



Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council

The Kitsap Peninsula is the home of sovereign Indian nations, namely the Suquamish and Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribes.

KRCC Board Meeting Summary

v. 11-09-2023

Date: November 07, 2023

Time: 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Hybrid meeting with in-person participation at Norm Dicks Government Center Chambers and remote participation via Zoom

Decisions		
The KRCC Board approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 10/03 Board meeting summary • Vouchers 23-6 • 2024 Work Plan • 2024 KRCC budget 		
Actions	Who?	Status
Executive Committee to discuss future Board meetings topics brought up by Board Members	Executive Committee	In Progress
KRCC Staff Evaluation form to be sent out and delivered to KRCC Board and Committees	KRCC Staff	Complete

1. Welcome and Introductions

KRCC Chair/Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler welcomed the Executive Board to the hybrid meeting. He took a moment to remember the passing of former Port of Bremerton Commissioner Larry Stokes and his dedicated years of public service.

2. Chair’s Comments

Mayor Wheeler reiterated that earlier in 2023, the KRCC Board recommended holding a meeting focused on economic development to receive informational updates about the work of various economic development organizations. He thanked the panelists and guests.

3. Consent Agenda

- Approve the October 03 Board meeting summary and expense voucher 23-6

Mayor Erickson moved to approve the October 3 Board meeting summary and expense vouchers 23-6. Commissioner Garrido seconded. The summary was approved as drafted without objection.

4. Full Discussion/Action Items

- Approve the draft 2024 Work Plan

Mayor Putaansuu moved to approve the 2024 Work Plan. Councilmember Deets seconded. The work plan was approved as drafted without objection.

- Approve the draft 2024 Budget

Councilmember Deets moved to approve the 2024 budget. Councilmember Stern seconded. The 2024 budget was approved as drafted without objection.

- Review the draft 2024 draft dues

The Board reviewed 2024 dues. It was noted that per the recommendation of the KRCC Executive Committee, dues from 2023 could be frozen for 2024. The Board will vote on these dues during their December meeting.

- Discuss 2023 Legislative Reception and Legislative Orientation

The Board discussed the upcoming Legislative Reception and Legislative Orientation on November 16. It was noted that fifty confirmed guests have RSVP'd for the event. Board members were reminded to remit payments by requesting an invoice from Zak Ott or to bring a \$45 check to the event. Chairman Wheeler noted all the panelists that would be attending the event.

- Review the nominations for 2024 KRCC Chair and Vice Chair

The Board reviewed the nominations for 2023 KRCC Chair and Vice Chair. The KRCC Executive Committee nominated Councilmember Deets to serve as KRCC Chair in 2024 and Commissioner Strakeljahn to serve as KRCC Vice Chair in 2024. The Board will vote on the Chair and Vice Chair nominations during the December meeting.

- Reminder: 2023 Triangle Evaluation

The Board was reminded that every year KRCC Board and Committee members evaluate the work of Triangle Associates, the facilitation firm that provides staffing for KRCC. The survey will be distributed by KRCC staff on November 8 and respondents will have until December 8 to complete the survey.

5. Kitsap Regional Economic Development Discussion

As mentioned earlier, the KRCC Board recommended holding a meeting focused on economic development to receive informational updates about the work of various economic development organizations. Greater Seattle Partners, Puget Sound Regional Council, Port of Bremerton, and Kitsap Economic Development Alliance were invited to present.

Greater Seattle Partners (GSP) “strengthens and unifies the region’s economic development efforts building the capacity of public-private partnerships, telling the region’s story, and engaging the world. Together, they are bridging the business, government, and civic sectors to welcome new investments that promote our region on the global stage.” President & Chief Executive Office, Brian Surratt, and Chief Operating Officer, Rebecca Lovell, presented an overview of GSP goals and programs that focuses on increasing regional economic collaboration in Pierce, King, and Snohomish County. The presentation slides are available on the [KRCC website](#) along with other meeting materials and a [link to the video recording](#) of the meeting.

Central Puget Sound Economic Development District (EDD) is responsible for the development of a Regional Economic Strategy that focuses on economic opportunity, global competitiveness, and quality of life. Jason Thibedeau, Program Manager – Economic Development, presented on Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) roles with EDD in economic development focusing on analysis & strategy development, technical assistance, and amplifying regional efforts. The presentation slides are available on the [KRCC website](#) along with other meeting materials and a [link to the video recording](#) of the meeting.

