorst Coalition Memorandum of Understanding with up to fifty thousand dollar (\$50,000) in annual contribution.

ADOPTED by the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on the 5th day of January, 2021.



Robert Putaansuu, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Jill A. Boltz, MMC
Clerk of the Board