

ANNUAL REPORT

Kitsap County Vision Safe and Healthy Communities

People are protected and secure, care about their neighborhoods and are proud of where they live, work and play.

Protected Natural Resources and Systems

Education, land use planning and coordinated efforts ensure that the forests, clean air and water that Kitsap is known for are sustained for the benefit of current and future generations.

Thriving Local Economy

A well-educated workforce and strategic investment in county infrastructure promote businesses to expand or locate in Kitsap County, creating well-paying jobs and enhancing our quality of life.

Inclusive Government

County government conducts all activities in a manner that encourages citizen involvement, enhances public trust and promotes understanding.

Effective and Efficient County Services

County government continuously assesses its purpose, promotes and rewards innovation and improvement, fosters employee development and uses effective methods and technologies to produce significant positive results and lasting benefits for citizens.



Kitsap County...Efficient, Accessible and Effective Government

The screenshot shows the Kitsap County website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and a 'GO!' button. Below that is a navigation menu with links for Home, Departments/Offices, Services, A to Z index, Data Tools, Employment, Find Us, and Contact Us. The main content area features a 'KITSAP NEWS' section with a list of recent news items, including 'Kitsap County Releases Annual Report for 2005' and 'County Hosts Spring "Give 'Em a Break" Day Camp'. To the right of the news section is a sidebar with links for 'A to Z Services', 'County Calendar', 'Community Links', 'Commissioner Agendas', 'FAQ', 'Public Records Disclosure', and 'Services Guide'. At the bottom of the news section, there is a 'CURRENT PROJECTS' heading.

A Report to Our Citizens...

Each year, the citizens of Kitsap County invest in programs and services through sales taxes, property taxes, licenses and permits, fees, service charges, fines and forfeits. In addition, Washington State and the federal government provide support for our local programs and services through grants, entitlements or payments.

Once this revenue is collected, the county allocates resources to programs and services based on the input you provide through tax levies, voting for elected officials, citizen surveys, community meetings and workshops, public hearings, writing letters and more. In addition, Washington State and the federal government provide input on how we utilize your investment through funded and

unfunded mandates, which are legal requirements that local government must undertake a specified activity or provide a service meeting minimum state or federal standards.

The final step of this equation is for us to report back to you how we are doing. First, this annual progress report focuses on quantitative and qualitative information that will help you measure our performance.

Second, the report provides information on how we are making government more accessible to you. Specifically, we focus on innovation and technology that can help improve your access to county programs and services.

Lastly, we provide more details about how we spent your investment on county programs and services in 2005 by department or office.

By providing you with this "snapshot," we hope you will better

understand how we are investing your dollars in our community to improve Kitsap County for all citizens.

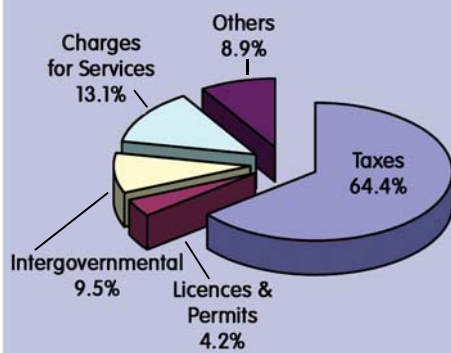
Sincerely,

*Jan Angel, District 2, Chair
Chris Endresen, District 1
Patty Lent, District 3*

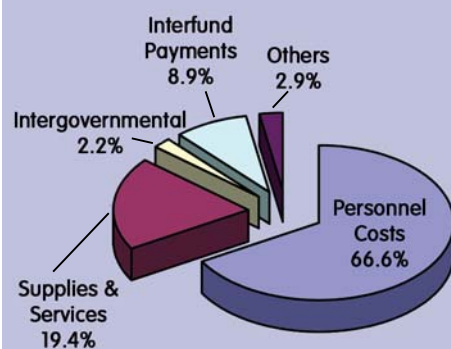
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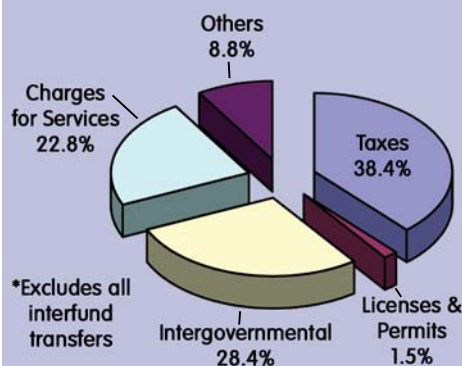
General Fund Sources of Revenue (\$79.5 Million)



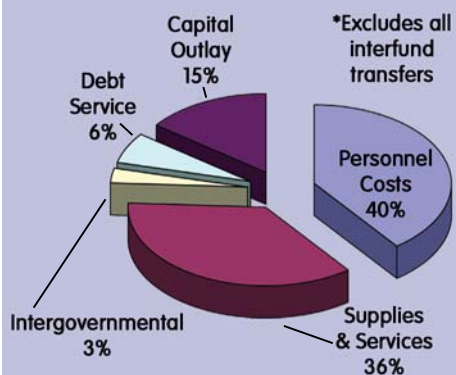
General Fund Objects of Expenditure (\$81.5 Million)



All Funds Sources of Revenues (\$232 Million)*



All Funds Objects of Expenditure (\$213.6 Million)*



The Money Map: Kitsap County's Financial Model

The County's Financial Structure

Kitsap County budgets on a biennium basis to save time and facilitate longer-range planning. Every two years, Administrative Services prepares a budget book with the help of each department and office in the county. The budget serves as the major policy document of the county. Each county department and office is featured, including information about the types of funds that support the department or office.

Kitsap County has six different types of funds (General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Funds, Capital Project Funds, Enterprise Funds and Internal Service Funds) and about 100 different funds. Each of these funds is maintained for a specific purpose. The funds are established by legislative actions and reflect public policy. The county cannot mix funds and has to account for each dollar received or spent in that fund.

How the Money is Spent General Fund

The General Fund represents approximately 30% of the county budget. It provides most of the services we think of when we think of county government, such as law and justice, general government, community services and human services. The General Fund does not include any public works functions.

Special Revenue Funds

Special Revenue Funds are funds collected for specific uses, such as property taxes levied for road maintenance and construction or sales taxes levied for 911 services. Some of these are voted on by the public or may be received from federal or state government for services, such as mental health, employment, aging, develop-

mental disabilities or substance abuse. Kitsap County has more than 50 Special Revenue Funds.

Debt Service Funds

Debt Service Funds are used to pay principal and interest on long-term debt. This debt is usually in the form of tax-free government bonds issued to build projects, such as the new jail, the Central Communications Center (911) and the new Administrative Building.

Capital Project Funds

Capital Project Funds are those funds spent for one-time purchases that are more than normal expenditures. These

Capital Projects include things like the new and improved juvenile services facility, improvements to the Fairgrounds and county parks and building new county facilities.

Enterprise Funds

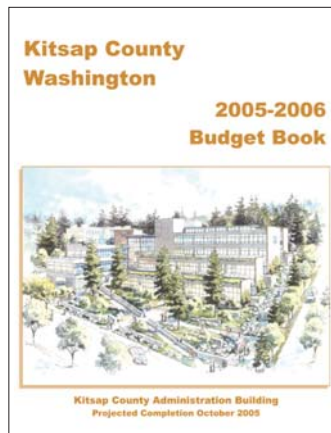
Enterprise Funds are funds that operate as a business. They collect enough money for their services to cover their costs. The county currently manages 18 Enterprise Funds, which include such things as the sewer services, several landfills and Village Greens Golf Course.

Internal Service Funds

Internal Service Funds are funds collected internally from all county departments that utilize common services such as computer support, purchasing, and self-insurance. These funds are established to allocate costs by level of service.

Where the Money Comes From

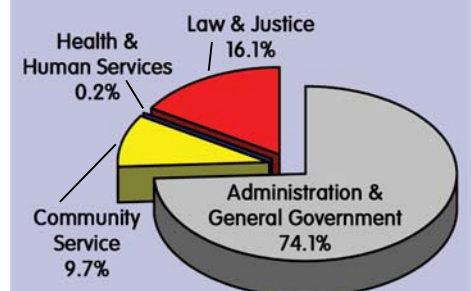
Revenue is collected from several different sources to pay for county services, including taxes, licenses and permits, fees, intergovernmental (grants, entitlements or payments), charges for services, fines and forfeits.



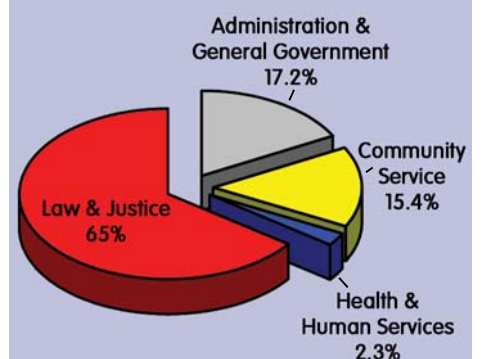
General Fund Actual Expenditures 2005-2006

Administrative Services.....	\$ 609,088
Assessor	2,397,188
Auditor	3,375,177
County Commissioners and Administrator	1,201,579
Clerk	6,068,424
Community Development	6,897,887
Coroner	815,758
District Court.....	2,699,388
Facilities, Parks and Recreation	5,434,319
Jail	9,206,228
Juvenile	7,016,398
Personnel and Human Services.....	1,585,657
Prosecutor.....	7,166,870
Sheriff	18,621,153
Superior Court.....	2,718,903
Treasurer	935,854
WSU Extension	185,046

How the Programs Generate Revenues in the General Fund (\$79.5 Million)



How the Programs Spend the Money in the General Fund (\$81.5 million)



Administrative Services Reaches Out to Provide Property Tax Info and More

Citizens Learn Property Taxes 101

When a 2004 citizen survey showed 60% of those surveyed thought over 25% of their property tax bill goes to support county government services, Ben Holland, Director of Administrative Services, decided to take his show on the road.

In an effort to help citizens better understand how their property taxes are allocated, Holland put together a presentation that defines key terms, provides statistics about property taxes in general, describes rules that govern property taxes and shows examples of how the rules apply. Holland is willing to bring his presentation to any local service group or organization looking to learn more about property taxes.

"It's important people understand where their money goes," said Holland. "By helping them understand how property taxes are levied, we feel they will better understand the county's budgeting process."

By looking at a typical home in Kitsap County in different ways, Holland is able to show why tax rates in various areas of the county may differ, and how taxes are paid in unincorporated areas and incorporated areas.

Holland's demonstration helps citizens see what portion of their property tax bill goes toward county government (the current average is

10.6%) and what goes toward schools, cities, roads, fire/EMS, port districts, library districts, park districts and others.

"The percentage of property taxes that goes toward county government may be the same for someone living in Port Orchard as someone in Bremerton, but their overall taxes will vary due to these other levies," said Holland.

Total taxes can increase 1% from year to year; however, citizens can increase this amount by voting for certain levies and "lid lifts."

To learn more, see Page 24, or click on the Property Taxes 101 link at www.kitsapgov.com/das.

Doing Business with the County

The Purchasing Office acquires equipment, services and supplies for all the county departments and offices, as well as formal bidding for all procurements and capital improvement projects. Vendors are registered by the commodities they offer and our procurement opportunities are available online. Twice annually, the Purchasing Office holds a Vendor Fair as an outreach to our local businesses.

Records Management Going Electronic

In order to improve our business practices, communication between the departments and records available to the public, and conservation of our precious historical documents, the county is in the second year of a plan to image all county working documents.

Requests for Public Disclosure Forms Online

The Public Disclosure Officer provides assistance to requestors in processing public records requests and assists both the departments and offices in the response and coordination of those requests, as needed. Requests for Public Disclosure forms are linked to the home page of the county website.

Volunteer Opportunities Abound

Volunteer Services continues to make public involvement opportunities available to interested citizens. Current and ongoing volunteer opportunities are posted on the county website at www.kitsapgov.com/volunteer. Advisory board openings are also submitted to local newspapers. Volunteer and advisory board applications can easily be completed online. The Annual Report of Volunteer Resources is available for viewing or downloading from the webpage.

Volunteer Services encourages and supports community volunteerism in Kitsap County departments and on county advisory boards.

For more information, contact Jan Koske at 360-337-4650.

CDBG Provides Online Access to Public Application Process

The Community Development Block Grant Division administers the county's federal funds that are designated to meet community and economic development, public service, housing and planning needs identified by the Consolidated Plan. Eligible activities primarily benefit low-income persons and/or eliminate slums/blight. The county website depicts the use of these funds, allows access to pertinent information and forms for the annual application process and provides related links.

HIPAA Compliance Policies Online

Want information about the county's plans covered by the privacy policies legislated by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)? Visit the Risk Management page, where information is provided on the Juvenile Division of the Superior Court, the Corrections Division of the Sheriff's Office and the Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters Disability Board (LEOFF).

What We Do

Provide centralized services and support to all other county departments in a cost-efficient manner.

Primary functions include:

- Budget
- Community Development Block Grants
- Purchasing
- Risk management
- Volunteer services
- Mail center
- Public disclosure and records management

What We Did in 2005 Budget

- Produced Biennial Budget update brochure in easy-to-understand format available to all county residents by March 2005.
- Printed county budget books replaced with CDs: 65%, saving over \$30 per copy.
- Secured lowest possible interest rates on government bonds.

Volunteer Services

- Recruited, screened and placed 91 new and retained 29 experienced volunteers who provided 30,323 hours of services valued at \$547,031.
- Recruited and facilitated placement of 84 volunteers on advisory boards.
- Implemented system to facilitate annual review of advisory boards, purpose, goals, accomplishments and by-laws.

