

COBI CONNECTS



ACHIEVING CLIMATE GOALS

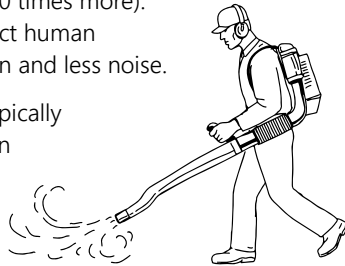


City transitions to electric hand tools

As part of the 2018 greenhouse gas emissions inventory, the City recorded close to 6,500 gallons of fuel consumption from gas-powered equipment in City vegetation management. These emissions make up about 3% of the overall emissions from City operations. In January 2022, the City ordered two zero-emission electric leaf blowers, which arrived in early 2023 for a pilot test in City operations. In late May, the City transitioned to electric leaf blowers, string trimmers, hedge clippers, pole saws and lawn edgers. Electric chainsaws are currently on backorder.

A lawn tool with a two-stroke engine spews more emissions than a car (between 20 and 300 times more). Electric equipment helps protect human health by creating less pollution and less noise.

Gas-powered lawn tools are typically manufactured without pollution controls required for vehicles.



DID YOU KNOW?



New electric vehicle (EV) car share program on the island

Mobility for All (m4a), a nonprofit advocacy group based on Bainbridge Island, was awarded a \$193,247 grant in 2022 by the Washington State Department of Transportation's Zero-Emissions Access Program (ZAP) program. In partnership with the City, m4a used the funds to purchase two electric vehicles for the car share program and to install two EV charging stations in the front parking lot at City Hall.

The car share program and public EV charging stations will be managed by the Bainbridge Island-based Zero Emission Vehicle Cooperative, ZEV co-op. Both charging stations have two ports. One charging station will be used for the car share program and the other available for public use. *Continued on page 7.*

WALK-ON ONLY SERVICE FOR THE FERRY SEP 7-13

What you need to know on page 4.



FIRST EQUITY AND INCLUSION MANAGER HIRED



The City of Bainbridge Island is pleased to announce the hiring of Anshu Wahi, the City's first Equity and Inclusion Manager. Wahi's first day is set for July 31.

Bainbridge Island City Council approved the Equity and Inclusion Manager as a priority position in the 2023–2024 Budget. The hiring process was extensive, and the City received a remarkable pool of 179 applicants. Ultimately, Wahi's impressive 18-year experience rose to the top of the list.

Wahi has provided diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) services for a wide variety of academic institutions spanning the globe including the United Kingdom, New York, California and Washington. She has written and spoken extensively about issues related to DEI. She earned her Master of Education from Harvard University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Dartmouth College.

"We are thrilled to have our first Equity and Inclusion Manager, Anshu Wahi," said Bainbridge Island City Manager Blair King. "She brings with her a breadth of DEI knowledge that will help her work with staff and the community to develop and enhance City programs and operations. I am looking forward to her serving as a template for what this position can provide the community."

According to Wahi, she eagerly anticipates returning to the Seattle area and starting with the City. Some of her first tasks will be to review various City activities with an equity lens, working on the Americans with Disabilities Act transition plan, providing staff support to the Race Equity Advisory Committee and overseeing program development for City staff and the community.

"I am so pleased to join the City of Bainbridge Island in support of its admirable commitment to equitable and inclusive lives for its citizens and workforce," said Wahi. "Being from the Pacific Northwest, I have spent many wonderful moments on the island, and I am excited to collaborate with the City and its community in creating a just and diverse society. Serving a local municipality provides great opportunity for impactful DEI work, and I am looking forward to learning the history of Bainbridge Island, and building relationships with its people."

JOAN HAASE RETIRES FROM PUBLIC WORKS AFTER MORE THAN 30 YEARS

As an Administrative Specialist III in the Public Works Department, Joan Haase has been tasked with writing City Council agenda bills, creating advertisements for design and construction bids, writing contracts for capital projects, responding to public records requests and managing web pages and listservs. During her 30-plus years with the City, she has seen a lot of changes, including the transition to a City Manager form of government and the move to the City Hall building on Madison. City Hall used to be located where the Police Department is now on Winslow Way—Haase recently visited and was amused to see that her old office is the current location of the electrical panel.

