



**PRESS RELEASE**

# City of Bainbridge Island and Kitsap Transit Launch Free, Summer Downtown Loop Shuttle Starting June 13

*Community kick-off event June 13 at 10:30 AM with fun giveaways to the first several riders.*

June 8, 2026

Contacts:

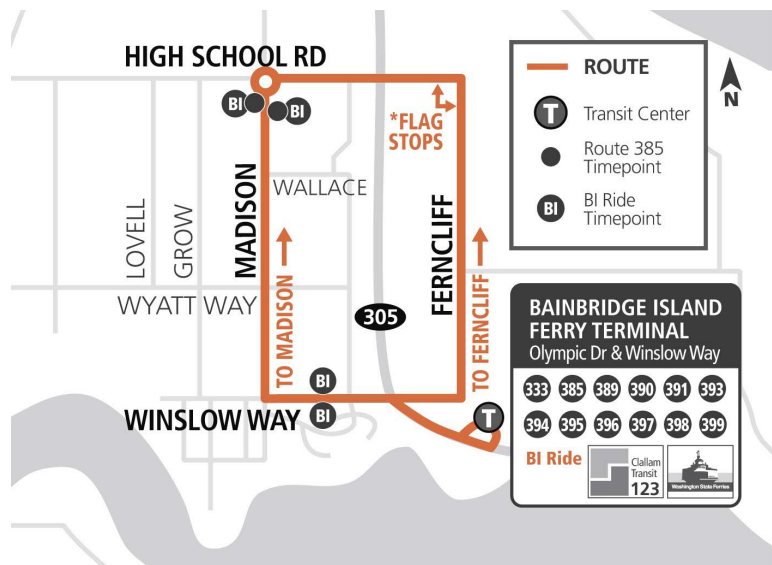
Sanjay Bhatt, Marketing & Public Information Director, [sanjayb@kitsaptransit.com](mailto:sanjayb@kitsaptransit.com)

Shannon Hays, Communications Manager, [shays@bainbridgewa.gov](mailto:shays@bainbridgewa.gov)

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, Wash. – Hop on, hop off, and let the Downtown Loop do the driving! Starting Saturday, June 13, Kitsap Transit and the City of Bainbridge Island are launching the new Downtown Loop (**Route 385-BI Downtown**), a summer pilot shuttle connecting some of Winslow's most popular destinations. With a busy summer ahead and FIFA World Cup games coming to the region, the Downtown Loop will make it easier for residents and visitors to get around town and explore local businesses while reducing individual vehicle trips and supporting a more sustainable, lower-carbon transportation system.

Passengers on the Downtown Loop, Route 385, can board fare-free and get dropped off or picked up along Winslow Way, Madison Avenue, High School Road, and Ferncliff Avenue.

The bus service will operate from 11 AM to 7 PM on Saturdays only and is funded by the City of Bainbridge Island. The bus will on a three-mile loop starting and ending at the Bainbridge Island in a three-mile loop starting and ending at the Bainbridge Island Transit Center (next to the Ferry Terminal) and alternate its direction of travel to Madison or to Ferncliff with each trip to



optimize for arrivals and departures of Washington State Ferries (WSF). Because of how frequently the bus service stops at the Transit Center, it will not hold for late ferries.

On June 13, the public is invited to join the City, Kitsap Transit, Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce, and Bainbridge Island Downtown Association for a brief program starting at 10:30 AM before the service departs at 11:00 AM from the Bainbridge Island Transit Center. The first 75 riders who complete the loop on June 13 before 1:00 PM will have the option to receive either an ORCA Boop plushie or a special Kitsap County-inspired soccer scarf while supplies last.

The City's 2022 Sustainable Transportation Plan and climate action goals and Kitsap Transit's 2022-2042 Long-Range Transit Plan have identified the need for a Winslow circulator to create a more equitable, affordable and connected community. Transportation is one of the leading sources of greenhouse gas emissions.

"We are excited to partner with Kitsap Transit to bring the Downtown Loop shuttle bus to downtown Winslow on Saturdays this summer," Mayor Clarence Moriwaki said. "The City and Kitsap Transit share a community-centered goal of reducing vehicle miles traveled, which have been increasing in recent years, while providing people with more convenient ways to get around. We're excited to see this free public shuttle in action and how the community responds. I can't wait to hop on and ride it myself!"

While the Downtown Loop (Route 385) stops at designated bus stops along Winslow Way and Madison Avenue, service on High School Road and Ferncliff Avenue is more flexible. Riders may signal the bus from a safe location along the route, and the driver will stop when it is safe to do so. The shuttle is also equipped with bicycle racks for up to two bikes and is fully accessible for passengers using mobility devices.

The service will operate for 13 Saturdays this summer. It will not operate on July 4 because half of the route will be closed to traffic for Grand Old Fourth events produced by the Bainbridge Chamber.

"Kitsap Transit has been working with the City of Bainbridge Island and the Bainbridge Chamber over many years to improve public transportation on the island for both residents and visitors," said John Clauson, Kitsap Transit's Executive Director. "The Route 385 is a demonstration project to establish a new circulator service that we hope will alleviate local traffic congestion and meet demand from visitors walking off Washington State Ferries. It's free – hop on and off all summer long!"

The new Downtown Loop is just one of several transit options available on Saturdays, making it easier than ever to explore the island without a car.

Riders can also connect to Kitsap Transit's [Route 390](#), which serves Bainbridge Island and Poulsbo with stops along Highway 305, including near High School Road, as well as [BI Ride](#), an on-demand community shuttle with scheduled departures from downtown Winslow to destinations including Coppertop Park and Bloedel Reserve.

Together, these services create more opportunities for residents and visitors to shop, dine, explore local attractions, connect with regional transit, and enjoy all that Bainbridge Island has to offer. Route 390 and BI Ride fares are \$2 for adults and \$1 for reduced-fare riders, with payment accepted through ORCA cards or Tap to Pay using a contactless credit or debit card.

###

### **Hablar español?**

Por favor llame al 1-800-501-7433 durante las horas normales de oficina. El personal de servicios al cliente se conectará con un intérprete para ayudarle a responder sus preguntas.

### **Nagsasalita ka ba ng Tagalog?**

Paki-tawagan ang numero 1-800-501-7433 normal na oras ng trabaho. Customer Service kawani ay kumonekta sa isang taga interpretor upang tulungan sagutin ang iyong katanungan.