

Kitsap County Commissioners:

2025 Key Accomplishments

Accomplishments are sorted by the Board's Vision Statements.

An Engaged and Connected Community:

Establish strong connections with and among residents, community groups, neighborhoods, and organizations through timely, useful, inclusive, and responsive communication, outreach, and events. Inform and engage residents where they are, respecting local input in transparent decision-making.

- Conducted first community survey since 2004.
- Funded [StayKitsap26.com](https://www.staykitsap26.com) to attract and engage visitors in Seattle FIFA World Cup 2026 tourism.
- Advocated successfully for reduced impact of cargo ship anchoring in Kitsap waterways.
- Translated many vital documents into Spanish.
- Continued expanding broadband to rural areas with Kitsap Public Utility District.

A Safe Community:

Engender a feeling of safety for all residents where people are protected and secure, have a sense of community, and care about their neighborhoods. Promote public and traffic safety through careful planning and intentional public facilities and infrastructure.

- Continued emphasis on abating nuisance properties and enforcing code compliance for violators.
- Finalized design for increased fencing and security at Silverdale Sheriff precinct.
- Launched popular Drive Friendly campaign in Manchester.
- Adopted ADA Transportation Facilities Transition Plan in the spring.
- Replaced holsters and handguns for all Sheriff's deputies with a more dependable model.
- Established the Human Trafficking Task Force.



A Healthy and Livable Community:

Enhance our quality of life through protection of our air quality, water quality, and natural systems, and promote open spaces, walkable communities, accessible health care, and educational and recreational opportunities that are welcoming to all people.

- Evaluated long-term options for Givens Community Center.
- Completed the six-year update to the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) plan.
- Secured state support for annual Gorst litter cleanup.
- Expanded Illahee Preserve and Island Lake Park, added Eglon Park, and assisted Greater Peninsula Conservancy in acquiring the Divide Community Forest.
- Celebrated the completion of Phase 1 of the Olympic College Healthcare Expansion Project funded with County ARPA funds.
- Continued accessibility improvements at Illahee trail.
- Partnered with the Department of Natural Resources to protect mature forests at Green Mountain.
- Adopted code changes to reduce barriers for childcare facilities and participated in the Kitsap Childcare Task Force.

A Resilient Community:

Improve our ability to prepare for and adapt to population growth, economic shifts, and climate changes through environmental safeguards, robust community-focused emergency preparedness and response, sustainable local food systems, diverse housing choices, expanded health care options, and a strong social safety net.

- Finished Point No Point parking lot and beach repairs.
- Opened 75-bed Pacific Building shelter for families, women, men, children, and pets; and sustained operations at Salvation Army shelter in Bremerton.
- Adopted updates to the Rural Resource Lands Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan as part of the “Year of the Rural.”
- Set long-term course for sewer utility financial stability with cost-of-service rate adjustments.
- Added Veteran Service Officer (VSO) position.
- Partnered with MultiCare and Virginia Mason Franciscan Health to expand access to healthcare.
- Adopted pre-approved accessory dwelling unit plans.



Vibrant Community:

Support a thriving local economy with a skilled workforce and successful entrepreneurs and small businesses, and provide expanded access to technology, innovative programs, and a welcoming, understandable regulatory environment.

- Streamlined permit review operations, reducing existing review queue from 21 weeks to 4 weeks.
- Set course for LTAC funding in 2026 and beyond.
- Partnered with Olympic College to establish Veterans Resource Center on campus to provide a place for all veterans to receive information resources.

A Well-Governed Community:

Provide inclusive, accessible, and efficient government services and collaborate with local, state, and federal partners, acting always with professionalism and integrity.

- Completed recruitment for and welcomed new Assistant County Administrator, and Community Development and Public Works Directors.
- Appointed new District Court Judge Gina Buskirk.
- Adopted responsible 2026 budget and set course for sustainable, long-term fiscal solutions.
- Negotiated right of way vacations with City of Port Orchard to start construction on Courthouse Phase 0 project.
- Created a real property inventory for County-owned properties.
- Vigorously pursued federal and state legislative support and funding.
- Expanded hearing examiner capacity with addition of second contracted legal team.





District 1 Initiatives

Commissioner Rolfes

- Started construction on Kingston ATMS project.
- Completed Port Gamble North Gateway parking lot.
- Convened Island Lake community meeting to discuss residents' priorities and concerns.
- Completed acquisition of Eglon forest and supported transfer for 40 acres of Miller Bay property.
- Engaged Suquamish and Indianola neighborhoods for sport court upgrades.

District 2 Initiatives

Commissioner Root

- Secured funding for Harper Estuary project.
- Coordinated closely with Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.
- Began discussions with community about Banner Forest preservation.
- Enhanced security at South Kitsap Regional Park.
- Continued support of economic development with Circuit of the Northwest.
- Improved traffic calming on Beach Drive.
- Conducted Gorst SR3 Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study , "Gorst Bridge".



District 3 Initiatives

Commissioner Walters

- Neared completion of Silverdale subarea plan update.
- Partnered with City of Bremerton to establish a Seattle FIFA World Cup 2026 "Fan Zone."
- Strengthened community spirit in Silverdale with a Daffodil festival, Waterfront Park concerts, and Trail of Lights holiday festival.
- Supported local efforts to re-establish a Silverdale Community Center.