

RESOLUTION NO. 23-16

A RESOLUTION OF KITSAP TRANSIT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPTING A LOCALLY PREFERRED OPTION FOR A DOWNTOWN SEATTLE TERMINAL LOCATION TO SUPPORT KITSAP TRANSIT'S LONG-TERM PASSENGER FERRY OPERATIONS

WHEREAS, Kitsap Transit (KT) is operating passenger only ferry (POF) service between Bremerton, Kingston and Southworth to the downtown Seattle waterfront; and

WHEREAS, POF docking facilities on the Seattle waterfront, the most in demand destination in the region, are limited; and

WHEREAS, the existing available POF terminal facility is located at Pier 50 and is owned and operated by the King County Water Taxi (KCWT); and

WHEREAS, the two slips at the Pier 50 terminal are shared by KCWT's two (2) routes and four (4) KT vessels serving KT's three (3) routes; and

WHEREAS, the existing facility's capacity is constrained during peak demand times in the morning and afternoon and KT must adapt their arrivals and departures to fit within KCWT's schedule; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 KT entered into a five-year agreement with KCWT for nonexclusive rights to use the POF facility at Pier 50; and

WHEREAS, KCWT continues to pursue expansion of their system to include routes like downtown Seattle to Ballard; and

WHEREAS, KT wishes to expand POF terminal facilities in downtown Seattle to better support their current program with optimized schedules and provide security for existing operation into the future; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 KT, working with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), began screening downtown Seattle waterfront sites to identify locations that meet KT's operation and service needs and expanded the effort to include the FTA early scoping process and extensive agency and community outreach;

and

WHEREAS, KT has completed the preliminary site assessment phase and has identified a locally preferred option for location of the downtown Seattle waterfront POF terminal location; and

WHEREAS, FTA has issued a determination of environmental action for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); and


WHEREAS, the first step in the environmental review process is selection of a locally preferred option; and

WHEREAS, through a comprehensive site screening process, detailed in the Kitsap Transit Seattle Fast Ferry Terminal Facility Summary of Preliminary Site Screening and Evaluation Report, KT has identified the preferred location for a downtown Seattle POF Terminal to be Pier 48 which is owned by Washington State Department of Transportation.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners hereby selects Pier 48 on the downtown Seattle waterfront as the locally preferred option for the location of KT's Seattle Fast Ferry Terminal.

ADOPTED by the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on the 7th day of March 2023.

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Rebecca Erickson, Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Stephanie Milne-Lane
Clerk of the Board