Administration

- Contracts processed in 30 days or less: 100%.
- Pieces of outgoing mail processed: over 1.4 million.
- Promoted Mail Center Guide for departments to reduce mailing costs and time.
- Promoted carpools and vanpools by administering Commute Trip Reduction program.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$418,016
• Benefits	117,739
• Supplies	9,657
• Services & Charges	30,659
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	33,017
TOTAL	\$609,088

% of General Fund 0.73%
Special Revenue Funds \$7,247,551

Staffing Level 16

What We Do

Establish an assessed valuation of all real and personal property for tax purposes. We are required by law to assess all property at 100% of market value.

Primary functions include:

- Residential mass appraisal
- Commercial mass appraisal
- Split and combine accounts
- Special use and non-profit exemptions
- Levies
- Senior citizen/disabled exemptions
- Personal property

What We Did in 2005

- Managed record market-value increase of 20.3% to real and personal property in Kitsap County.
- New Senior/Disabled Exemption applications processed: 729—a 300% increase over a normal year's workload, due in large part to an increase in the income threshold.
- Fully transitioned to field input devices for appraisers.
- Developed web-based Personal Property Online Filing System.
- Digitized all folio books and other files to reduce needed office space and increase staff productivity.
- Staff size reduced due to technology-based productivity improvements: 1.75 employees.
- Physically inspected 16,195 residential and 916 commercial properties.
- Added all newly built commercial and residential improvements.

Workload Factors:

- Tax parcels: 112,957.
- Taxing districts: 47.
- Personal property accounts: 4,876.
- New construction parcels: 4,518.
- Senior/disabled exempt accounts: 3,946.

Assessor's Office Offers New Online Services

Online Filing System Reduces Personal Property Paperwork

Every year, the Assessor's Office requires business owners to submit a listing of all equipment used in their businesses so that their personal property taxes can be correctly assessed. In January, the Assessor sends out forms to taxpayers, asking them to mail in updated listings by April 30.

Beginning in January 2006, this process became more convenient and cost effective for taxpayers and the Assessor's Office, and it is better for the environment. Instead of filling out paper forms and sending them back to the Assessor, taxpayers are able to access and update their information by logging into the new Personal Property Online Filing System through the county's website. The Assessor's Office is then able to review the electronically submitted information and easily update their database, which reduces processing time.

"I'm pretty sure we are the first county in Washington State to achieve this major breakthrough," said Jim Avery, Assessor. "Taxpayers benefit from using a simple, web-based process, and we save a whole lot of processing time in updating our database."

Online filing was made possible in 2004, when the legislature allowed assessors to accept unsigned personal property listings.

The Assessor's Office and Information Services have been developing the complex Personal Property Online Filing System for the past year.

Parcel Search Provides Interactive Mapping and Property Information

Looking for parcel information online? In the interest of sharing property information with the public in a convenient and easily accessible manner, the county launched the parcel search function on the website in January 2002.

The Property Locator allows users

to view information about property in Kitsap County and displays the information in the form of maps, tables and text online. These applications allow users to search for property using a parcel number or street address, or by simply clicking on the displayed map.

"By allowing more visibility of our property information, we feel that we get more owner feedback, which results in better data and better estimates of market value," said Jim Avery.

To check out this online tool, visit the county home page and click on the "Parcel Search" link under Quick Links.



Annual Statement of Assessments Posted on Website

Each year, the Assessor publishes a Statement of Assessment for taxes payable in that year. This document, which is posted on the Assessor's page on the county website, includes detailed information about assessed values, taxing districts, new construction, senior citizen exemptions and more. General information about the property tax process is also included. To view the report, visit the Assessor's page and click on the "Statement of Assessments" link.

Information about appeals, commercial property assessments, property reevaluation, sales data, tax levy limits and many other reports and forms are also posted on the site.

Tax Relief Available to Seniors/Disabled Citizens

The Assessor has posted a wealth of information about the Senior/Disabled Exemptions on the website and also provides the information in a printed brochure. Last year, the Assessor's Office processed 729 new applications—a 300% increase over a normal year's workload.

"We really want to get the word out that this type of tax relief is available to our seniors and disabled citizens," said Jim Avery.

The exemption provides three levels of tax reduction if annual household income is below \$35,000.

For details, visit the Assessor's page on the county website, or call 360-337-7160.

Tablet PC Field Devices Help Process Physical Inspections

The Assessor's Office has transitioned to using tablet computers in the field to collect data.

"These new computers also work very well as desktop workstations, and they allow for the direct update of our account records in the field simultaneously with our many inspections," said Assessor Jim Avery. "This, of course, saves an awful lot of paper, while significantly increasing appraiser productivity."

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$1,530,756
• Benefits	504,110
• Supplies	65,729
• Services & Charges	60,428
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	236,165
TOTAL	\$2,397,188

% of General Fund 2.87%
Special Revenue Funds 0

Staffing Level 30.5

Auditor's Office All-Mail Election Big Winner for Kitsap County

All-mail voting proved a resounding success in its first general election in Kitsap County. Voter turnout in the November 2005 election reached 60 percent with 80,968 ballots cast—surpassing turnout in the last two “off-year” elections.

“While polling places and poll workers served our community well for many years,” said Karen Flynn, County Auditor, “there is no question that the ease of vote-by-mail has encouraged the participation of many voters who could not otherwise participate.”

Kitsap County Commissioners adopted a resolution to conduct all elections by mail, as authorized by law in 2005. The move saved the county \$732,000, which would have been necessary to purchase new touch-screen electronic voting devices for polling places.

The move to all-mail voting made particular sense, since 104,000 of Kitsap’s 139,000 registered voters—75 percent—had already chosen to vote by mail through permanent absentee ballots. In previous years, mail-in ballots comprised up to 87 percent of all votes cast in primary and general elections.

The *Kitsap Sun* summed it up last November, “Mail-in voting had become a fast-growing grass roots movement long before any official efforts to make it mandatory. Even before last summer, voters here already had made Kitsap a nearly all-mail election county on their own.”

Real Property Records Online

As the custodian of public records for Kitsap County, the Auditor’s Office records an average of 95,644 real property records each year. Records dating back to 1857 are preserved and maintained by the Auditor, ensuring a permanent history of our county is available for future generations. Records from 1987 forward can be viewed at www.kitsapgov.com/aud.



Peers Recognize Kitsap for Financial Reporting Excellence

In 2005, the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting was awarded to the Kitsap County Auditor by the Government Finance Officers Association for the eighth consecutive year.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. The report is generated by the Financial Services Division of the Auditor’s Office, under the direction of County Auditor Karen Flynn.

“Producing a quality financial report is the culmination of a year-long effort to properly maintain records and accurately reflect the financial health of Kitsap County,” said Flynn. “This recognition is an indicator of the quality and professionalism of the employees who work here,

and of our commitment to providing an open and transparent government to the people of Kitsap County.”

Auditor Applies for Federal Grant for Accessible Voting

New laws require counties to provide disability accessible voting equipment to enable all voters the opportunity to vote privately and securely. Accessible voting equipment will be available at the Auditor’s Office in Port Orchard 18 days prior to each election. The equipment uses a touch-screen with audio capability allowing individuals with visual impairments and those with limited mobility the opportunity to vote independently and privately. The equipment also creates a paper trail, which may be used in the event of a recount.

The Auditor’s Office is also seeking a federal grant to retrofit a cube van to serve as a regional voting location. The van would be equipped with wheelchair access and voting units accessible to the disabled to facilitate voters with special needs.

Licensing Services Available Countywide and Online

The Auditor’s Office collected \$17 million in revenue through vehicle and vessel license fees to help fund transportation projects and criminal justice programs. Citizens received services at the courthouse or at one of the four licensing subagencies located throughout the county. This public-private partnership supports local business and provides residents with convenient access to conduct licensing and titling transactions.

Services are also available online through the Department of Licensing website at www.InternetTabs.wa.gov. In 2005, the county processed 33,885 Internet transactions.

Auditor’s Employees Contribute to Community

United Way, Red Cross, Katrina Relief, YWCA and local foodbanks have all received the benefit of donations from the Auditor’s staff.

What We Do

The County Auditor serves as Ex Officio Supervisor of Elections, Registrar of Voters, Chief Financial Officer, Motor Vehicle Licensing Agent and Recorder for the county.

What We Did in 2005 Elections and Voter Registration

- Voter turnout resulting from new all-mail election: 60%.
- Elections conducted: 4.
- Registered voters: 134,060.
- Ballots processed: 365,916.
- Extra-help election workers hired and trained: 241.
- Voter registration records managed: 147,796.

Financial Services

- Received National Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting for 8th straight year.
- Disbursements issued: 141,581 totaling \$2.7 million.

Licensing

- Vehicle/vessel licenses/titles issued: 317,000.
- Gambling taxes collected: \$468,222.
- Pet licenses: 13,662 generating \$146,244.

Recording

- Digitized and posted online historic volumes of Kitsap maps dating back to 1866.
- Documents recorded: 97,937 generating \$925,716.
- Marriage licenses: 7,763 generating \$13,793 for family support services and \$26,386 revenue for county.
- Document searches: 3,245 generating \$48,679.
- Revenue generated to help meet affordable housing needs in Kitsap County: \$676,005.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$1,827,065
• Benefits	552,411
• Supplies	524,534
• Services & Charges	354,321
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	116,846
TOTAL	\$3,375,177

% of General Fund 4.03%
Special Revenue Funds \$1,623,898

Staffing Level 35

**What We Do
Board of County
Commissioners**

Act as legislative body of county government, assist citizens, address constituent concerns and set policy for all county services.

Primary functions include:

- Public involvement
- Board of Equalization
- Budget and levying taxes
- State and regional affairs
- Policies and regulations
- Public information

County Administrator

Implements Board policies by providing direction to departments to achieve county goals.

What We Did in 2005

- Ranked 28th lowest of 39 Washington counties for average annual per capita cost of General Fund operations.
- Increased enforcement and abatement activities to minimize illegal dumping activities.
- Invested \$2 million in capital funding for community recreation facilities and open space acquisition.
- Began implementation of the Mosquito Fleet Trail.
- Completed subarea plans for Kingston and Suquamish, and initiated subarea plans for South Kitsap and Silverdale.
- Completed Watershed Resource Inventory Area process.
- Funded and participated in Kitsap Regional Economic Development Council activities.
- Completed land capacity analysis.
- Completed update to the Critical Areas Ordinance.
- Created new District Court judgeship and related support positions.

Commissioners Work to Make Kitsap a Better Place to Live, Work and Play



Kitsap Board of County Commissioners (L to R): Chris Endresen, District 1; Jan Angel, District 2; Patty Lent, District 3.

Kitsap County Celebrates NCGW April 23–29, 2006

National County Government Week, sponsored by the National Association of Counties, is held annually to raise public awareness about the roles and responsibilities of counties. This year's theme, "Protecting Our Communities," focuses on how we prepare for and protect communities from natural disasters, terrorist attacks, crime and drug abuse. Counties also work to protect families, children and youth from not only natural and man-made disasters, but new dangers, such as the rise of methamphetamine abuse across the country.

National County Government Week is an ideal opportunity to explain how Kitsap County works and highlight the many services that we provide. All of Kitsap County's departments and offices work in some way to protect our community, from managing our budget to preparing for and responding to emergencies and disasters.

Best Practices Help Improve County Services

In striving to make Kitsap County a better place to live, work and play, the county's departments and offices continually seek out creative ways to save money, improve services or tap into new ways to pay for programs.

One way we accomplish this task is through collaboration. By working with civic groups, neighborhoods,

non-profit foundations, local businesses, government agencies, schools and volunteers, Kitsap County depends on partnerships to get things done.

Recently, Kitsap County:

- Partnered with Kitsap Public Utilities District and Wave Cable, with the help of Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council, to connect the courthouse and several county locations to a fiber optics network.
- Unified a team of 14 agencies (KNAT) to respond to public nuisance complaints.
- Partnered with civic groups to help prevent premature deaths due to suicide and drunk driving.
- Spearheaded team of experts who trained judges and pro-tems about Domestic Violence No Contact Orders.
- Partnered with cities and state patrol to prosecute all cases in Kitsap County courts.
- Participated in multi-jurisdictional task force (WestNET) to fight drug crimes.
- Utilized jail alternatives and inmate crews to save tax dollars.
- Involved citizens through councils and boards to address human services needs of the community.
- Launched extensive public involvement process to update Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan.
- Delivered research-based information and education programs to the public through volunteers.

In addition to collaboration, modernizing and streamlining county government also helps increase services to our citizens and helps make county government more efficient, accessible and effective. To modernize and streamline government, Kitsap County:

- Managed biennial budget, rather than annual budget, to save time and facilitate longer-range planning.
- Enhanced use of computer technology to more effectively provide current information to taxpayers, optimize cash management and safeguard the county's financial assets.
- Implemented Personal Property Online Filing System to make process more convenient and cost effective for taxpayers.
- Joined with community to pilot program authorizing a mobile voting van for disability access.
- Offered Passports at the mall during spring break to improve outreach and increase accessibility for individuals and families.
- Staffed The Open Line to create "one-stop shop" for Public Works.
- Moved to brand-new 911 and County Emergency Operations Center to better serve public safety.
- Upgraded to add online functionality to Superior Court website.
- Employ prevention and accountability programs to manage youth offenders and non-offenders.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$791,659
• Benefits	214,609
• Supplies	23,648
• Services & Charges	41,376
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	130,287
TOTAL	\$1,201,579

% of General Fund 1.44%
Special Revenue Funds 0

Staffing Level 11.5

Information Services Looks at Future of Communication Throughout County

Wireless Mobility, the New Frontier

It was only a few years ago that cell phones were such a marvel because you could talk to anyone, anytime and anywhere. In that same timespan, portable computers (laptops, now tablets) were a major innovation; however, you had to carry your work files with you. Connection back to your host data was not available or cost effective.