Haase says her favorite part of the job has been supporting capital projects until fruition while keeping the public informed. She says that she will miss her co-workers the most, "as they are some of the most dedicated, talented, fun and all-around great folks to work with."



HARBORMASTER TAMI ALLEN RETIRES AFTER 23 YEARS OF SERVICE



Tami Allen has been the Harbormaster on Bainbridge Island for more than two decades. As Harbormaster, Allen has performed a wide range of tasks: developing speed and wake regulations, a navigation plan, a buoy management program and an open water anchorage and mooring area; working with the Harbor Commission; monitoring the City dock; responding to marine calls; managing harbor stewards and dock hosts; dealing with derelict vessels; leading the Bainbridge Prepares Flotilla Team; taking care of navigation hazards; enforcing codes; conducting boater education; and responding to oil spills.

Allen says that, during her 23 years of work for the City, she particularly enjoyed being "a significant connection between the boating community and our island's government." One of the things Allen is most proud of is the completion of the Dave Ullin Open Water Marina where 16 families currently live on vessels. She says she will miss working with Marine 8 tackling navigation hazards, tagging buoys and towing derelict vessels and other debris.

Although Allen is retiring, she will still be heavily involved in safety and boater education. She serves as an on-call Incident Commander for the oil spill management team of the Washington State Maritime Cooperative. She teaches sailing at the Seattle Sailing Club and for the Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park and Recreation District. She also plans to stay involved with Bainbridge Prepares.

POLICE/COURT FACILITY NAMED TED SPEARMAN JUSTICE CENTER

The Bainbridge Island City Council on June 13 adopted a resolution to name the new Police and Municipal Court Building (at 8804 Madison Ave) the Ted Spearman Justice Center. Council established a naming process for the facility, which included an open nomination call for names from anyone who interacts with Bainbridge Island. Council appointed seven members to an ad hoc naming committee to collect nominations from the public and narrow down the list to five finalists.

On May 23, City Council reviewed the top five finalist names and expressed support for naming the facility after Theodore "Ted" Spearman, a former Kitsap County Superior Court Judge and former resident of Bainbridge Island.

"Countless people are worthy of remembrance," said Ted Spearman's daughter Simone Spearman, after the announcement was made. "We feel extremely fortunate and honored that the community has chosen to memorialize my father's life's work and his love of Bainbridge in this way."

The new facility is on schedule, and completion is expected for the fall. The opening ceremony for the Ted Spearman Justice Center, including public tours of the building, is scheduled for November 15.



Judge Spearman

- » Born in Seattle in 1947
- » Attended Yakima Valley College where he met his wife Marie Mullenneix
- » Graduated from Stanford University in 1968
- » Received his Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan Law School in 1971
- » Resident of Bainbridge Island from 1983 until his death in 2012
- » Appointed the first Black judge to the Kitsap County Superior Court in February 2004 by then-Governor Gary Locke
- » Chair of the Washington State Bar Association's Civil Rights Committee
- » Served on the Washington State Bar Association Disciplinary Board for three years
- » Finalist for appointment to the United States District Court, Western Division, in 1998
- » Member of the Bainbridge Island Home Rule Committee
- » Served on the Board of Directors of the Health, Housing and Human Services Council, a Bainbridge Island non-profit organization
- » Chair of the Board of Directors for the Growth and Prevention Theater Company (G.A.P), a non-profit corporation that produced plays dealing with issues of prejudice, domestic violence, peer pressure and dysfunction
- » Advocate for the live-aboard community

CITY EARNS FINANCE AWARDS

The City's Finance and Administrative Services Department was honored with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award (DBPA) by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for its 2023–24 budget. The GFOA is a national organization that defines and assesses best practices. In order for a budget to be honored with the DBPA, the GFOA reviewers must rate it highly as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide and communication tool.

DeWayne Pitts, the City's Finance Director, said, "I'm very proud of the quality of work that we continue to produce. It speaks to the competence of the staff involved and their commitment to excellence and following financial best practices. We take the work that we do very seriously, which is being fiscally responsible with the money we are privileged to protect."

