



Kingston Community Advisory Council (KCAC)

Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2025

Notes taken by: Alena Wolotira

This meeting was held in person at the Village Green Community Center

Present (in person):

At Large representatives present: Dave Bomalaski, Tim Davis (co-chair), Glen Hutchinson (co-chair), Kate Joncas, Cynthia Logan, Steve Marchese, Alena Wolotira

Representing representatives present: Chris Gilbreath, Shep Griswold, Leo Taylor

Ex Officio representatives present: Beth Berglund, Steve Heacock, Breane Martinez, Marla Powers, Kaili Roest

Absent:

At Large representatives absent: Ben Astaire, Logan Hammon,

Ex Officio representatives absent: Karen Jeyes

Also present: Commissioner Rolfes and many others

Welcome & Call to Order: *Co-chair Davis called the meeting to order at 6:31.*

- **Initial Public Comment** (2-minute limit per person)
 - None
- **Quorum:** Yes
- **Introduction of KCAC members**
- **Commissioner Remarks:**
 - Haylee Anderson is the staff person for this committee, as well as the staff who performs legislative lobbying.
 - Remember that SR 104 still needs funding. Please send an email to the three legislators that represent our area individually. "Thank you for helping to get more money for our highway!"
 - Flyers at the meeting
 - From the planning department related to tree preservation. Jane's Walk in Kingston 2/1/25: Guided walk around Kingston to talk about where trees in the neighborhoods fit in, which trees at risk, etc. More info [here](#).
 - FAQ, Neighborhood traffic safety handout
 - ADA assessment of all roads and sidewalks in the county. Comprehensive map is finished with the assessment [here](#)

- Arborwood Development: the developer agreement with the county expires in February. Developer has asked for an extension. Agreement contains clause for 5 year extension if construction is not completed by the expiration of the agreement. Commissioners will have a public hearing on the issue on whether to grant extension.
 - Wednesday, Jan. 15, Board of Commissioners sitting for a DCD briefing on what happens if the agreement is/is not extended, conditions that would be appropriate to impose on an extension. Entire board must agree there to hold a public hearing. Will be televised, look on the calendar here: https://www.kitsap.gov/BOC_p/Pages/AgendaMasterSchedule.aspx

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: Davis moved to approve.

Amendments:

Chris Gilbreath: Bill Beaudoin in his final public comment—made two comments. One was about wanting a presentation by the YMCA to this council. The other was about affordable housing. Both had been on the potential meeting topics, YMCA has dropped off and affordable housing has not been scheduled.

Dave B seconded with amendments. No discussion. All ayes with one abstention. Minutes approved.

New Business:

- **Leo Taylor, youth representative**
 - Senior at Kingston High
 - On District Board as well
 - This year, would like to accomplish engaging students with the resources that are available to them in Kingston
- **Approvals:**
 - *Environment and Land Use Committee Renewal Letter.* Read aloud by Beth Berglund. Prepared by Kate Joncas.
 - Comments:
 - Representative member needs more time to consult with the group he represents
 - Language could use more precision, especially in the area of environmental impact of Arborwood.
 - When would the letter be relevant to the Board? 2/3/25 for a public hearing, which is before our next meeting
 - Member of the ELU Committee: this letter is not about opposition or support, it's about asking for the commissioners to put more time and attention into revisiting the three topics
 - Suggestion to add a phrase: "including providing important housing capacity for different income levels" following

“management goals” in the first paragraph.

- Action
 - Co-chair Davis moved to approve
 - Amendments:
 - Suggestion to have only the at-large members vote. Suggested change to who votes did not carry.
 - Motion seconded by Steve Marchese
 - Vote count–10 at-large and representing members present
 - Ayes: 5
 - Nays: 1
 - Abstentions: 4
- MOTION CARRIES. Letter as initially proposed by Member Joncas was approved.
- Workplan
 - Davis moved to pass the 2025 proposed work plan
 - Hutchinson seconded
 - All ayes. Motion passes

Reports:

● Committee Reports

Transportation: (Tim Davis)

- Significant funding shortfall for 104 realignment. Haylee Anderson, Co-chair Davis and Jerry Kirschner met with representative of Senator Patty Murray for a walk around in Kingston to discuss federal funding. State funding is also going to be vital.
- Miller Bay Road “green sweep” grade and gravel program. There’s a consistent plan in place. Response from Joe Rutan, Public Works: our dream of having shoulders on some of these smaller roads would require extensive work and would be very expensive.

Community Services (Cynthia Logan)

- **Meets the first Friday of each month at VGCC at 4:00pm**
- Committee continues to advocated for a YMCA presentation at a future KCAC meeting
- Individual committee members assigned to each of the 4 Kingston schools. Extending offers to officials to attend our KCAC meetings
 - Wolfle principal will be joining us at the February KCAC meeting
- Social Service Wednesdays: at local libraries in Poulsbo. Folks needing services can come and speak to a professional person-to-person. Committee would like this type of service to happen in Kingston
- Added monthly report on ADA issues in Kingston to their standing agenda
- **Affordable Housing Subcommittee.** Did not meet this month.