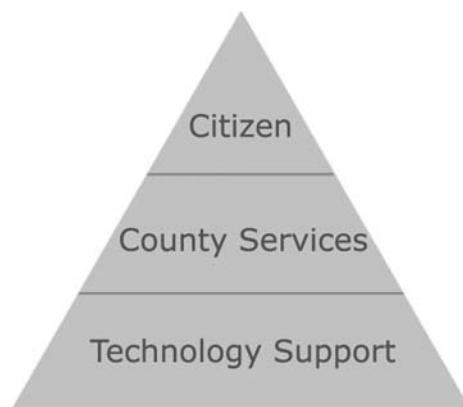
In today's world, you can perform a broad range of voice, video or data activities from almost anywhere. There are many different adaptations of wireless technology. You can check and respond to voicemail through your tablet PC. Conversely, you can check and respond to email through your cell phone, as well as review documents on your server, surf the Internet and more.

The latest industry buzzword encapsulating all this is "mobility." There are many government functions that can be done more efficiently and cost-effectively by implementing some of the new wireless technologies. The major challenge is how to fund and support the legally required privacy and security of the data for law enforcement, health, courts and other areas.

Examples of how mobility is currently being used or being considered in Kitsap County include:

- Law & Justice Biometric ID Systems that would provide future ability to capture a suspect's fingerprints in the field and get match results from the FBI in seconds through a specially adapted cell phone.
- Tablet PCs that allow field staff (assessor, permitting, fire inspection) to carry data and record notes. Future ability would include access to the various host databases for additional updating, resolving issues and answering questions.
- Ensure department computer systems are virtually always available for use, have recovery backups and are updated for ease of use and audit compliance.
- Utilize geographical-spatial data to support elections, criminal prosecutions, emergency management and land management/planning.
- Expand voice, video and data networks to support the growing need for:
 - Online images of documents versus retrieving and refileing the original.
 - Video arraignment of criminals versus the cost of guarding and transporting to courtrooms.
 - Sharing of law and justice information, including mug shots, fingerprints and national crime data, among the county, cities and tribes.

"Behind the Scenes" Philosophy Focuses on Support Role



A picture is worth a thousand words.

The "behind the scenes" philosophy of the Department of Information Services, depicted by the above pyramid, focuses on helping county departments achieve their objectives. County services are in place to serve the needs of the citizens. In turn, Information Services provides and supports the many and varied aspects of technology used by the county service departments.

The underlying goal is to make government services more efficient, accessible and effective by leveraging technology. Examples of how this has been accomplished include:

- Develop Internet web services so citizens can make tax and utility billing payments or obtain information without having to drive to the courthouse.

GIS Helps Map the County

The Geographic Information System (GIS) division enjoyed a busy, but productive 2005. With a focus towards improving regional coordination of county geographic data and services, the division oversaw a countywide aerial imagery acquisition project with eight subcooperators, maintained the parcel search web service that supported an average 13,000 unique visitors per month, began the development of an in-house GIS training program to support a burgeoning set of GIS users (57 licensed users in eight county departments), upgraded the GIS software to the latest version (ArcGIS 9.1) on both clients and servers and provided six gigabytes of GIS data on the county website (for free!).

While the division does not interact with the public on a day-to-day basis, their mission is to improve and enhance the tools of others who do. This is done by providing quality geographic data, maps and tools through various systems and interfaces to facilitate better information, analysis and decisions.

What We Do

Information Services is committed to applying technology and automation resources to meet the county's business needs.

Primary functions include:

- Voice, video and data networks throughout the county and for other municipalities and government agencies
- Central computer system, personal computers and mobile devices (tablets, PDAs, combined digital assistants).
- System analysis, project management and application programming and maintenance
- Cartographic development, analysis and mapping
- Database architecture, maintenance and recovery
- Network, data and system recovery

What We Did in 2005

- Enhanced online services, including the county website, Public Works e-payment and the Assessor's Personal Property Online Filing System.
- Upgraded internal systems, including the Financial Management System, Document Imaging, GIS and the Law & Justice System.
- Partnered with other agencies and jurisdictions, including:
 - KPUD/KRCC/Wave Cable to connect the courthouse and several county locations to a fiber optics network.
 - Washington Department of Natural Resources, several water districts, Poulsbo, tribes and fire for Color Digital Orthophoto Imagery.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$1,780,373
• Benefits	508,380
• Supplies	286,773
• Services & Charges	1,706,552
• Capital Outlay	80,950
• Interfund Services	94,292
TOTAL (Internal Service)	\$4,457,320

% of General Fund 0%
Special Revenue Funds 0

Staffing Level 28

**What We Do
Personnel Division**

Provide recruitment and hiring assistance, labor relations and employee benefits services for 20 county offices and departments employing over 1,200 employees.

Human Services Division

Contract for human services programs or directly provide services that impact the lives of over 12,000 county residents per year.

Primary Human Services programs include:

- Aging and long-term care case management and informational assistance
- Developmental disabilities
- Substance abuse
- WorkSource Kitsap County
- Mental health
- Human rights
- Children and youth services

What We Did in 2005

- Applications for job openings processed: 4,000 for 160 job openings.
- Percentage of workforce who attended supervisor and employee training: 75%.
- Individuals provided with substance abuse treatment services: 2,500.
- Children and adults provided with mental health services: 7,500.
- Copies of Youth Yellow Pages distributed to schools and youth organizations: 15,000.
- Seniors provided with assistance on new federal prescription drug program: 2,000.
- Infants and adults with developmental disabilities provided with services: 425.
- County residents and employees who provide mentoring to children and youth through the support of the department: 605.

Personnel and Human Services Works to Improve Quality of Life for Residents

Job Application Information Accessible via Internet, Phone or Walk-In

The Personnel Division has implemented outreach and online job application processes to enhance customer service to potential job applicants. Open positions are listed on the county's website and are continually updated on the 24-hour Job Line at 360-337-7185 ext 1. Employment opportunities, application instructions, information on the hiring process and the county's application form are all available online at www.kitsapgov.com/jobline.

WorkSource Expands to North and South Kitsap

WorkSource One-Stop Centers offer high-quality training and placement services for job seekers and employers. Job seekers can use computers with Internet access, copies, faxes and telephones; classes on how to get and keep a job; job referral and placement; referrals to training and community resources; access to unemployment insurance; veterans' services and information about career resources.

In order to meet the needs of our community, job training offices have expanded to WorkSource affiliates in Poulsbo and Port Orchard. In 2005 over 14,000 visits were made to the WorkSource Centers in Kitsap County. For more information, call 360-337-4810.

Assistive Technology Now Available to Persons With Disabilities

The Bremerton WorkSource Center has improved access to workforce development services for persons with disabilities. Funding from the U.S. Department of Labor has been used to purchase assistive technology, provide training for WorkSource staff on the use of the technology, partner with agencies on disability issues and promote the assistive technology in the community. For more information, visit the center at 1300 Sylvan Way in Bremerton, or call 360-337-4810.

Human Services Boards and Councils Seek Citizen Involvement

The Personnel and Human Services Department is responsible for providing professional and technical support to human services volunteer citizen boards. These volunteers bring their community perspectives, ideas and energy to help serve the human services needs of the community through the following boards:

- Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council
- Commission on Children & Youth
- Council for Human Rights
- Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board
- Long-Term Care Ombudsman
- Olympic Workforce Development Council
- Peninsula Regional Support Network Advisory Board
- Substance Abuse Advisory Board

For information on how you can get involved in one of Kitsap County's human services advisory boards, contact Jan Koske at 360-337-4650.

Kitsap Recovery Center Implements Triage Services

The mission of Kitsap Recovery Center (KRC) is to promote healthy lifestyles and communities through superior, responsive, cost-effective chemical dependency treatment services, which lead to improved quality of life for those involved in or affected by chemical dependency.

To achieve a successful mission, KRC ensures access to services addressing chemical dependency problems, including alcohol abuse, addiction to other drugs (e.g., methamphetamine) and prescription drug abuse/addiction. Services are available 24 hours a day at 360-337-4625.

Specialized services include:

- Triage: provides assessment and short stay in a safe place for those 18 and older whose behavior suggests substance abuse or mental

illness, and works with other community providers, such as Harrison Hospital and Kitsap Mental Health.

- Detox: Provides detoxification for non-medical withdrawal from alcohol and drugs.
- Assessment: Facilitates treatment for individuals eligible for public funding.
- Intensive inpatient treatment: Offers up to 30 days to the chemically dependent.
- Other: offers Kitsap County Drug Court; outpatient counseling; and family education, information and referral.

Caregiver Support Center Opens

Kitsap County Aging and Long-Term Care has expanded its Senior Information and Assistance program through its recently opened Caregiver Support Center located in the Silverdale Community Center. The center supports families providing care to an elderly or disabled loved one. Services provided to caregivers include referrals for legal assistance, counseling services, nutrition services and respite care.

At the center's library, caregivers can access Internet information and online support groups, view videos or borrow books and check out videos to take home. For information, contact 360-337-5700.

**Department Actual
2005-2006**

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$867,458
• Benefits	228,254
• Supplies	118,798
• Services & Charges	315,554
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	55,593
TOTAL	\$1,585,657

% of General Fund 1.90%
Special Revenue Funds ...\$43,247,200

Staffing Level 92.5

Treasurer Offers Easy Access for Property Tax Payments

Since 2003, taxpayers have been able to access their property tax statements on the Kitsap County website. The searchable Parcel Locator application, which provides public tax information by address or tax identification number, can be reached through the Treasurer's Office webpage at www.kitsapgov.com/treas. This application allows citizens to look up information about any parcel.

Traditional paper statements are also still sent out on February 14 of every year in their pink envelopes. The Treasurer's Office has enhanced these statements to include two years of data and information about the property. Property taxes are due on April 30 and October 31, but this is the only tax statement mailing for the year.

The Treasurer's Office also allows taxpayers to choose from a number of convenient methods for paying taxes.

According to Kitsap County Treasurer Barbara Stephenson, "We have expanded the payment options available to taxpayers, in order to make it as easy as possible for people to use the same method to pay their taxes as they are accustomed to in paying their other bills."

Payments may be made in person at the Treasurer's Office, or checks can be mailed. An E-Payment system has been added that allows taxpayers to pay via electronic check through the Kitsap County website, which helps speed up the collections process.

Taxpayers can enroll in a debit program that automatically debits your bank account for tax payments on an ongoing basis. Payments can also be made with credit cards.

More information about all payment methods is available online or by contacting the Treasurer's Office at 360-337-7135.



Taxpayers can also use the tax statement online to determine if the tax payment they made has been posted and on what date. Taxpayers can also confirm that their mortgage company made their tax payment, if they have that arrangement. This information is available online by downloading the appropriate tax statement and clicking on "View: Receipt(s) on file."

Auction Information Available Online

If you are interested in participating in a county auction, the Treasurer's website provides information about different kinds of property sold at auction and an FAQ that explains the sale process. Announcements for upcoming sales are published in local newspapers and posted on the

Internet. The results of recent auctions are also posted on the Internet.

Easily Accessible Forms Available on Website

The following forms are available on the Treasurer's Office website, to be filled out online, printed out and mailed in:

- Address Change Form
- Excise Tax Form
- Gift Supplemental Form
- Mobile Home Excise Tax Form
- Move Permit Application
- Automatic Debit Form

By filling out forms online and then printing them out, you help ensure the Treasurer's Office can more accurately and efficiently read the information you are providing.

County Treasurer Serves as "Banker"

Although the public is primarily acquainted with the Treasurer's Office through the payment of property taxes, the Treasurer also serves a vital role as "banker" to local government. The Treasurer provides revenue collection, banking, cash management, investment, financial reporting and debt management for local government.

Over 1.5 billion dollars that flow through the Treasurer's checkbook each year must be accurately managed on behalf of the county and more than 40 local government agencies, including school districts, fire districts, port, water and park districts. Included are over 120,000 warrants (public fund version of a check) that the office redeems on behalf of the county and local agencies. Unlike consumers who may have 60 days after they receive their monthly statement to report an incorrect item, the county has less than 24 hours to confirm that the warrants drawn are valid.

What We Do

Acting as the "bank" for the county, school districts, fire districts, water districts and other units of local government, receipts, disburses, invests and accounts for the funds of each of these entities.

Primary functions include:

- Investments and cash management
- Collections
- Tax administration

What We Did in 2005

- Enhanced and sped up processing of tax collections through LIS system and e-payments.
- Real estate excise tax transactions processed: 12,400.
- Name and address changes completed: 15,000.
- Enhanced tax statements to include two years of data and information.
- Tax accounts accurately billed and collected: 116,472.
- Tax payments made with new e-payments system: \$1.1 million.
- Properties returned to the tax rolls through tax title project: 65
- Tax delinquency rate: reduced to 3.61%.
- Investment earnings distributed utilizing countywide investment pool: \$11.9 million.
- Water, sewer and road district assessments billed and collected: 400.
- Cash receipted, deposited, disbursed and reconciled through Treasurer's office: \$1.5 billion.
- Refunds to taxpayers processed: \$423,000.
- Warrants redeemed and reconciled within 24 hours of clearing bank: 120,000.
- Days required to process mass tax collection for April and October: 5.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$578,107
• Benefits	192,655
• Supplies	39,662
• Services & Charges	52,674
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	72,756
TOTAL	\$935,854

% of General Fund	1.12%
Special Revenue Funds	\$212,297

Staffing Level 13

What We Do

Find and implement solutions to the challenges of growth.

Primary functions include:

- Building permits and inspections
- Code enforcement
- Community planning
- Development engineering
- Environmental review
- Fire prevention
- Natural resources
- Permits and plan review
- Zoning and development

What We Did in 2005

- Phone calls: 114,762.
- Avg. calls per week: 2,300.
- Completed four sub-area plans, land capacity analysis, population allocation, Critical Areas Ordinance, fire code update and nine-lot short plat update.
- Identified 48 chronic public nuisance sites, 13 complete, 11 awaiting warrant.