The City also just received a GFOA Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting for its 2021 financial statement; the 2022 audit has not yet been completed. In addition, the Finance Department received two Certificates of Excellence from the Washington Public Treasurer's Association (WPTA) for following best practices for their revised policies for debt and investments.

City's recent finance awards

GFOA awards:

- » 2023–24 Distinguished Budget Presentation Award (6th biennium in a row)
- » 2021 Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting (8th year in a row)

WPTA awards:

- » 2022 Certificate of Excellence in Investment Policy
- » 2021 Certificate of Excellence in Debt Policy



WALK-ON ONLY SERVICE AT THE FERRY TERMINAL SEPT. 7-13 FOR WALKWAY CONSTRUCTION

No vehicle or bike traffic allowed and only one boat in service – parking will be limited



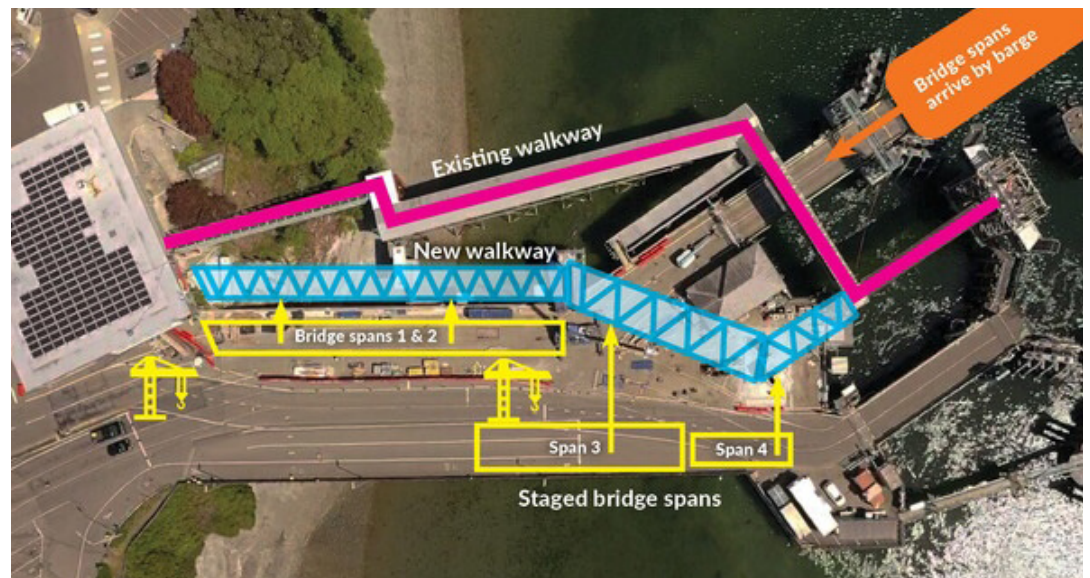
From September 7-13, the Seattle-Bainbridge ferry traffic will only be available to walk-on passengers and emergency vehicles, and only one boat will be in service. You will be unable to drive your vehicle, motorcycle, bicycle or scooter onto the Seattle-Bainbridge ferry. Plan to take transit to the ferry terminal if possible as parking will be very limited. There may be an additional boat at either the Edmonds-Kingston or Seattle-Bremerton crossing. This would also be a great week to try the Kingston or Bremerton fast ferries.

The reason for the disrupted service is the Washington State Ferries (WSF) installation of the new pedestrian walkway at the Bainbridge ferry terminal. During that week in September, crews will lift the walkway structures into place and affix them to their concrete and steel pilings. The four pedestrian bridge spans will arrive via barge from Tacoma and be rolled off the barge and onto the ferry holding lanes. The largest span weighs 45 tons and is 199 feet long and 18 feet wide. The new walkway will be seismically safer, heated for comfort, and open later this year. The closure is planned to begin at 1 a.m. on Thursday the 7th and end at 3 a.m. the following Wednesday.

The ferry service promises that extra staff will be on hand to assist with the expected increase in walk-on passengers. They will make accommodations for emergency medical vehicles. WSF is exploring additional service options on our other routes and will release that information soon.