The Port of Bremerton’s mission is to increase the economic opportunity for all of Kitsap County by generating jobs, developing infrastructure, and improving quality of life. They are a regional leader in creating economic and recreational opportunities for the Kitsap community. Jim Rothlin, Chief

Executive Officer, presented on the multiple projects that the Port focuses on including the marinas (boat launches, parks, piers), airport, and industrial park. The presentation slides are available on the [KRCC website](#) along with other meeting materials and a [link to the video recording](#) of the meeting.

Kitsap Economic Development Alliance (KEDA) has embarked on a 5-year strategic plan called One Kitsap, to create capacity, increase workforce, grow business, and build community for economic growth in Kitsap County. Joe Morrison, Executive Director of KEDA, presented on the organization's last 10 months on supporting entrepreneurship, local economic research and facilitation, and upcoming industrial lands and buildings projects. The presentation slides are available on the [KRCC website](#) along with other meeting materials and a [link to the video recording](#) of the meeting.

Following the presentations, Board members were given time to ask questions and provide comments to any of the presenters:

Comments from Cary Bozeman:

My prediction is that Kitsap County is going to have a healthy economy for the next 25 years. We have a robust employment center here. Our housing costs have gone up to \$550,000 on average per home in this country. We have not seen that kind of housing in the last 25 years here. The question is going to be in infrastructure and the city's ability to meet dynamic infrastructure needs. My sense of economic development is it is the business you are in every day. I think local government is the economic developer. These people all made great presentations and they have a role to play. But local government is about creating livable communities and that is what attracts business. It is what retains business, what gets people interested in your community. School districts are what attract young, educated people who want to raise families in their communities. Public safety is another priority that local government must address. A good mix of housing, including affordable housing. 30% of our housing inventory had to be affordable to those making less than \$50k. Providing shelters for homeless people is now part of the budgets for many cities in Kitsap, and the issue of homelessness is a complex issue and there are many solutions, but providing shelters for those homeless is one of them. Obviously, transportation options, good, well-maintained streets, good signage streets, dependable bus service, and our ferry system. Finally, walking trails and parks are right there on top of people's interests when it comes to community services. Parks and open spaces, urban spaces are really in our economic developers. They create economic development. Last is providing affordable public utilities in water, sewer, and power. Creating livable communities is creating economic development.

Question for GSP: How could GSP support the attributes and qualities of Kitsap County?

Response: We must respect and understand what our local communities need in our region. Each community we work with, each member of our Board, represents our community, and is very proud of what their community offers. Our job is trying to understand what those assets are, understand what their interests are, and to help amplify what is meaningful to those communities. We take that information and when we engage with the rest of the country, and the rest of world. We never want to replace but amplify what happens at the community level. We can increase that top of the funnel with the kind of key sectors that are interesting to our communities.

Comment/Question for GSP: Who are the members on your Board? What is your relationship with the tribal communities in Pierce, Snohomish, and King Counties?

Response: We are a public-private partnership. The County Executives of King and Snohomish counties are on our Board along with the Mayors of Seattle, Everett, and Tacoma. We also have leading private sectors and corporate leaders in our community on our Board. In terms, of engaging with the Tribes, that is a priority of mine. They have been doing some amazing things with their economic development and we are looking at how we can leverage and support their efforts. Formally, they are not part of GSP, but I would love them to be.

Comment/Question for GSP: Really appreciate the introduction to GSP. Really appreciate the focus on values and that this Region is focused on them. Are there any conversations about circular economies? What one company needs; the other company is getting rid of. Are there any collaborations going on this subject?

Response: When you start thinking about how our little corner of the world does, you think about its position. In the global kind of economic scheme. We visited South Korea recently and talked to leaders there about the economic history of the timber industry in Seattle. And we lined up with Boeing, and how there is no Boeing without the timber industry, and how there is no Microsoft without Boeing. So, in many ways we are circular in that sense like we have had to leverage and build off what we have in this community as from a talent standpoint when it comes to the environment, I think we can be leaders there.