Building Permits

- Commercial/Residential Permits Issued: 496/2,634.
- Building inspections performed: 22,609.
- Average Residential Permit Turnaround: 22 Days

Increase in Site Development Activity Permits from 2004

- Road permits issued: 11%.
- Commercial Permits: 42%.
- Preliminary Large Lot Subdivision Permits: 80%.
- Preliminary Short Subdivision Permits: 50%.
- Single Family Residence Permits: 14%.
- Right-of-Way Opening: 14%.

Natural Resources Public Outreach and Stream Team

- Volunteers hours: 800.
- Presentations and watershed tours on water quality and healthy aquatic habitat: 30.
- Grants to community organizations for salmon and watershed restoration and education projects: 13.

Public Involvement and Collaboration Key to Community Development Projects

Community Development Offers Online Resources

The Department of Community Development (DCD) website offers a number of services, giving citizens an alternative to calling or visiting the department in person. The site is updated regularly with information about upcoming meetings, including downloadable supporting documents.

The website also helps streamline the permitting process by allowing citizens to sign up for inspection requests online. Requests made before 3:30PM for many kinds of inspections will be scheduled for the next day. A current schedule of the day's inspections is also posted. By using the Permit Search application, you can track the progress of your permit. Information from inspections is posted around midnight the day after the inspection.

Finally, the website provides citizens with opportunities to get in touch with Community Development with a customer service form for the department, as well as a comment form on the MyKitsap.org site for feedback regarding the 10-Year Comprehensive Plan Update.

To access these resources and more, visit www.kitsapgov.com/dcd.

Community Planning Looks Ahead

The Division of Community Planning is responsible for Kitsap County's long-range planning activities related to Washington's Growth Management Act and provides staff support to the Kitsap Board of County Commissioners and Planning Commission in the processing of comprehensive plan updates, amendments and related changes.

To assist in long-range planning, the division uses such tools as reasonable measures, land capacity analysis, and population and employment forecasting and allocations. The division acts as a liaison between various community citizen advisory committees, like the Central Kitsap

Community Council and the Kingston Citizen Advisory Council, and their respective county commissioners. Community Planning also supports sub-area plan development, which focuses planning efforts in a defined area to enhance otherwise broader, county-wide planning.

The Community Planning section of DCD's website, www.kitsapgov.com/dcd, provides information about upcoming public meetings, outlines key planning documents and each phase of the sub-area planning processes and links to the MyKitsap site, which contains information about the 10-year review and update of the county's Comprehensive Plan.



Natural Resources Offers Citizen Involvement Opportunities

The Natural Resources Division enables citizens to take an active part in preserving Kitsap County's environment. The Stream Team works with community volunteers on a number of projects in the field, including planting trees and removing invasive plants along stream banks. The Stream Team also helps educate students by helping organize the annual Water Festival for fourth graders and by participating in the Salmon in the Classroom program in local schools.

The Salmon Recovery Planning Citizens Committee consists of representatives from across the county, and it is the last word in determining which projects to fund out of those proposed by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The committee

members volunteer over 100 hours of their time each year to this work.

Natural Resources also provides financial support to small organizations and local landowners wishing to carry out projects on their land through Watershed Mini-Grants. Funded by Surface and Stormwater Management, a total of \$15,000 is given annually in grants of \$1,000 to \$2,000 each. The Community Salmon Fund also provides grants up to \$30,000 to non-profit organizations. Seven were awarded in 2005.

Kitsap Nuisance Abatement Team Provides Fast, Effective Response

Community Development is one of 14 agencies, including other county departments and a number of organizations on the local, state and federal level, that form the Kitsap Nuisance Abatement Team (KNAT). KNAT's goal is to provide a unified team to effectively respond to public nuisance complaints, with a special focus on chronic nuisance properties. DCD's role in KNAT involves receiving complaints and responding to violations of Kitsap County code, coordinating visits to these sites, and collecting and disseminating information to other agencies and the public. They work to achieve voluntary correction of code violations and handle abatement proceedings and condemnations of dangerous buildings.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$4,106,224
• Benefits	1,297,053
• Supplies	236,558
• Services & Charges	610,643
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	647,409
TOTAL	\$6,897,887

% of General Fund 8.24%
Special Revenue Funds 0

Staffing Level 80.75

Community Input Shapes Future Parks, Recreation and Open Space for Kitsap



The Point No Point Lighthouse in Hansville provides public access to waterfront for Kitsap County residents.

Your Input, Your Plan, Your Parks

In January 2006, county staff launched an extensive public involvement process to update the Kitsap County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. Over an eight-week period, staff held six public workshops, met with over 60 organizations and other recreational facility providers (cities, school districts and state agencies) and held 18 focus group meetings.

The focus groups were made up of people and organizations who were involved in a specific recreational activity, such as field sports groups (soccer, baseball, softball, rugby, football and lacrosse). The information gained from these meetings was priceless. For example the MOPS group suggested that it would be nice to have two covered playgrounds in

the county. This would provide mothers with a dry outdoor activity for their kids in the fall, winter and spring.

Once approved by the county commissioners, the following seven draft themes will help guide the Facilities, Parks & Recreation Department over the next six years:

- Provide regional parks (heritage parks, access to water, trails), open space and special events.
- Target land acquisition to complete heritage park system, provide access to waterfront and trails, and maintain open space.
- Develop and maintain parks (trails, heritage parks, athletic complexes, etc.).
- Identify funding sources to develop parks and stable funding sources to maintain parks.
- Plan to transition from community-based program provider to regional recreation provider.
- Provide public information (website, brochures) and proactively work with volunteers.
- Play a leadership role in working with others to address the unmet recreational needs in the county.

Volunteers Support Parks and Special Events

Last year, over 976 volunteers gave over 24,861 hours to help develop and maintain our parks and to support

special events, such as the County Fair, Haunted Barn and Holidazzle, resulting in \$448,483 savings to the county.

The parks staff appreciates the many volunteers who got involved in taking care of our parks and recreational facilities, including Anderson Landing Preserve, Carpenter Lake, Central Kitsap Parks, Clear Creek Trail, Guillemot Cove, Hansville Greenway, Harper Park, Howe Farm Park, Illahee Preserve, Keyport Parks, Kingston Area Parks, Kitsap Fair and Stampede, Nick's Lagoon, Bandix Dog Park, Point No Point Lighthouse and Friends of Givens Senior Center.

The citizens of Kitsap County owe these volunteers a debt of gratitude. Without their hard work and dedication, a lot of what we enjoy today would not be available.

Your Feedback Needed

If you have held an event at the fairgrounds and receive a call asking to respond to a survey, please do not hang up! In order to better serve the community, the Kitsap County Facilities, Parks & Recreation Department recently designed a Tournament/Special Event Survey for user groups. This survey will help track the success of various events and solicit feedback. The goal of the survey is to help county staff offer top quality customer service and ensure each user group has a successful tournament or event.

Forms and More Available Online

Check out these useful tools online:

- Events Center Pavilion and Field Use Request Form and Rental Application
- Parks calendar of upcoming events.
- Parks directions and details
- Recreation Guide
- Kitsap County Fair and Stampede forms and information

To access, visit www.kitsapgov.com/parks.

What We Do

Create community through people, parks and programs.

Primary functions include:

- Capital facilities
- Parks
- County fair
- Special events
- Recreation programs
- Land acquisition

What We Did in 2005

- Nominated as one of the top five rodeos in the nation.
- Acres acquired for park and open space lands: 95
- Volunteer hours for special projects and Adopt-a-Park programs: 24,861, valued at \$448,483.
- Grants secured to purchase property and build park facilities: \$4 million.
- Capital maintenance projects completed: two, valued at \$16,000,000.
- Park properties maintained: 74.
- County building space maintained: 627,517 sq. ft.
- Kitsap Fairgrounds and Events Center usage: 27% increase.
- Pavilion usage: increase from 48 days in 2001 to over 300 in 2005.
- Total acres of county parks and open space: 5,694.
- County Fair attendance: 88,000, a 7% increase.

2006 Proposed Capital Facilities Projects

- Complete Administration Building.
- Start construction for new morgue.
- Repair exterior of Public Works building.
- Remodel courthouse (minor).
- Construct North Kitsap Heritage Park Phase I.
- Install field turf for Gordon Field.
- Develop South Kitsap Sports Complex.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$2,506,921
• Benefits	898,585
• Supplies	426,038
• Services & Charges	1,167,083
• Capital Outlay	75,000
• Interfund Services	360,692
TOTAL	\$5,434,319

% of General Fund 6.50%
Special Revenue Funds 0

Staffing Level 60

What We Do

Provide the public with research-based information and educational programs through Washington State University Extension and volunteer programs.

Primary functions include:

- Higher education: WSU Distance Degrees
- Extension education programs in foods, nutrition, life-skills, agriculture, natural resources, family and human development
- Volunteer education programs
- Economic development education
- Noxious weed control through education

What We Did in 2005

- Bi-annual educational information and technical assistance contacts: 220,000 (unduplicated)
- Volunteer Educators: 790, providing over 80,000 hours valued at \$1,420,000.
- WSU Distance Degree students: 64 with 13 majoring in business administration.
- Sustainable small acreage farming applying knowledge from Cultivation Success educational series: 127.
- Resident landowners implementing Forest Stewardship Plans: 32.
- Low-income residents taught nutritious gardening skills: 2,600 youth and 300 adults.
- Home gardeners learning about environmental stewardship and best practices: 29,000.
- Home and parcel owners assisted with noxious weed control: 900.
- Garden plots planted and tended by youth: 800.

WSU Extension Impacts Gardens, Economy, Youth, Health and Pride

Volunteer Native Plant Advisors Reach Out to Community

Forty-nine Master Gardeners completed 60 hours of Native Plant Advisory training. Native Plant Advisors volunteered more than 1,200 hours serving on committees; presenting education on native plants; and assisting in restoration and outreach to citizens needing information on how to select, grow and maintain native plants.

Sustainable Small Acreage Farming and Forest Stewardship Benefit Local Economy

In the past three years, 145 small acreage farmers have studied, planned and implemented farming and business practices as a result of comprehensive educational program offered by WSU Extension. This two-year program, Cultivating Success, promotes sustainable farming and business development. Participants are all starting or expanding an existing farming enterprise producing fresh, locally-grown food and providing employment for themselves and others.

Over 200 private forest land owners have taken the Forest Stewardship Coached Planning course. They have studied and implemented forestry practices that protect public resources, enhance wildlife habitat, and protect forest health and other forest ecosystem benefits on 4,500 acres.

Youth Learn by Doing

Each year, the market animal auction is held during the Kitsap County Fair. Through 4-H, over 300 youth raised an animal last year for auction. Business and community members participated in the auction, assisted youth in learning about the business of raising an animal for sale and helped provide scholarships for youth. The planning, recordkeeping and marketing of their market animals provides

youth a first-hand business experience.

More than a dozen 4-H youth grow and sell farm produce at area farmers markets. Many have farmed for years as a summer job and to raise money for college. Members of Hare Raisers 4-H Club are weekly farm vendors at the Bainbridge Island Farmers Market. From the sale of their produce, 4-H youth earn over \$2,000 annually for club projects and activities.

Extension Programs Expand Employment Opportunities

Last year, fifty-five landscape and green industry professionals studied turf management, irrigation management and installation, tree pruning, noxious and general weed control and landscape maintenance.

Through WSU Extension Horticulture program, 15 nursery/landscape professionals have received their Certified Professional Horticulturist Certificate from the Washington State Nursery Landscape Association, which will help increase their business and employment opportunities.

Workforce Development, a partnership program between the Bremerton Housing Authority and WSU Extension, prepares low-income adults for the workforce. This is a horticulture intern program where a WSU Master Gardener, who is also on BHA staff at Westpark, mentors and supervises on-the-job training experience for public housing residents. Eight interns have graduated from the program, three of which are working full-time in the industry.

FoodSense Makes Nutrition a Family Affair

Nutrition In Me!, a program where kids learned about making healthy food choices at lunch, has helped 1,071 students, 143 parents of young children and 564 family members learn about nutrition, food safety and stretching food dollars. Eighty-eight percent of participants improved one or more nutrition practices, such as making healthier food choices or feeding their children breakfast.

One Stitch at a Time Instills Pride

More than 50 young residents of a low-income housing in Bremerton have learned basic sewing skills thanks to an extension clothing and textiles program. These youth learned to express their creativity and self-worth through depicting their feelings of pride in their community. Participants increased fine motor skills by sewing wall-hangings and learned to express individuality and choice-making through their work on the project. The wall hangings are on display at the West Park Community Center.

Pet Pals Brings Generations Together

Pet Pals, an interactive animal-assisted 4-H program in Kitsap County, brings youth and seniors living in care facilities together and provides each with a mutually rewarding experience. The animals make it easy to communicate and do make a difference in life-long-learning for the seniors and youth.

Noxious Weed Education Helps Voluntary Control

Progress was made in last year towards the operational goals of educating the public about the impacts and control of noxious weeds in Kitsap County. In 2005, more than 6,000 people heard about the program through educational displays and materials, posters, BKAT, postcards and presentations.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$96,227
• Benefits	39,138
• Supplies	12,800
• Services & Charges	18,587
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	18,294
TOTAL	\$185,046

% of General Fund	0.22%
Special Revenue Funds	\$80,111

Staffing Level 2.88

CENCOM Serves as Public Safety Answering Point for Kitsap County

CENCOM is the single consolidated 24/7 Public Safety Answering Point in Kitsap County providing 911 emergency call receipt and public safety dispatch for all law enforcement, fire and emergency medical response agencies. Entities served by CENCOM include Kitsap County

Sheriff's Department; Bremerton, Bainbridge Island, Poulsbo and Port Orchard Police Departments; North, Central and South Kitsap Fire and Rescue Districts; Bremerton and Bainbridge Island Fire Departments; Fire District No. 18; and the Suquamish and S'klallam Indian Reservations. 911 call receipt and transfer are also provided for the Bangor Naval Submarine Base and Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

percent sales tax initiative in 2003 made it possible to pay the debt service on this \$11.2 million state-of-the-art facility and to cancel the last three years of the property tax passed earlier in 2001. Thanks to your tax dollars, this new facility and technology will enable us to provide a level of professional 911 and emergency dispatch service for years to come.