Cyclists may store their bikes for use on either side of the route: On Bainbridge, the Kitsap Transit Bike Barn offers 79 indoor and 33 outdoor bike parking spaces. On the Seattle side, WSF will provide a secure lock-up area. Cyclists are also encouraged to consider Seattle's scooter and bike share program. For safety reasons, WSF will not mix pedestrians with bicycles and scooters in the terminal waiting areas.

More information
and updates at:



KITSAP TRANSIT OPTIONS TO THE FERRY AND AROUND THE ISLAND



BI Ride

BI Ride is an on-demand rideshare that allows you to travel from point A to B on Bainbridge for \$2, or \$1 for Medicare cardholders and free for youth 18 and under. BI Ride offers hop-on/hop-off service between the ferry terminal and downtown Winslow for select WSF sailings. Learn more: kitsaptransit.com/BI-Ride

Book a trip on BI Ride from 1 hour to 7 days in advance by calling **1-844-424-7433** or use the Ride Pingo app. BI Ride operates 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

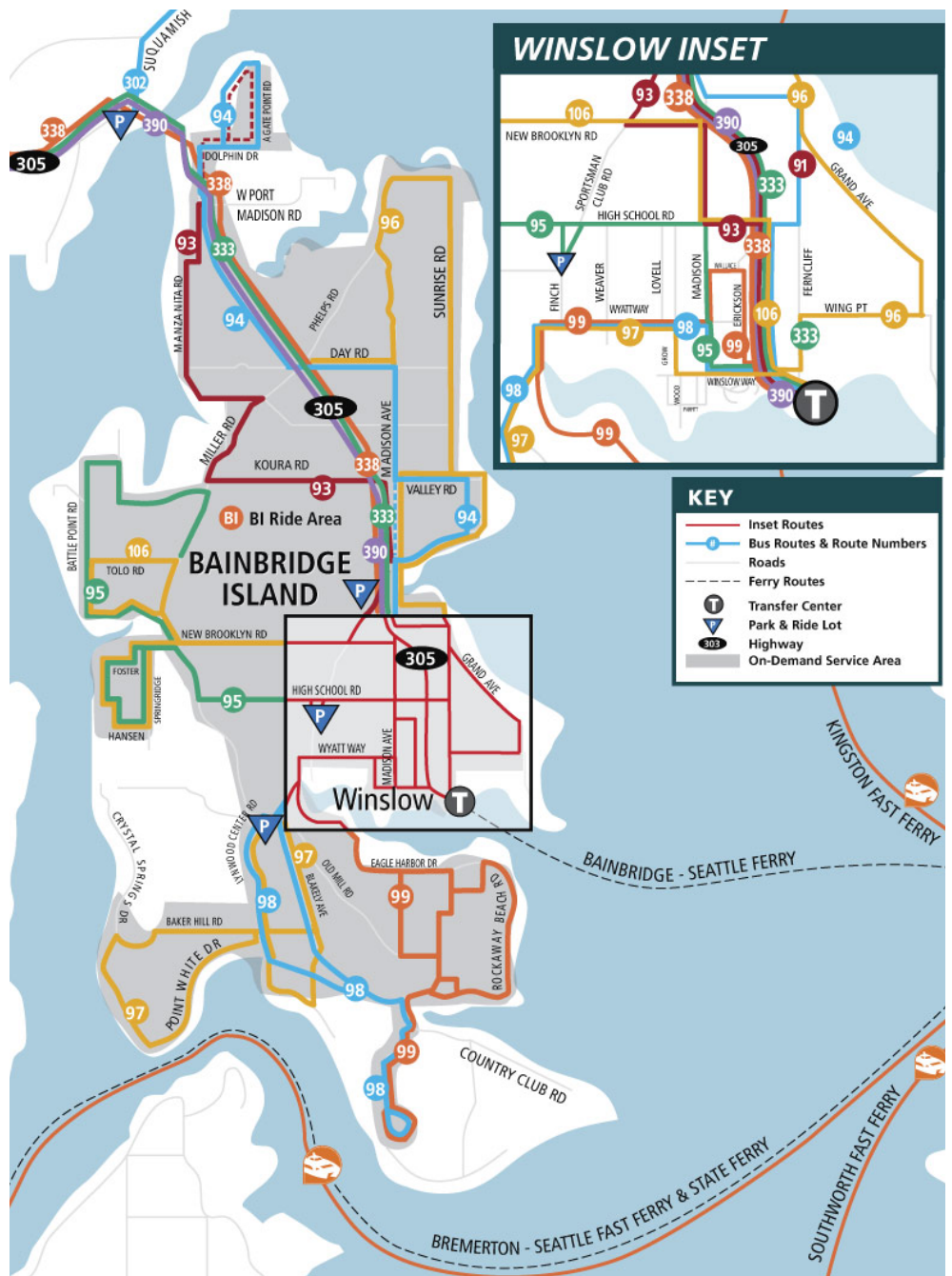


Routed buses

When BI Ride isn't in service, use one of Kitsap Transit's eight on-island routed buses. You can see their real-time location at [kitsap.doublemap.com/map](https://www.kitsaptransit.com/map) or in the Kitsap Transit Tracker app. Outside of the downtown core (south of High School, Ferncliff to Weaver), the bus will stop along its route for you if you flag it down and it's safe for the bus to do so. "Flag stops" are not permitted on Highway 305; wait only at posted bus stops on 305. Fares are the same as BI Ride.

Routed buses connect major BI destinations with the ferry terminal. Route options and schedules can be found in the Ride Pingo app or [kitsaptransit.com/bus](https://www.kitsaptransit.com/bus)

- 93** Manzanita serves Sportsman Club Rd (Coppertop)
- 94** Agate Point serves Day Rd/ Bloedel Reserve
- 95** Battle Point serves Grand Forest
- 96** Sunrise serves Rolling Bay/ Fay Bainbridge
- 97** Crystal Springs serves Lynwood/ Point White
- 98** Fort Ward serves Lynwood Center
- 99** Bill Point serves the Exclusion Memorial
- 106** Fletcher Bay serves Bainbridge Gardens



Vanpool