- Point in time count regarding individuals experiencing homelessness is coming up this month—goes from 1/28 to 1/31. 4 different counts. More information, including how to volunteer to help are [here](#).

Environment & Land Use (Beth Berglund)

- Committee hasn't met recently

Parks, Trails, Open Spaces: (Mark Libby & Shep Griswold)

- Both volunteer coordinators working for the Parks Department have moved on. Most immediate work parties will continue but spring work parties are suspended, pending the hiring of replacement volunteer coordinators.
- Dividing the priorities list into teams, working to hone in on the top most priorities
- This Saturday, 10 am, work party at NK Heritage Park

• **Organization Reports:**

Port of Kingston: (Steve Heacock)

- [Evening Magazine piece on our lights!](#) Will remain up until the end of January. Attracts visitors to Kingston.

Kingston Friends of the Library (Karen Jeyes)

- Karen wasn't present.

Greater Kingston Chamber of Commerce (Kaili Campbell)

- 2025 visitor's guide and business directory (will be out in the next 2 weeks). Come to the Chamber for a copy!
- Updating the walking map sign next to the Kingston Alehouse, hopefully to be posted in the next month
- Hiring a part time person to cover Kaili's parental leave, office administration. director@kingstonchamber.com

Kiwanis Club (Shep Griswold)

- Quiet over the holidays. Santa's Workshop was a great success!
- Community Meal on Friday, 1/10 @ Village Green
- Key Club: Annual Dinner on 2/5/2025 at the High School

Rotary Club (Chris Gilbreath)

- Lost one meeting to storm, 2 to Christmas and New Years
- Office elections for 2025-2026 Rotary year. Co-presidents starting in July
- Past week—met with the school district to try to continue working on reconditioning sports fields. Making good progress.
- Community Service Committee approved 2 grants, one for each elementary school. Field trip funding and gymnasium mats.

- Saturday, 1/11: Christmas tree recycling. \$20 donation requested–any time during the day. Bring to the Scout Hall
- 2/1 PGST: Career Fair in Little Boston
- Auction: March 1

Village Green Foundation (Beth Berglund)

- New artist featured in the gallery
- Drop in fitness for seniors–no more chair yoga but the replacement class is about stretching and balancing (also a standing and sitting in chairs). M, W, F
- Best of Kitsap–Village Green’s park voted the best Park/Playground in NK.

North Kitsap School District (Breane Martinez)

- Just came back from winter break on Monday
- Happy to have a student rep on both KCAC and the School Board
- End of the first semester–1/24/25. More to report next month.
- Board meeting tomorrow at 5:30. Public welcome to attend and give public comment
- Other resources:
 - <https://www.nkschools.org/>
 - <https://www.facebook.com/nksd400>
 - https://www.nkschools.org/about-us/departments/communications/parentsqua_re-for-families

Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe (Marla Powers)

- Kitsap Environmental Coalition meeting regarding culvert tribal treaty rights
- Walk and Talk re: conservation with Greater Peninsula Conservancy
 - Pt Julia Jan 18, 10-12. Sign up [online on conservancy website](#)
- Avian influenza notice [here](#). Do not touch, gather near, eat, or cook animals that appear to be sick or dead from illness. Please report animals to Fish and Wildlife.

Guest Presentation: John Clauson, Executive Director of Kitsap Transit

- Challenges
 - August reliability issues–boats needed repair with parts needing to be shipped internationally.
 - Southworth–don’t own a dock and have to use the WSF car slip.
- Ridership on Kingston fast ferries: 6.5% ridership increase, would have been greater if August issues hadn’t occurred
- Application for federal funding–\$13.5M grant to build a new fast ferry for Kingston. Will give us the opportunity to surplus the Finest or at least build

more of a reserve. Federal funds come rather slowly. Official documentation about to be signed but no work can be done until formally approved. Build on the lessons learned with the last two boats and improve upon them.