"We have served the citizens of Kitsap County in a consolidated manner since June 1976," said Ron McAfee, Director. "Our employees are flat out the best, most professional anywhere. Our training programs are recognized as some of the best in the state, and our 911 center is one of the best in the Northwest. CENCOM is a vital part of the public safety team and our employees are dedicated to the safety and well-being of the citizens and first responders of Kitsap County."

2005 Brings New Center for 911 and Emergency Ops

On June 14, 2005, CENCOM began operations in a brand new 911 and County Emergency Operations Center at 911 Carver Street in Bremerton. There are many who helped achieve this landmark accomplishment, but it was the citizens and taxpayers of Kitsap County who made it possible. Your passage of a one-tenth of one

CenCom Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$3,109,849
• Benefits	994,083
• Supplies	90,795
• Services & Charges	673,560
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	175,798
TOTAL (Special Fund)	\$5,044,085

% of General Fund 0%
Special Revenue Funds See above

Staffing Level 60

What We Do

Central Communications

Provide 911-answering and non-emergency public safety dispatch countywide, including police, fire, emergency medical and animal control services.

What We Did in 2005

- Citizens served: 240,000.
- Total calls for service answered: 500,000+.
- Law enforcement wants and warrants calls: 240,279.
- Emergency/non-emergency calls: 265,000.
- Administrative calls answered: 210,000.
- Separate police, fire and emergency medical events dispatched: 235,942.
- 911 calls answered in 10 seconds or less: 91%.
- Ratio of customer service complaints to total call/event volume: 0.029%.
- DUI emphasis events logged: 855.

Safe Community, Prepared Community

2005 was a trying and tumultuous year across the nation. Locally, the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) prepared for terrorism and all hazards on our home front, as well as responded to the national devastation wrought by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Here in Kitsap County, the most likely natural disaster we continue to face is the risk of a devastating earthquake.

Kitsap Responds to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

No sooner had DEM hosted a three-county terrorism exercise than our nation faced the worst disaster in American history. Kitsap County was prepared to respond and sent several teams to assist with the devastation.

The first step to response was to call together our newly formed Disaster Reserve Program. Career staff, reservists and volunteers came together to design and implement a prepared response to the hurricanes. In less than two weeks, the team developed a program for any citizen, government, volunteer or private enterprise to lend their support to the response. Over 500 individuals were interviewed, trained and prepared to assist the South, if called upon. Nowhere else in the United States had such a response been organized! The work done during this timeframe will become the foundation of response for any disaster impacting Kitsap County.

DEM Launches New Website

Through a federal grant, DEM hired Graff-Hoke, Inc., a strategic marketing and creative services organization, to help develop a marketing communications plan for communicating with the public before, during and after a disaster, which will enhance DEM's ability to prepare Kitsap County. One result of this plan was a new website launched in April 2006 at www.kitsapdem.org.

Emergency Workers and Volunteers Serve Community

Through our very active volunteer program, volunteers provided over 21,284 hours of volunteer time to our community with 394 volunteers. Volunteers provide search and rescue, alternative communications (ham radio operators), medical reserve corps, training and many other services.

What We Do

Emergency Management

Mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from any emergency or disaster that affects Kitsap County and its cities.

What We Did in 2005

- Designed and executed a bio-terrorism exercise to access Kitsap County response capabilities and identify future needs.
- Developed humanitarian response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita for Kitsap County and its cities.
- Incidents responded to within 15 minutes of notice to staff Duty Officer: 55 (100% within 15 minutes of notice).
- Volunteer hours coordinated through Citizen Corps: 21,284.

Emergency Management Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$437,377
• Benefits	104,921
• Supplies	40,549
• Services & Charges	406,315
• Capital Outlay	239,981
• Interfund Services	39,868
TOTAL (Special Fund)	\$1,269,011

% of General Fund 0%
Special Revenue Funds See above

Staffing Level 4

What We Do

Serve as the official record keeper and financial officer for the Superior Court and provide jurors for all courts in Kitsap County.

Primary functions include:

- Accounting
- Collections
- Courtroom clerks
- Docketing
- Jury administration
- Keeping all court records
- Processing passport applications
- Public defense services
- Receiving and processing all court documents

What We Did in 2005

- Expanded passport services by accepting applications at the Kitsap County Fair.
- Increase in passports processed at satellite office in Kitsap Mall during spring break: 277% over a typical week in the office.
- Made all Clerk's records of Superior Court documents from 2000-2005 available online.
- Legal Financial Obligation (LFO) payments received: 17,983, a 23% increase over 2004.
- LFO payments collected from criminals: \$1,193,450, a 21% increase over 2004 and a 50% increase over 2003.
- Imaged old files and index books, dramatically reducing storage needs.
- Increase in use of email to transmit documents rather than U.S. mail or fax to reduce costs and save time: 30% over 2004 (90% since 1999, the year before imaging).
- Created a public access kiosk on the second floor, with printer and copier, to allow public access by computer to court records and other court system information.

Clerk's Office Improves Access for Families to Courts, Passports



Thomas Lampman and Barbara Poe enjoy the convenience of having their passports processed at a satellite office in Kitsap Mall during spring break.

Courthouse Facilitator Helps Navigate Complex Court System

Handling legal matters on your own can be daunting and more than a little frightening, especially if the matter in question involves such personal considerations as family and children. Since 1995, the Kitsap County Clerk's Office has provided citizens involved in family law cases (such as dissolution, paternity and non-parental custody) with a Courthouse Facilitator to help them navigate through the complexities of the court system. The facilitator cannot give legal advice, but can help with forms and procedures.

The facilitator is available for those who have not yet filed their case through individual appointments and through classes. The facilitator also reviews final documents and provides a check list, so that those involved in the case can go into court knowing that their documents are ready for the court. At any point during a case, a party may make an appointment and get assistance with process and procedure.

Mandatory forms and kits are available for a variety of case types and situations within family law. The kits all contain instructions specific to Kitsap County. Forms may also be downloaded from the Internet, but local instructions are not available through that medium.

Over the years, thousands of individuals have benefited from this

service. In 2005, 1,569 persons involved in family law matters received services from the Courthouse Facilitator. The court system runs more smoothly because those who come before the bench are well-prepared with the right forms completely filled out.

This program also brings funding into the county through a surcharge on family law filings, user fees and the sale of forms and kits. In 2005 income from this program totaled \$43,220.

LFO Collections Help Victims of Crime

Every person convicted of a crime is ordered by the court to pay certain court costs and reimburse the victim for losses related to their crime. Until the end of 2003, these costs were monitored by the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC). In 2003, County Clerks across the state agreed to accept this responsibility if funding followed. With the funding provided, the Kitsap County Clerk's Office hired its first Collections Clerk.

The Collections Clerk works with defendants to set up payment plans and follows up to keep the payments coming in. Victims of crime have a person they can call with concerns and questions, and victims receive a great deal more of the money owed them than when the funds were monitored by the DOC. Additionally, the county receives far more of the costs assessed against the defendants. Collections for 2005 were 1.5 times

higher than 2003, the last year monies owed were collected by the DOC.

Passports at the Mall Help Facilitate Family Vacations

At the end of 2006, passports will be required for air and sea travel into Canada or Mexico. By the end of 2007, this will extend to land crossings as well. It is also necessary for parents who want passports for young children to have those children with them when the passports applications are processed. To accommodate the increased need for passports and to provide a more convenient way for Kitsap citizens to apply for passports, in 2005 the Clerk's Office again offered "Passports at the Mall."

Members of Clerk's staff occupy an empty store front provided by the Kitsap Mall during the first four days of spring break.

According to Dave Peterson, Kitsap County Clerk, "Since the consent of *both* parents is required for children under age 14 for whom passports are sought, and all parties must show up in person, we thought it would be easier for many parents to bring their children to the mall during spring break than to try to bring them to the Clerk's Office in Port Orchard."

During this period in 2005, the Clerk's Office processed 217 passports at the mall and brought in a total income of \$6,510. In a typical week, the Clerk's Office will process around 57 passports for a total income of \$1,710.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$1,613,166
• Benefits	598,072
• Supplies	63,455
• Services & Charges	3,683,212
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	110,519
TOTAL	\$6,068,424

% of General Fund 7.25%
Special Revenue Funds 0

Staffing Level 41.6

Coroner's Office Collaborates to Help Prevent and Investigate Deaths



The Coroner's Office participates in "Mock Crash" at Central Kitsap High School.

Many Elements Important to Investigations

The Coroner's Office provides trained medical evaluation to the investigation of deaths that are of concern to the public health, safety and welfare of the community. Accurate investigation and determination of cause and manner of death are essential to ensure that murder is recognized, the innocent are exonerated, legal proceedings are provided with sound and impartial medical evidence and recognized threats to public health and safety are revealed. The Coroner's staff recognizes the tragedy of death. Through their work, they strive to assist grieving survivors.

Every death that occurs within Kitsap County is reported to the Coroner's Office. Each death is assessed for the need to conduct a full forensic investigation. Based on the

circumstances and medical history, the majority of deaths are deemed non-jurisdictional, meaning that the death is an expected or natural event that does not require a further investigation to determine the cause and manner of death.

Deaths that come under the jurisdiction of the Coroner's Office include, but are not limited to, the following circumstances:

- Persons who die suddenly when in apparent good health and without medical attendance within thirty-six hours preceding death.
- Circumstances that indicate that the death was caused in part or entirely by unnatural or unlawful means.
- Suspicious circumstances.
- Unknown or obscure causes.
- Deaths caused by any violence whatsoever, whether the primary cause or contributory factor in the death.
- Contagious disease.
- Unclaimed bodies.

The office personnel includes the Coroner, Chief Deputy Coroner and Deputy Coroners, who are trained medicolegal investigators, and a fiscal technician. Contracted staff includes a forensic pathologist, a forensic anthropologist and an autopsy assistant. The professional services of a forensic entomologist and an odontologist are used when necessary. The Washington State Crime Laboratory is utilized to

conduct toxicological, DNA and evidence studies. Testing is done for metabolic disease when indicated.

The Coroner's Office is an independent agency; however, investigations are most commonly performed alongside law enforcement agencies throughout the county. When indicated, investigations are performed in conjunction with military, state and federal authorities.

The Coroner and staff are here to serve the public and provide investigation of all deaths in Kitsap County. The investigation of death allows the determination of cause and manner of death. Modern medicine and forensic science is applied to the death investigation process by highly trained technical staff. The cause, manner, date and time of death, along with identification and notification of next of kin, are all important elements of the investigation.

Collaboration Key to Prevention of Premature Deaths

Beyond the investigation of deaths, the Coroner's Office also takes a proactive role in helping to prevent premature deaths. Staff collaborates with a variety of organizations each year on presentations.

Coroner's Office personnel are involved in prevention groups, such as Survivors of Suicide, Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the Kitsap County Traffic Safety Task Force. The office also partners with the U.S. Navy to ensure the safety of military personnel.

Annual participation in "Mock Crash" events at area schools is an important aspect of efforts to reduce underage drinking. The office collaborates with the Juvenile Department to educate Kitsap County's at-risk youth of the consequences of their actions and to help them make better life choices.

The office contributes data and technical advice to the SIDS Foundation of Washington in an effort to support research and reduce the prevalence of infant deaths.

What We Do

Provide medicolegal death investigation services for all deaths that occur within Kitsap County.

Primary functions include:

- Autopsies
- Medical investigations
- Training and prevention education

What We Did in 2005

- Deaths reported in Kitsap County: 1,749.
- Deaths investigated: 300.
- Deaths autopsied: 150.
- Average man hours to investigate homicides: 20-100 minimum.
- Cremation for indigent citizens: 9.
- Presentations to the military: 4.
- Numerous educational programs delivered to area schools.
- Mock Crashes to schools, military and the public: 3.
- Average cost per death investigation: \$460.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$389,525
• Benefits	121,944
• Supplies	20,901
• Services & Charges	195,683
• Capital Outlay	2,600
• Interfund Services	85,105
TOTAL	\$815,758

% of General Fund 0.98%
Special Revenue Funds 0

Staffing Level 7

Who Does What...

- **Forensic Pathologist:** identifies trauma, pre- and post-mortem injuries and natural disease processes.
- **Forensic Anthropologist:** identifies found bones, examines skeletal trauma, excavates clandestine graves and determines cultural origins.
- **Odontologist:** identifies the remains of burn victims, decomposed and skeletonized individuals and trauma related to bite marks.
- **Forensic Entomologist:** studies insects on or around the deceased.
- **Forensic Toxicologist:** examines bodily fluids and detects the presence of drugs and poisons.

What We Do

Provide justice for all court participants and offender supervision to the court.

Primary functions include:

- Felony Diversion Program
- Misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor offenses
- Civil cases up to \$50,000
- Small claims
- Unlawful harassment
- Name changes
- Impound hearings
- Infractions
- Fugitive from justice proceedings

What We Did in 2005

Cases Processed

- Felony Diversion: 90.
- DUI: 1,400.
- Misdemeanor/Gross Misdemeanor: 3,051.
- Civil: 4,003.
- Writs issued: 2,523.
- Small Claims: 988.
- Unlawful harassment: 585.
- Domestic Violence: 37.
- Infractions: 21,989.
- Parking: 963.

Did You Know...

- Injuries suffered due to domestic/dating violence are the leading reason why women go to the emergency room—more than auto accidents, muggings and rapes combined. 30% of women murdered in the U.S. are murdered by their husbands, ex-husbands or boyfriends.
- Child witnesses of domestic violence show more aggressive and antisocial behavior, as well as fearful and inhibited behaviors. Over 3 million children are at risk of exposure to parental violence each year.