Vanpool is a group of commuters who live and work near each other and share the ride to and from work. You can join an existing group or start your own. You can find others looking to share rides by registering at [RideshareOnline.com](https://www.rideshareonline.com). Everything is covered in your monthly fare, including the van, gas, insurance and maintenance. Vanpools can go into Seattle and anywhere there is enough need including *priority boarding on the ferry*. More info at: [kitsaptransit.com/vanpool](https://www.kitsaptransit.com/vanpool)



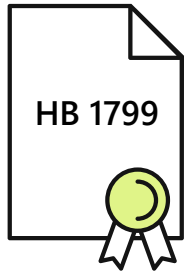
Travel Training: Kitsap Transit offers travel training to anyone wanting to take public transit. Learn to plan your trip, read a bus schedule, pay fares, purchase passes, make transfers, and use their mobile apps. For training, contact **360-824-4910** or traveltrain@kitsaptransit.com.

If you are unable to use the Kitsap Transit Apps and need further assistance, call Kitsap Transit Customer Service at **360-377-BUSS (2877)**.

NEW COMPOSTING REGULATIONS

House Bill 1799, signed into law by Governor Inslee in June of 2022, requires cities and counties to implement composting procurement ordinances. The Bainbridge Island composting ordinance (No. 2023-15) was adopted on June 27 and requires that City staff, when planning City-funded landscaping, construction and postconstruction, erosion prevention, stormwater runoff or pollutants filtration projects, must determine whether compost can be used.

In addition, the City must support staff, residents and businesses in education on composting best practices and uses. Finally, the City is required to measure and report to the Washington State Department of Ecology the total tons of organic material diverted throughout the year from City projects. The City must also measure the volume, cost and source of City-procured compost at the end of each even-numbered year starting with 2024.



Public compost containers in Winslow

In support of the City's 2023 waste regulations requiring home compostable food service ware for to-go orders, the City recently installed organic waste collection bins at various locations in downtown Winslow. The new Compost Only containers can accept food waste, napkins, wooden utensils, pizza boxes and other natural fiber-based home compostable food containers.