Comment: Thank you to everyone presenting on behalf of the Navy. Thank you KEDA for mentioning the future shipyard projects. If there are any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Navy.

Comment: It is important that local governments foster economic development. Without strong business development, we have unemployment and poverty. The way the government can do that is that we seek out business, we set them the platform. We do not tell businesses what to do, but what they need. There is a big difference. The people on this Board and Kitsap County think that way. I want to thank everyone for coming here today. It is important we have a very viable economy. We have to provide diversification of our economy beyond the Navy.

6. KRCC Committee Reports

Land Use

- Land Use Items

The next LUTAC meeting will be held on November 14.

Transportation

- Transportation Items

The next TransTAC meeting will be held on November 9.

7. PSRC Board and Committee Reports

- Updates from the PSRC Transportation Policy Board

The PSRC Executive Board met and is going through its federal funding cycle for transportation and are shifting up the emphasis this year on equity, climate change and safety. They are going to be the pivotal elements that are going to be emphasized in the coming federal funding cycles.

8. Housing and Shelter Updates and Emergent and Countywide Issues

- City of Bremerton - We have been at the forefront of combatting the untreated mental illness and addiction crisis in our community here in Bremerton. We have opened a shelter while also enforcing our no camping laws. We were encouraged through some intensive outreach to have folks go into the shelter where can have case management waiting for them and a safer environment. Many people have this up on that option. Many people have not. This is something we should all be aware of. When the salvation army closed their shelter in May, our streets immediately filled up without the low

barrier walk up shelter, the Salvation Army provides. When they reopened on Nov. 1st, our streets immediately began to empty again. The issues are complex, and it is leading into what I believe is going to be our highest priority in the City of Bremerton, which is to create another low barrier walk up shelter.

City of Poulsbo – We opened the North Kitap Resource Recovery Center. The next step we will be taking is recovery housing. You cannot recover from these kinds of problems unless you have a place to live. The center has already helped two or three people and it has only been open for like a week and a half. Once they join the recovery center and check-in, they can transition into recovery housing.

9. Staff Report

- KRCC Income Statement

The income statement is provided in the meeting packet.

10. Public Comment

An opportunity for public comment was offered. There were no public comments.

11. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM.

Appendix A – Board Members in Attendance

Jurisdiction	Board Member	In Attendance?
Bainbridge Island		
	Councilmember J. Deets (V. Chair)	present
	Councilmember L. Schneider	present
Bremerton		
	Mayor G. Wheeler (Chair)	present
	Council Member D. Frey	
	Council Member M. Goodnow	
Kitsap County		
	Commissioner C. Garrido	present
	Commissioner K. Walters	present
	Commissioner C. Rolfes	present
Kitsap Transit		
	Director J. Clauson	present
Naval Base Kitsap		
	Captain J. Hale	
	Allison Satter (alt.)	present
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe		
Port of Bremerton		
	Commissioner A. Strakeljahn	present
	Commissioner G. Anderson (alt.)	
	Commissioner C. Bozeman (alt.)	
Port of Kingston		
	Commissioner M. McClure	
	Commissioner S. Heacock (alt.)	
Port Orchard		
	Mayor R. Putaansuu	present
	Council Member J. Rosapepe	
	Council Member Mark Trenary (alt.)	
Poulsbo		
	Mayor B. Erickson	present
	Council Member E. Stern	present
Suquamish Tribe		
	Council Chair L. Forsman	
	Council Member J. Mills (alt.)	
Other		
WSDOT	JoAnn Schueler	

WSDOT	Gaius Sanoy (alt.)	
WSF		
Dept. of Commerce		

Appendix B – Non-Board-Member Participants

Affiliation	Name
KRCC Facilitation Team	
KRCC Program Lead	Sophie Glass
KRCC Administrative Coordinator	Zak Ott
KRCC Land Use Program Lead	Pauline Mogilevsky
Presenters	
Greater Seattle Partners	Brian Surrat, Rebecca Lovell
Puget Sound Regional Council	Jason Thibedeau
Port of Bremerton	Jim Rothlin
Kitsap Economic Development Alliance	Joe Morrison
Invited Guests	
Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce	Stefan Goldby
South Kitsap Chamber of Commerce	Matt Murphy
Port Madison Enterprises	Rion Ramirez