New District Court Judge Appointed to the Bench



Stephen Holman is sworn in by Chief Justice Gerry Alexander of the state Supreme Court.

Stephen J. Holman, Kitsap County District Court Commissioner and Bainbridge Island Municipal Court Judge, was appointed in February as a fourth District Judge by the Kitsap Board of County Commissioners. Holman's appointment is through the end of 2006. He will be required to run for election in the primary in September and general election in November.

"Given his long-standing track record of exemplary performance in Kitsap County and throughout the region, Steve Holman was the choice for this appointment," said Jan Angel, Chair of the Board of Commissioners. "Steve has served the citizens of this county for over 20 years, and we look forward to his continued service to this community."

Holman was endorsed by the three current District Court Judges, six current and former Kitsap County Superior Court Judges, four state Court of Appeals Judges, three state Supreme Court Justices, numerous district and municipal judges from around the state and more than 50 Kitsap lawyers.

"We are delighted by the Board's decision to appoint Steve Holman to the bench of the District Court," said Maury Baker, District Court Administrator. "Steve has been an integral part of this court's success over the past 16 years. His appointment reflects a recognition of his hard work and dedication to the delivery of justice in Kitsap County and, needless to say, is well deserved."

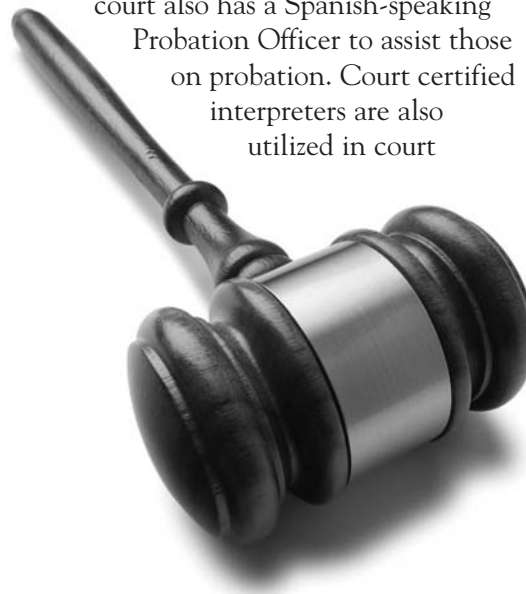
In addition to his current appointments, Holman's judicial experience includes Judge Pro Tem from 1985 to 1990 in Kitsap County District Court,

Pierce County District Courts, Bainbridge Island, Poulsbo, Bremerton and Port Orchard Municipal Courts.

Formularios, Folletos y Información en Español

Making courts more accessible to all people is one of District Court's primary goals. The court has taken this to heart by supplying forms, brochures and information in Spanish in the court's offices, as well as on the court's website. Information on treatment services, deferred prosecution requirements for DUI defendants, domestic violence information and modification procedures for No Contact Orders are included. The

court also has a Spanish-speaking Probation Officer to assist those on probation. Court certified interpreters are also utilized in court



proceedings and probation meetings to bridge the language barrier for those who do not speak English as their primary language. The American Disabilities Act also requires accommodation for a variety of disabilities.

"We have an obligation to anyone who passes through our system to ensure they fully understand a civil or criminal court proceeding and the requirements of their probation," said Maury Baker, District Court Administrator.

According to the 2000 census, 8.3% of the population of Kitsap County speaks a language other than English at home, with Spanish, German, Japanese and Tagalog being the most prominent.

Judges Receive Expert Domestic Violence Education

In October 2005, Judge James Riehl spearheaded a team of experts who volunteered their time for an all-day training for judges and their pro-tems from Kitsap, Clallam, Jefferson, Mason and Pierce Counties. Supreme Court Justice Barbara Madsen opened the training, held at the Bremerton Conference Center, by congratulating all in attendance for taking a Saturday away from their families to learn more about how court-issued Domestic Violence No Contact Orders can impact the safety of victims of domestic violence.

The training, funded by a grant from the Gender and Justice Commission of the Supreme Court, included experts Jeffrey Jahns, Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office; Lt Kathy Collings, Kitsap County Sheriff's Office; June Henderson, a family law practitioner; and Maury Baker, District Court Administrator.

The success of the training was best summed up by a pro-tem judge from Clallam County: "I just issued 12 No Contact Orders yesterday. After this training, I wish I could redo ten of them."

Due to the success of the training and the court's other successful domestic violence programs, Judge Riehl and Maury Baker were asked to provide similar training in Yakima, King, Skagit and Thurston Counties.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$1,809,221
• Benefits	556,187
• Supplies	53,433
• Services & Charges	174,836
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	105,711
TOTAL	\$2,699,388

% of General Fund 3.23%
Special Revenue Funds 0

Staffing Level 39.5

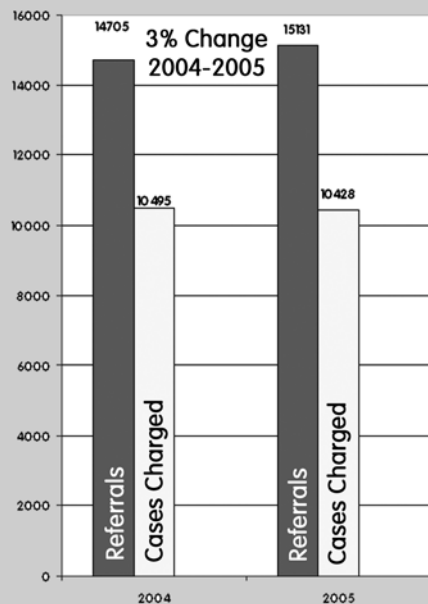
What We Do

Prosecute all felonies and misdemeanors in Kitsap County, advise and represent all of the County's elected officials and departments, provide legal advice to all county law enforcement agencies, establish and enforce child support obligations and provide victim and witness assistance services.

Primary functions include:

- Case management
- Felonies
- Special Assault Unit
- Drug Unit
- General Trial Unit
- Juvenile
- District and Municipal Courts
- Civil representation
- Child support

Referrals/Cases Charged



Department Actual 2005-2006

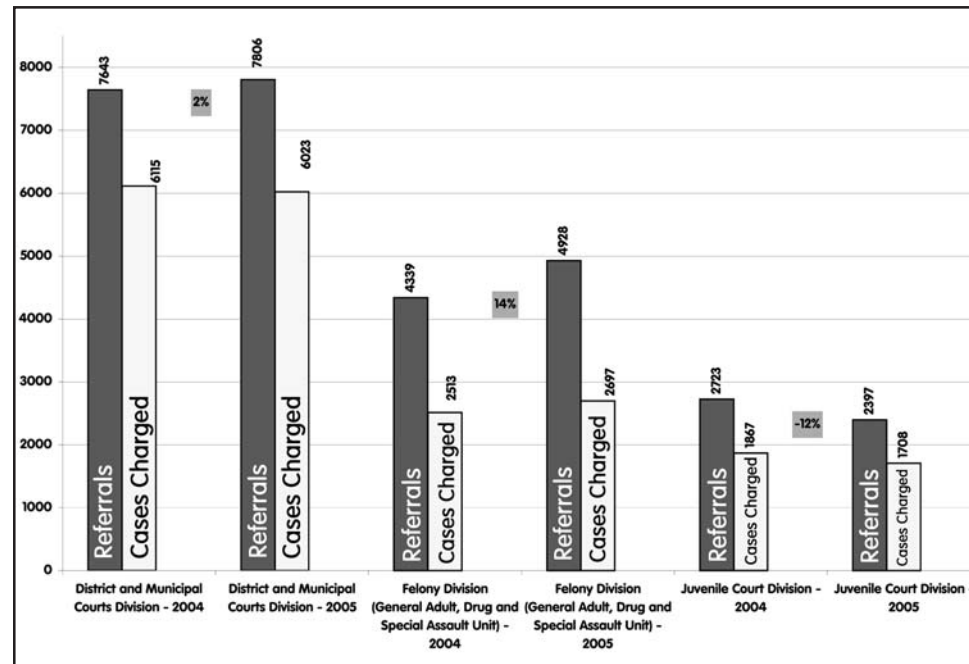
Expenditures

• Salaries	\$4,949,914
• Benefits	1,421,510
• Supplies	205,122
• Services & Charges	397,949
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	192,375
TOTAL	\$7,166,870

% of General Fund 8.57%
Special Revenue Funds \$70,392

Staffing Level 84

Prosecutor's Office Collaborates to Fight Crime

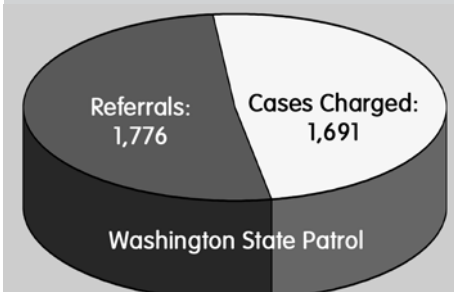
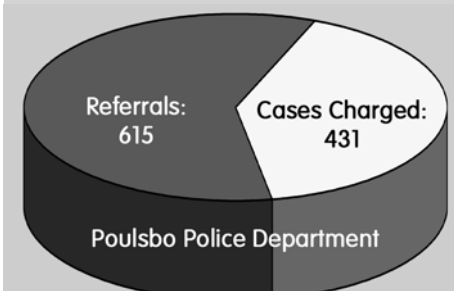
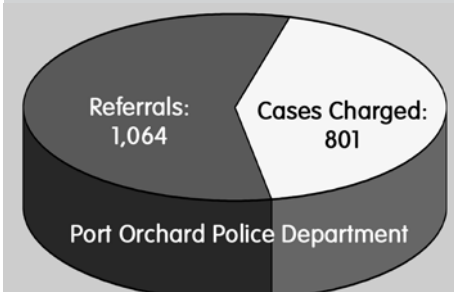
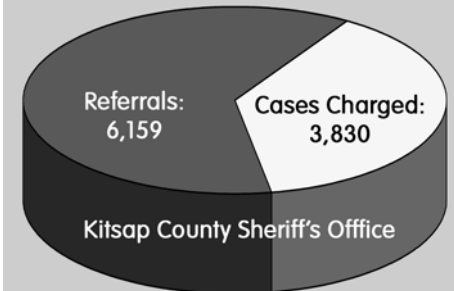
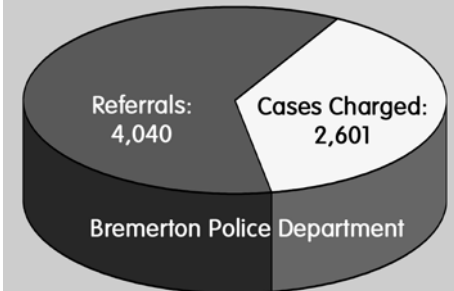
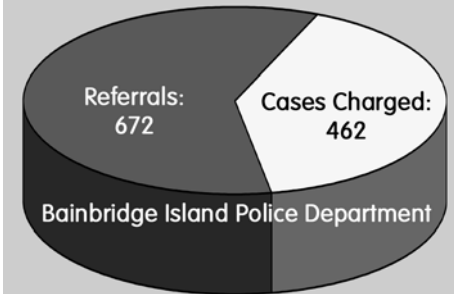


Top of page: Referrals and cases charged by division 2004 to 2005. Left: Referrals and cases charged overall 2004 to 2005. Right: Referrals and cases charged for police departments 2004 to 2005.

Based on local crime statistics, the Prosecutor's Office has their work cut out for them. Crime will always be with us; we will always respond. But the Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office is trying to do more than simply punish offenders. By collaborating with other Kitsap County agencies and with the cities, the office has developed a number of innovative programs to help us get ahead of the crime problem.

- Partnerships with Bremerton, Port Orchard, Poulsbo and Bainbridge Island enable the county to prosecute all cases filed in their Municipal Courts. This allows us to develop a clear picture of all the criminal activity in Kitsap County.
- Diversion programs offer certain offenders the chance to change their lives and allow us to recapture some of the costs of criminal activity.
- Pre-Trial Diversion Agreements (PDAs) in the District and Municipal Courts allow us to exercise significant control over persons we might not otherwise convict. The PDA contract requires strict adherence to the law for two years.
- In return, it offers the offender a chance to reduce the charge, ensures a conviction if the offender violates its terms, charges costs to the defendant and collects community restitution by facilitating contributions to MADD and the YWCA.
- Low-level felony property offenders can avoid conviction and turn their lives around by paying for restitution and the cost of their supervision.
- Drug Courts offer adults and juveniles who want to change the opportunity and support to defeat their addictions. If they complete the program, they avoid conviction and incarceration, and they earn the chance to reverse the downward spiral of their lives.
- BounceBack, provided by an outside contractor, helps us more effectively obtain restitution for businesses victimized by bad check writers.
- Partnerships with northwest law schools will ensure the flow of qualified legal interns to serve in our office.

Primary Law Enforcement Agencies Referrals/Cases Charged in 2005



What We Do

Provide quality law enforcement services focused on preserving and promoting safety for all of our citizens.

Primary functions include:

- Criminal patrol/911 response
- Correctional facility (*see Jail*)
- Major crimes investigation
- Narcotics enforcement
- Traffic safety enforcement
- K-9 Unit
- Civil process
- Marine Unit
- SWAT Team
- Search & Rescue
- Volunteer services



2005 Crime Index Offenses

- Violent crime: 502 (3/1,000)
- Property crime: 3,998 (23.8/1,000)

What We Did in 2005

Patrol

- Commissioned personnel: 104.
- Patrol calls for service: 96,587.
- Average deputy response time to 911 dispatched calls (minutes:seconds):
 - Priority 1: 5:49 (goal 5:08).
 - Priority 2: 8:05 (goal 8:03).
 - Priority 3: 8:20 (goal 8:09).
- Average hours of annual training per deputy: 112.