The new containers include images and text in five languages—English, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese and Vietnamese—about what goes where. Containers that collect materials for recycling and landfill disposal have been updated with new signage.

City staff is working with Bainbridge Island Zero Waste to perform audits on collected materials. Initial observations show the most common contaminants in the bins are plastic cups, plastic lids, and dog poop bags – all which belong in the trash, even the plastic containers labeled "compostable."

You can learn more about the City's home compostable requirements at bainbridgewa.gov/ZeroWaste.

What goes in the Compost Only container?

Food and natural fiber-based items



DID YOU KNOW?

If a container has more than 3% contamination, the entire bag must go to the landfill.



BI READS BEGINS AGAIN THIS SUMMER

Book announced on July 25

BI Reads is a shared community experience reading one book together. Don't miss the book announcement and events schedule. Click the QR code to learn more:



EV car share program, continued from page 1.

The City installed a new meter to monitor the electricity use at the stations. ZEV co-op will manage and pay for the electricity costs of the car share program and the publicly accessible EV charging station. The City does not collect revenue from either EV charging station.



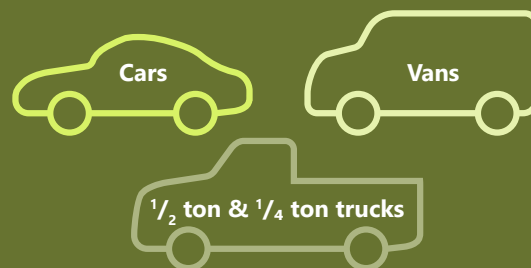
People can download the ZEV co-op app (available on Apple and Google Play) to apply for and schedule use of a car share vehicle. Users must be verified and approved before they can schedule use of a vehicle. The partnership supports City goals outlined in the Sustainable Transportation Plan (STP) and Climate Action Plan (CAP). The STP and CAP support equitable access to EV technology and encourages residents and visitors to operate non-fossil fuel-powered cars. The CAP seeks the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from motorized transportation and to support development of infrastructure for electric vehicles, electric bikes and other electric transport options.

The City's goal is for 80% of registered vehicles on the island to be electric or plug-in hybrids by 2045. To further this goal, the City is working to develop the necessary infrastructure to support the large-scale switch to electric. For more information on the car share program, visit zev.coop.

City fleet is electrifying

One of the goals of the 2020 Climate Action Plan is for 75% of the City's fleet of vehicles to be electric and the rest to run on biofuels by 2025. The City transitioned from diesel/biodiesel (B20) fuel to renewable diesel (R99) fuel in 2022. R99 fuel is derived from non-petroleum renewable sources, like vegetable oils, with no palm oil allowed, and reduces GHG emissions. The City recently purchased its first electric vehicle, a 2022 Mach E, and has plans to purchase approximately 7 more light-duty, passenger electric vehicles in the next two years which will put the City at 16% conversion for the light duty vehicle fleet. The City is currently assessing electric vehicle options and associated costs for vehicles, charging infrastructure and electrical upgrades to accelerate the transition to electric fleet vehicles, with a priority on light duty vehicles. This study is expected to conclude at the end of 2023 to help guide future budget requests and capital planning efforts.






Current City fleet contains
49 light duty vehicles:







BOATING SAFETY

Bainbridge Island has 53 miles of coastline. One of the tasks of the Bainbridge Island police boat, Marine 8, is to tow derelict or abandoned vessels, floats and navigation hazards. Another is to perform vessel safety checks and rescue stranded or capsized boaters.

To avoid needing to be rescued by Marine 8, make sure you are boating safely:

-  Always wear a life jacket. Once on the water, your boat might be capsized or you could be knocked unconscious before you are able to put on your life jacket.
-  Do not mix alcohol and boating.
-  Affix an If Found sticker to your personal watercraft, kayak, canoe, paddleboard, or dinghy. Being able to contact the owner of a vessel to determine if there is a true emergency can prevent unnecessary search and rescue operations.
-  Wear a whistle around your neck if you are a kayaker or paddleboarder to help you get attention in an emergency. If you are on a larger craft, carry flares and/or a locator beacon.
-  Inform someone who remains on land of your intended route, your intended return time, and the number, names and approximate ages of passengers.



