



KITSAP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Efficient, accessible and effective county services

August 19, 2024

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Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC)

Derek Young, Interim Executive Director

206 Tenth Ave SE

Olympia, WA 98501

Subject: Authorization of Kitsap Public Utility District (KPUD) as Public Broadband Lead for Kitsap County

Dear Mr. Young,

This memorandum is to formally notify the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) that Kitsap Public Utility District (KPUD) has been designated as the public broadband lead for Kitsap County, Washington. This designation was made to advance our county's efforts in expanding and improving broadband access for our residents, businesses, and institutions.

Background:

Kitsap County has recognized the need for comprehensive broadband infrastructure development as essential to economic development, education, healthcare, and overall community well-being. As such, we have entrusted KPUD with the responsibility to lead and coordinate all broadband-related activities on behalf of the county. KPUD has demonstrated substantial experience and expertise in broadband deployment and has been a key partner in various community-driven initiatives across the County.

Designation and Authorization:

By this memorandum, Kitsap County hereby authorizes KPUD to:

1. Act as the Public Broadband Lead: KPUD will serve as the primary entity responsible for the planning, coordination, and implementation of broadband projects and initiatives within Kitsap County. This includes engagement with stakeholders, community outreach, and collaboration with state and federal agencies.
2. Represent Kitsap County in WSAC's Broadband Technical Assistance Program: KPUD is authorized to act on behalf of Kitsap County in all matters related to the WSAC's Broadband Technical Assistance Program. KPUD will be the county's representative in communications with WSAC, ensuring that Kitsap County's broadband needs and priorities are adequately addressed.
3. Serve as Fiscal Agent: KPUD is authorized to serve as the fiscal agent for Kitsap County for all funding, grant applications, and financial transactions related to WSAC's Broadband Technical Assistance Program. This includes managing and disbursing funds in accordance with the program's guidelines and reporting requirements.

We are confident that KPUD's leadership and expertise will greatly contribute to achieving the broadband goals of Kitsap County. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Baker, Deputy County Administrator at ebaker@kitsap.gov.

Thank you for your attention and support.

Sincerely,

Katherine T. Walters, Chair

Charlotte Garrido

Christine Rolfes