Traffic Safety Enforcement

- Traffic collisions reported: 1,063.
- Traffic case file investigations (serious injury or fatality): 14, 10 alcohol /narcotics related.
- DUI arrests: 296.
- Traffic notices of infraction issued: 12,452.

K-9 Activity

- Patrol: 203 applications/ 60 arrests.
- Narcotics: 64 applications/ 51 arrests/seizure of \$43,448.

Marine Unit

- Waterborne patrol hours: 468.
- Vessel inspections/spot checks: 3,564.
- Boating safety presentations: 30.

Sheriff's Office Reaches Out to Community

Sheriff's Office Launches Citizen Academy

Do you have an "armchair interest" in law enforcement? Do stories or hearsay rumor about police incidents leave you with more questions than answers? Beginning in 2005, county residents now have an opportunity to become more familiar with the field of law enforcement by enrolling in the a new citizen academy hosted by Sheriff Steve Boyer.

The Sheriff's Citizen Academy meets once a week in the evenings for approximately ten weeks. Students receive briefings and have opportunities for some very basic "hands on" familiarization covering a broad spectrum of police work, including criminal patrol duties and response, traffic enforcement, the use of force, defensive tactics and firearms, criminal and special investigations, criminal law, police communications and corrections.

The Sheriff's Citizen Academy is open to county residents at least 18 years old. A background records check is required of all applicants prior to acceptance into the program. Due to training space constraints, class size is limited to 20 students.

For further information about the fall 2006 session, contact Deputy Scott Wilson, Sheriff's Office Public Information Officer, at 360-337-5698, or email swilson@co.kitsap.wa.us.

Online Resources Help Increase Information Access

The Sheriff's Office offers a wealth of tools on the Internet to increase public access to information. Some of the more popular resources available on the website include information on Jail Incustody, Most Wanted, Sex Offenders, Alarm Registration, Media Releases, Crime Prevention (Burglary Prevention and Kids' Tips) and volunteer opportunities for Citizens on Patrol, cadets and reserves. To access all this and more, visit www.kitsapgov.com/sheriff.

WestNET Fights Drug Crimes

West Sound Narcotics Enforcement Team (WestNET) is a multi-jurisdictional narcotics task force funded by the U.S. Department of Justice. Task Force jurisdiction includes Kitsap and Mason Counties. Concerned citizens with information about marijuana growers, drug dealers or other narcotics-related activity may call WestNET at 360-337 7064. All callers can remain anonymous. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30AM to 5:00PM.

For the callers in North Kitsap, Bainbridge Island, Olalla, and Mason County, WestNET has a toll free number at 800-585-TIPS (8477).

The State of Washington also offers a 24-hour Marijuana Hotline at 800-388-GROW (4769), and WETIP offers a nationwide crime tip-line at 800-78 CRIME (27463).

Annual Report Offers Details on Sheriff's Office

Each year, the Kitsap County Sheriff publishes an Annual Report. This report provides details about the mission, core and values of the Sheriff's Office, an organizational chart, descriptions of each division and unit and specifics about the jail operations. The report also highlights the Sheriff's employees of the year and provides a map of the nine patrol areas in Kitsap County. To view the complete report, visit the Sheriff's webpage and click on "Annual Report."

COP Volunteers Help Community

Citizens On Patrol (COP) volunteers interact with the community and are dedicated to helping others. Their duties are to enforce and educate the public on handicapped parking regulations and to be the eyes and ears of law enforcement. Volunteers are also trained to assist with traffic control, security/vacation checks, and VIN inspections on hulk vehicles.

For more information, visit <http://cops.homestead.com>.

Search & Rescue (SAR)

- Sheriff's SAR coordinators: 6.
- Civilian SAR volunteers: >400.
- SAR missions conducted: 8.
- Out-of-county missions: 11.
- Search time: 3,245 hours.

Detectives and Support Services

- Commissioned personnel: 18.
- Support specialists: 27.
- Property & evidence technicians: 3.
- Case investigations: 829.
- Background investigations: 127.
- Training received: 1,350 hours.

Narcotics Enforcement

- Methamphetamine labs investigated: 19.
- Marijuana plants seized: 4,711.
- Arrests: 220.
- Search warrants conducted: 130.

Records & Civil

- Police reports filed: 15,976.
- Concealed pistol license applications processed: 2,943.
- Public disclosure requests processed: 2,932.
- Domestic court orders served: 2,774.
- Subpoenas served: 4,618.

SWAT Team (16 members)

- Training: >1,920 hour.
- SWAT missions: 14.

Volunteer Services

- Citizens on Patrol with 23 COP volunteers: >12,000 hours.
- Sheriff's reserve program with 24 reserve deputies: 2,460 hours.
- Sheriff's Explorer Cadet Program with 18 cadets: 7,385 hours.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$10,283,351
• Benefits	3,574,287
• Supplies	678,710
• Services & Charges	998,631
• Capital Outlay	257,536
• Interfund Services	2,828,636
TOTAL	\$18,621,153

% of General Fund **22.26%**
Special Revenue Funds **\$645,067**

Staffing Level 150

Sheriff's Office Jail Utilizes Alternatives to Incarceration to Help Save Tax Dollars



Corrections Officer Dave Rash controls prisoner movement and monitors housing unit activity from the jail's new computerized Central Control station.

Safety a Priority for Corrections Division

The corrections division of the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office is responsible for providing a safe, humane and fiscally responsible environment for the management of persons who have been charged with or convicted of criminal or civil offenses. This is accomplished in a manner that ensures a secure facility and the safety of the community. Corrections Division personnel include a lieutenant, an administrative assistant, six sergeants, 84 corrections officers and three support staff.

Facility Designed for Future Expansion Needs

The Kitsap County Sheriff's Office Jail is a regional correctional facility serving the law and justice community

within the greater Kitsap County area. It houses both pre-trial and sentenced inmates. The jail offers a variety of inmate programs and correctional options in order to meet this mission.

In the late 1990s, the citizens of Kitsap County approved a one-tenth of one percent sales tax initiative to construct a 310-bed addition to the existing 212-bed jail. This project was completed at the end of 2004, bringing the total number of potential beds available for housing of inmates to 524. Presently, 116 beds are being held in reserve for future expansion needs.

Jail Operations Diverse

The Kitsap County Jail's inmate housing area consists of 15 housing units that reflect an operational bed capacity of 406 general population inmates and includes:

- Intake
- Minimum, medium and maximum security
- Work release and inmate worker unit
- Special detention
- Community service
- Medical and mental health services
- Disciplinary lockdown unit

Alternatives to Incarceration Save Tax \$\$\$

The alternatives to jail program consists of work release, electronic monitoring and community service

work through Americorps. It is staffed with two corrections officers and a sergeant who supervises the programs. Those who have court authorization to participate in alternatives to jail are screened by the corrections staff for the appropriate program. Each program has specific guidelines for qualification. The programs save Kitsap County residents valuable tax dollars and save space in the jail for new arrests.

Inmate Road Crews Clean Up/Help in Emergencies

The inmate road crew is overseen by one sergeant and consists of a road supervisor and six to eight inmate workers. Last year, the road crew completed the cleanup of 137 miles of Kitsap County roads and 327 dumpsites. This resulted in 3,108 bags of trash being removed from the county right-of-way. The road crew has worked on community projects at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds, Brownsville Marina, Clear Creek Trail and Island Lake Park.

During the heavy rains that Kitsap County endured this past winter, the inmate road crew filled 14,700 emergency sandbags for public availability.

Food Service Managed Through Public-Private Partnership

Food services for the jail are operated under contract with Consolidated Food Management, Inc. (CFM). This successful public-private partnership saves more than \$500,000 per year in food service costs.

CFM has expanded services to include serving meals at Kitsap Recovery Center, Kitsap Mental Health Services and the juvenile detention center. All meals for the jail and the expanded service areas are produced within the jail kitchen using inmate labor, in addition to the five cooks and a driver that CFM employs on site. The increase in number of meals served means additional savings in per meal cost to the county.

What We Do

Provide a safe, secure, humane and fiscally responsible environment for the management of persons who have been charged with and/or convicted of criminal or civil offenses.

Primary functions include:

- Corrections
- Warrants and fugitives
- Food services
- Inmate road crew
- Training
- Work release

What We Did in 2005

- Total bookings: 8,675.
- Total releases: 8,562.
- Average daily inmate population: 409.
- Miles of county road cleaned by inmates: 137.
- Bags of road litter picked up: 3,108.
- Dump sites cleaned by inmates: 327.
- Inmate meals served: 432,298.
- Incustody court appearances: 10,125.
- Inmate transports region wide: 619.

Did You Know...

The First Kitsap County Jail

Kitsap County (first known as Slaughter County) was established on January 16, 1857. At that time, the county seat was located at Port Madison, a thriving mill town on Bainbridge Island. The first jail was built there in 1872 at the reported cost of \$658.

The jail was a blockhouse made with planks that were 4" thick and 12" wide. They were laid flat and bolted together. The only entrance and exit was through a heavy trapdoor that was operated via a hand-winch-and-tackle arrangement. There is no record that anyone ever escaped.

In 1873, a convicted murderer was hanged at the jail. This was the one and only "legal" hanging in Kitsap County history.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$4,627,954
• Benefits	1,784,130
• Supplies	879,729
• Services & Charges	1,279,691
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	634,724
TOTAL	\$9,206,228

% of General Fund 11.00%
Special Revenue Funds \$260,835

Staffing Level 99

What We Do

The Superior Court is a court of general jurisdiction responsible for the resolution of cases, both criminal and civil, in a just and timely manner. The court ensures due process and equal protection under the law, promotes access to justice to all persons and works to instill public trust and confidence in the judiciary.

The regular Superior Court caseload includes all of the following case types:

- Criminal
- Civil
- Juvenile
- Domestic relations
- Adoption
- Guardianship
- Paternity
- Probate
- Domestic violence
- Mental illness

The Superior Court is committed to innovative, non-traditional methods of addressing individuals with chemical dependency and/or mental health issues. With the support and weekly participation of law and justice agencies, the Superior Court operates an Adult Drug Court, a Family Dependency Drug Court, a Juvenile Drug Court and an Individual Treatment Court as a means of addressing both criminal accountability and individual treatment needs.

What We Did in 2005

- Total case filings: 10,699 (2,103 Criminal, 3,428 Civil, 1,566 Domestic Relations, 836 Probate, 941 Mental Health and 1,825 Juvenile).
- Total trials and hearings: 54,157.
- Total jury trials: 73.
- Average number of trials and hearings per judicial officer: 6,017.
- Total ex parte filings/hearings: 12,546.

Superior Court Information as Close as Your Own PC



A visit to the Superior Court website reaps calendars, docket information, online fill-in forms, email confirmations and more.

Wondering which Superior Court courtroom you are supposed to appear in tomorrow? Or where to find a copy of local Superior Court rules and associated fill-in forms? Or how to find out a little more about drug court and other innovative programs? Or, perhaps, just interested in general court information—like biographies of the Superior Court judges, acceptable courtroom conduct or digital photos of our Superior Court courtrooms?

In an effort to promote greater community access to regularly-changing information, the Superior Court has developed a comprehensive website intended to address most commonly-sought information.

Calendar Information Easily Accessible

The Superior Court website is updated daily to ensure that the following day's master calendar and associated dockets are available to the public by 5:00PM each weekday evening. A variety of calendar information may be accessed along the right column of the page, with "Today's Calendar" revealing the most recently published daily master calendar, including links to the daily dockets to allow viewers to verify that individual cases are scheduled. The "Daily Dockets" option provides a two-day advance view of the dockets scheduled by the County Clerk's Office. The "Weekly Schedule" displays a snapshot of the various calendars scheduled on a regular rotation and provides an

effective road map for citizens or teachers who are planning fieldtrips to the courthouse for the purpose of observing a specific case or calendar type.

Interactive Forms Improve Functionality

Fill-in forms have been included on the website to increase functionality. For instance, most forms that are required by local Superior Court rules are available to download in Word format or in a fill-in format using Adobe Acrobat 7. While these forms may not be electronically submitted for filing (yet!), the forms may be completed from your own computer and printed for filing with the court.

Motion Confirmations Available Via Email

Motions noted on the court's docket may be confirmed by clicking on the "Email Confirmation" option. Confirmations that are submitted using the website result in the automatic transmission of an electronic receipt—a tremendous benefit for those who find that calendar confirmation is contested at a later date.

General Questions Answered Via Email

General questions may be posed to court staff by using the "Email Superior Court" button. The Superior Court attempts to respond to these questions within seven (7) days of receipt. While court staff may provide

general court information, Washington law prohibits court staff from providing legal advice or otherwise engaging in the unlawful practice of law. Similarly, Superior Court judicial officers can only respond to communications properly noted on calendars. As a result, email communications received for distribution to judicial officers are deleted.

GAL Information Available

The Superior Court website is updated periodically with new or seasonal information to ensure that newly proposed local rules are available for comment, to post new Guardian ad Litem (GAL) registries and GAL biographical information and to make new electronic forms available. For instance, the site currently contains GAL policy, application and form requirements necessary for new or returning Guardians ad Litem to complete, print and submit in advance of a June 1 deadline.

Your Feedback is Welcomed

Superior Court invites you to access the website and take a look at the variety of information that is available. Because the site is intended to be useful to the community, your feedback is welcomed. Please submit suggested enhancements by contacting Superior Court Administration at 360-337-7140, via the website under "Email Superior Court" or via regular mail at: 614 Division Street, MS-24, Port Orchard, WA 98366.

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$1,665,315
• Benefits	372,937
• Supplies	92,893
• Services & Charges	512,359
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	75,399
TOTAL	\$2,718,903

% of General Fund 3.25%
Special Revenue Funds \$71,000

Staffing Level 29

Prevention and Accountability Keys to Juvenile Department's Success

Individual Treatment Court

Individual Treatment Court (ITC) was recently created to address an increasing population of juvenile offenders who have co-occurring mental health and drug/alcohol disorders.