-  Comply with No Wake limits in area harbors.
-  Use Channel 16 to signal distress.
-  Take a boating safety course.
-  Get the Coast Guard mobile app.

You are required to have and carry a Boater Education Card if you are over the age of 12 and are operating a vessel with a 15- or more horsepower engine. There are some exemptions to this rule. Find out more here: parks.wa.gov/442/Mandatory-Boater-Education

FOR YOUR SAFETY, PLEASE WEAR A HELMET

The Bainbridge Island Municipal Code on bike helmets now includes electric bikes. If you are riding a bicycle, tricycle, side car, e-bike, attached trailer or device being towed by a bicycle, please wear your helmet.

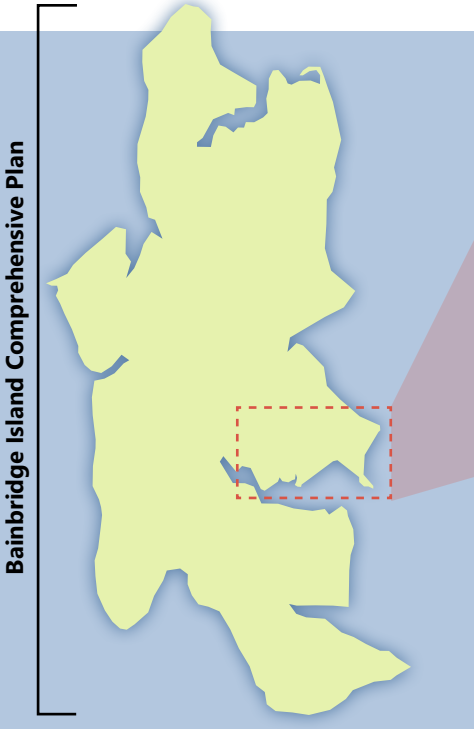


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 Get weekly updates on City topics: bainbridgewa.gov/500

TWO BIG UPDATES NEED YOUR VOICE

Winslow Subarea Plan—Opportunities this summer & fall

This plan serves as a guide for the future of Winslow village specific to the areas around Winslow Way and Island Village. It covers growth management, land use, housing, open space and trails, public facilities, transportation, utilities and capital facilities. It builds upon related plans including the Climate Action, Sustainable Transportation and Housing Action plans.

Additional information about the Winslow Subarea Plan and the updated timeline—including draft chapters describing the existing conditions in Winslow, a synthesis of the early community engagement results and the key challenges and opportunities is available on the project website: cityofbainbridgeisland.civilspace.io/en/projects/winslow-subarea-plan-update.



HELP PLAN THE FUTURE OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

Upcoming Community Visioning Workshops for the Winslow Subarea Plan Update:

- » In person at City Hall, **Thursday July 20, 6–8 PM**
- » Virtual via Zoom, **Wednesday July 26, 6–8 PM**

Bainbridge Island Comprehensive Plan—Opportunities this fall

This plan guides growth and establishes the long-range vision for the Island identifying important characteristics that the community desires to retain, promote and foster. The City must review and, if needed, update the Comprehensive Plan every 10 years to ensure consistency with Growth Management Act (GMA) regional and countywide planning efforts. State law requires the Comprehensive Plan cover seven mandatory elements: land use, housing, capital facilities, utilities, transportation, economic development, parks and recreation. Each element is equally important and must work in harmony together.

Community feedback is important throughout the process. Stay tuned for future engagement opportunities this fall. Additional information about the Comprehensive Plan Update is available on the project website: cityofbainbridgeisland.civilspace.io/en/projects/2024-comprehensive-plan-periodic-update.

Sign up to learn about public engagement opportunities and the progress of both projects.



City Council created an ad-hoc steering committee overseeing the Winslow Subarea Plan Update and Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update. They met for the first time on June 8. The committee will be helping to guide public engagement opportunities for both updates.

Your voice is extremely important. As the city plans for the future of the island. Click on the QR code to receive project updates and engagement opportunities. Sign up for Comprehensive Plan and Winslow Subarea Plan Update notifications: bainbridgewa.gov/List.aspx.