- Marine Maintenance Facility: when there is a boat that needs repair, challenge to find facility for the boat to be repaired. Would like to have their own facility. Narrowed some options down. Needs to be able to handle planned and unplanned maintenance for currently 10 vessels. In PE and environmental impact planning stages. Considering 2 options in south Kitsap
 - Kitsap Marina
 - Suldan's Marina
- Facility on Seattle Waterfront for a passenger-only terminal. Currently operating out of the King Co. dock. Designed to operate 2 vessels at a time, but KT has 4 vessels and has to share with King Co's routes and vessels. Schedules aren't developed based on what our community needs but rather by when there is a dock available. If a window is missed, boat has to wait in a holding pattern in Elliot Bay.
 - Other cities in Puget Sound are interested in additional passenger only ferries.
 - Federal government requires an alternative analysis for this location as well. Federal Transit Administration sets the processes, which KT wants to follow closely to assure federal funding
 - Possible locations:
 - Pier 48: immediately south of current Pier 50. Derelict pier owned by DOT. Preferred location by the transportation board
 - North end of Pier 46. Where Port of Seattle has run container ships. Coast Guard also interested
 - Fire station on the other side of Coleman Dock—looking at the pier that the City of Seattle is building a park on.
- 391—Kingston to Bainbridge bus route has been reinstated. Allows for alternatives that people are already aware of should there be issues with the fast ferries. Will run throughout the day
- QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:
 - Comment: water dependent use of Pier 50—strong laws. Restaurants cannot be put in a water-dependent use area. Less pricey when you have environmental, state, and federal laws at play. Ivar's is apparently planning to get out of that space.
 - Response: talked to lots of pier owners in the area when developing this project. Believed that it would be less impactful to the community to go with an option that won't remove a business that's functioning. Pier 48 is the optimal spot in terms of pedestrian movement to various frequently visited areas in Seattle
 - Question: plans for 104 to Port Gamble lot (last year discussed that it has grant funding to be considered as a park and ride).
 - Answer: Feasibility study still happening but likely going to stay in reserve for a future date.
 - Question: with the new pier being in the early stages, can King Co kick us out of our current spot?
 - Answer: Technically, yes, contract up for negotiations now. King

- Co. looking for more money. But if King Co. does start another route, that will continue to displace us.
- Question: New boat—when you get the funding, what’s the timeline for construction.
 - Answer: Instant docs are signed, 60-90 days to get board approval to solicit for an owner’s rep, also look for firm to implement and modify current design. Then construction bid (120 days+. Likely 2 years before we can get a vessel into the water
 - Question: Kingston Ride. How well are Kingston Ride and BI Ride being used by those communities? Seeing BI Ride campaigns but not Kingston
 - Answer: City of Bainbridge funded the ad campaign. Kingston Ride isn’t a “barn burner” but it was never expected to be. Not considering cutting, hoping to build usage to establish patterns and eventually replace with an established route. Similar in Port Orchard—SK Ride. Same methodology on Sundays.
 - Question: with Port Gamble development, is there a plan to increase transit coverage there?
 - Answer: it’s possible. But we don’t have an unlimited budget and we’re trying to be responsive to various competing needs
 - Question: Studies as to whether there could be more frequent trips on the fast ferry in the future?
 - Answer: financially restricted. Originally, developed a business plan and got voter support. Initial funding (which comes from sales tax) mostly funds the commute and occasional Saturday runs. Additional Bremerton service was paid for by WSDOT. Fares cover about 12% of actual cost.
 - Question: Pier timeframe?
 - Answer: long process. Environmental mitigation could be a year or more.
 - Question: S’kallam Tribe concern about increased marina traffic. Is there any talk about a maintainable/reasonable level of marina service. Boat speeds. Impact of commuting on the environment
 - Answer: lots of plans at Puget Sound level re: marine life avoidance. Muckleshoot tribe raised the issue of frequency/number of sailings as a general comment during initial pier discussions. KT routes replicate WSF route locations. Issue with Suquamish tribe initially—KT created a fund to ensure that if KT vessel hit a tribal net, the money would be there to immediately replace the cost. Have never hit, only 2 snags that he knows of

Final Public Comment

- Joe Lubischer from Indianola:
 - Original Arborwood dvt agreement was for 15 years plus conditioned 5 years.
 - 2/8 is the expiration date. Will be void before official actions by commissioners

- What is the developer asking for? Appears that DCD has already signed off
 - 20 years, plus five year extension, plus auto extension
 - No accommodation of new codes. 1997 Stormwater manual and 2007 code
- Asking Commissioners to not grant the appeal. Code wasn't being followed, no reason to give the developers extra time
- Environmental concerns: we live in a different world with more knowledge about the adverse effects of urban runoff.
- Asking for modern stormwater regulations to be followed
- BMPs to deal with tire rubber impact mitigation
- Public Comment: Arborwood construction will all be market rate and will not provide affordable housing
- Public Comment: acquisition of Great Peninsula Conservancy of 467 acres
- Public Comment: please put YMCA on the agenda. Please put affordable housing on the agenda. Stormwater: drainage ditch behind Barrett Road that runs behind the commenter's property. Neighbor's house flooded. How many other ditches are running straight into the sound. Kitsap Conservation District.

Closing Items: Thank you to the large crowd on a cold, dark, January meeting

Upcoming Meetings:

- February - Port of Kingston development plans
- March - WSF/KPW plans for implementing Active Traffic Management System (ATMS) for ferry traffic management
- April - Sheriff's report. Citizens on Patrol program, homeless program, recent crime events in Kingston
- May - Chamber Small Business updates
- June - Kitsap Transit plans for Kingston
- TBD:
 - YMCA's Health and Community Service Program
 - Affordable Housing needs and opportunities

Motion to adjourn by Tim Davis seconded by Steve Marchese
Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.