The mission of ITC is to identify and assess these youth, while matching them to appropriate diagnostic, therapeutic and aftercare interventions and prevent them from further criminal behavior.

Reinvesting in Our Youth

In 2005, the Juvenile Department received a two-year Reinvesting in Youth grant to provide additional funding for Functional Family Therapy (FFT) and Aggression Replacement Training (ART).

FFT provides youth and families with an average of 12 sessions of family therapy, which focuses on identifying obtainable goals for the family and developing a behavior change program. FFT is intended to reduce negativity and blaming within the family and to increase the family's hope that change can be accomplished.

ART is a ten-week program providing youth with group training in social skills, anger control and moral reasoning in order to improve the youth's ability to deal with anger provoking situations.

When FFT is delivered competently, the program reduces felony

recidivism by 38%. FFT generates as much as \$10.69 in savings for each taxpayer dollar spent on the program by helping to avoid future crime costs.

When competently delivered, ART has positive outcomes with estimated reductions in felony recidivism of 24% and a benefit to cost ratio of \$11.66.



The intent of the Reinvesting in Youth project is to capture and reinvest a portion of the taxpayer savings generated by these proven, cost-effective interventions to create a permanent funding source for prevention and intervention.

Making the Difference in the Life of One Child

The Juvenile Services Mentoring Program is designed to match volunteers in the community with youth ages 11-17 who are on probation with the Juvenile Court. The goal of the program is to match adult mentors with youth who are at risk to re-offend with the aim of improving youth academic performance and reducing truancy and criminal behavior, particularly drug related crimes.

Mentoring is a one-on-one pro-

gram that matches youth on probation with community volunteers in order to provide support for the youth and build a stronger community. Matches are made for one year or at least until probation ends. Volunteers are asked to spend an average of three hours per week with the youth, with at least one contact per week. In 2005, there were 27 mentor/mentee matches. This program serves a vital part of Juvenile Services because it is an important option for probation officers to offer a non-punitive form of support for youth on community supervision.

Alternatives to Detention Amounts to Significant Tax Savings

Recognized by the Kitsap Board of County Commissioners as one that excels in the area of cost effectiveness and performance, the Community Alternatives to Detention Program last year alone saved tax payers \$777,000.

The Alternatives to Detention Program, originally funded for three years (1996-1999) by the State Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee, was so successful in its design it was adopted by the county commissioners as a permanent program and is currently funded through the county's General Fund.

Now in its 11th year, Alternatives to Detention provides a least restrictive alternative to secure detention through a variety of creative programs, including work crew and electronic home monitoring.

The last component of the Alternatives to Detention program is the Kitsap Alternative Transition School (KATS), which is a day reporting educational program for youth on probation who have been long-term suspended or expelled.

The Alternatives to Detention program, considered a privilege, effectively allows youth alternatives to secure detention and contributes to the improvement of not only the community, but also the individual.

What We Do

Provide innovative, comprehensive and effective services to youth, families and the community within a quality environment, by professional, caring staff.

Primary functions include:

- Detention
- Alternatives to detention
- Crisis Residential Center
- Kitsap Alternative Transition School (KATS)
- Guardian ad litem/ investigative services in domestic relations matters

What We Did in 2005

- Assigned youth to KATS program to reduce use of secure detention beds for probation violations caused by failure to attend school.
- Non-Offender CSO caseloads reduced by utilizing Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) volunteers: 31%.
- Youth served by CASA in 2005: 154, with a savings of \$152,000.
- Increase in youth served by Truancy Interventionist: 20% (524 filed in 2004, 628 filed in 2005), resulting in youth remaining in school and out of the juvenile justice system.
- Pounds of litter picked up during the 476.4 hours spent working on 32.5 miles of highway by work crew youth working in conjunction with the Department of Ecology: 6,480.
- Savings in secure bed day costs due to Alternatives to Detention Program: \$777,385.
- Reduced felony recidivism through effective intervention programs, including Functional Family Therapy and Aggression Replacement Training

Department Actual 2005-2006

Expenditures

• Salaries	\$4,278,759
• Benefits	1,413,492
• Supplies	191,684
• Services & Charges	889,733
• Capital Outlay	0
• Interfund Services	242,730
TOTAL	\$7,016,398

% of General Fund 8.39%
Special Revenue Funds \$19,106

Staffing Level 89.5

What We Do Roads Division

Build, operate and maintain Kitsap County's transportation infrastructure.

Primary functions include:

- Road construction
- Road maintenance
- Traffic operations
- Transportation planning

Wastewater Division

Provide sanitary sewer service for various unincorporated areas of Kitsap County.

Primary functions include:

- Sewage treatment
- Wastewater collection and transmission
- Sanitary sewer maintenance
- Sewer infrastructure

Surface & Stormwater Management Division

Implement county's flood reduction and non-point pollution control program.

Primary functions include:

- Stormwater control facilities
- Flooding, non-point pollution and fish passage projects
- Pollution source identification
- Surface water outreach and education

Solid Waste Division

Develop and implement the county's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

Primary functions include:

- Solid waste disposal
- Recycling
- Household hazardous waste
- Litter and illegal dumping cleanup and prevention

The Open Line Streamlines Public Works Information



The Open Line is the primary point of contact for Public Works customers. The staff answers over 60,000 phone inquiries each year.

When a person has a question for Kitsap County Public Works, there is just one place to call—The Open Line. A real person answers, and 90 percent of the time the question is answered immediately without further research needed.

“People are surprised that they can call a government office and a human being answers the phone and can provide an answer to their question, all in one call,” said Doug Bear, who supervises the staff of call takers. The process is at once innovative and old-fashioned.

In an age when voicemail and phone tag are the common expectation of those who call any large office, Public Works' Open Line stands apart.

“Customer service is very important to us,” according to Randy Casteel, Public Works Director. “I am glad we are able to provide this service to Public Works customers.”

Today, call takers enter the essence of each call on their computers, allowing call trends to be tracked. The data is used to produce a monthly report on what callers are concerned about and to route the more involved ones to others.

Bear says that 92 percent of the 60,000 calls received in 2003 were answered on the spot by the Open Line staff.

The Open Line takes pride in knowing the answers and often come looking for an answer afterward when

they have had to designate a call as one of the eight percent referred elsewhere. Those eight percent become referral orders to the appropriate division of Public Works. Many get same-day attention.

Each order is assigned a number the caller can use later to check on progress on his complaint. The staff also reviews any unresolved ones at month's end for progress.

The call takers have other duties as the volume of calls allows. They accept utility payments, issue sewer permits, clip stories about county operations from newspapers for routing to the employees involved and dispatch county employees to some of the problems phoned to them.

*By Travis Baker, Kitsap Sun.
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Open Line Receives Waste Wi\$e Kitsap Award

In 2005, the Public Works' Open Line developed a way for each Public Works employee to identify unwanted incoming mail by attaching a small yellow “junk mail” sticker. The sticker offers the recipient an opportunity to stop the unsolicited mail completely or terminate their individual subscription in lieu of a shared copy that is placed on a central rack. The Open Line then sends a postcard to the mailer requesting to “opt out.” Last year, this action stopped over 1,200 pieces of unsolicited mail for the

Public Works Department. In addition, the technique is replicable and can be implemented by all county departments in the coming year, which will prevent waste and eliminate multiple handlings of unwanted incoming mail.

Weekly Road Report Makes Driving Easier

The Public Works website keeps citizens informed of major construction and maintenance activities on county-maintained roads. The Road Report page is updated weekly with a detailed list of roads that will have delays or detours in north, central and south Kitsap County. Future construction schedules are also listed, including links to project location, setting, impetus, scope and status; a vicinity map and photo; project statistics; and a cross-section drawing.

Visitors to the website can sign up to receive the Road Report by email, which makes access to updates even easier. The Road Report emailed weekly to 270 school districts, transit agencies, local and regional media and individuals.

Avoid surprises when you drive on Kitsap County roads by visiting www.kitsapgov.com/pw/roadwork.htm.

Department Actual 2005-2006

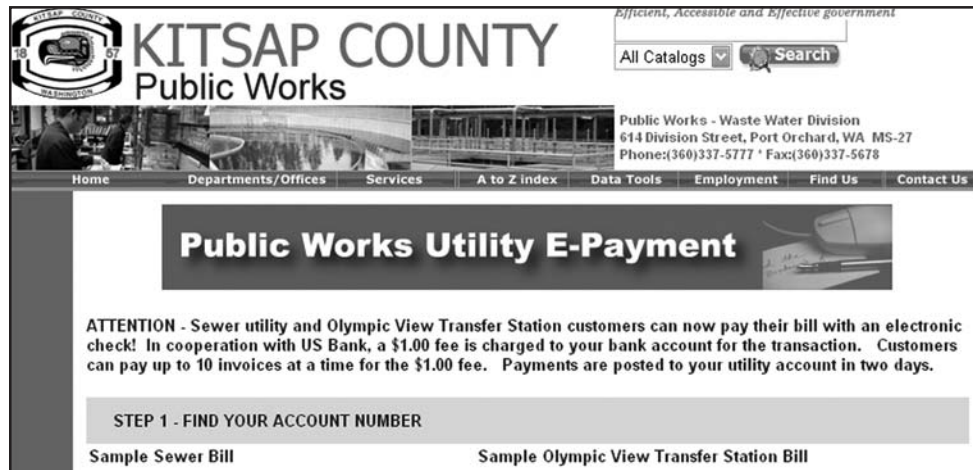
Expenditures

• Salaries	\$13,642,814
• Benefits	3,929,649
• Supplies	5,508,322
• Services & Charges	16,614,671
• Intergovernmental	1,371,126
• Capital Outlay	9,168,088
• Debt Service	2,348,735
• Interfund Services	10,798,220
TOTAL	\$63,381,625

% of General Fund	0%
Special Revenue Funds	\$26,142,128
Capital Project Funds	71,121
Enterprise Funds	30,637,144
Internal Service Funds	6,531,232
TOTAL	\$63,381,625

Staffing Level 267.5

Internet Offers a Wealth of Tools and Information for Residents



Customers can now pay their county sewer utility bill and Olympic Transfer Station bill online with an electronic check.

Electronic Bid Packages Prove Popular—Save Time and Money

The annual summary of webpage traffic shows that the Public Works Department's offering of electronic-format bid packages for proposed county road projects has increased yearly. What started three years ago with the posting of small, in-house projects on the county website totally progressed last year to having all bid projects posted in PDF format on the road bids webpage.

In addition to the website, the bid packages are offered in PDF format on a CD-ROM, which has allowed the Engineering and Operations Division to reduce the number of paper copies needed to bid out the 10 to 12 road projects Public Works sends out on a yearly basis. Previously, staff produced 60 to 70 paper copies of the bid package for each road job, sending out 10 to 15 of these free to plan centers. By producing the bid packages on CD-ROM at a cost of \$5, the department realizes a significant savings over the previous \$35-50 for each paper copy.

In addition to the CDs, posting the Plan Holders List on the web saves further time and money by providing information online about who is holding plans and who is bidding on a project. Previously, during the two- to three-week period when a project was out to bid, Public Works staff would receive several calls a day from plan

centers and plan holders for the most recent Plan Holders List to be faxed to them. Now, staff can quickly guide callers to the online posting, which is updated daily. Callers can then obtain the information at their convenience, without having to wait for a five- to six-page fax.

Payments for Sewer Bills Go Online

Until recently, customers of the county's sewer utility and Olympic View Transfer Station paid their monthly bills in person, by mail or with automatic bank payments. As of March of this year, customers can now pay their bill with an electronic check via the Internet. In cooperation with US Bank, a \$1.00 fee is charged to the customer's bank account for the transaction, and payments are posted to their utility accounts in two days.

In addition to customer convenience, the e-payment solution further streamlines the process by allowing staff to verify payments immediately.

Lisa Moses coordinated the implementation of this application. Once the Treasurer's Office had their program to pay property taxes up and running, Lisa contacted the Treasurer's office to see if there was a way to piggy back on their application. Lisa felt this would minimize the learning curve for customers. She discovered the Treasurer's Office utilizes a service from US Bank available to govern-

ment entities through a state contract. This contract allows the fee to be kept at \$1.00 per transaction, making the program convenient and affordable for customers.

Jim Massee of the Information Services Department (IS) had the next monumental task: "coding" the application for the website. IS had recently decided to use new software technology (.NET), which is the latest technology in web trends. Jim learned the application, executed the coding and uploaded the county's first application using this technology.

Through the coordinated efforts of Public Works, Information Services, Treasurer's Office and US Bank, the application is up and running smoothly.

According to Moses, "This is just one example of how Kitsap County departments collaborate to make government more accessible to the public."

Waste Disposal Information and Tips Available on Web

The Solid Waste Division website is a valuable resource for information about waste disposal of all kinds. Disposal tips and drop-off locations are provided for recycling and donating or throwing away a wide variety of items, including furniture, electronics and building materials. From there, you can also visit the county's 2 Good 2 Toss site, an online reusable materials exchange.

To help reduce the improper disposal of solid waste, citizens can fill out an online form to report litter or illegal dumping on private property or on roadsides. The Clean Kitsap project is also highlighted, along with events like Furniture Amnesty Day and Yard Amnesty Day, which encourage responsible disposal by allowing people to drop off materials for free.

Alternatives to outdoor burning, smart choices for landscaping and resources for making compost are all available online.

For all this and more, visit www.kitsapgov.com/sw.

What We Did in 2005 Roads Division

- Value of transportation projects designed and constructed: \$7,375,302.
- Centerline miles: 18.5 overlaid; 31.2 chip sealed; 274.6 striped.
- Traffic signs maintained: 18,821.

Wastewater Division

- Completed construction of Kingston Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Upgraded pump stations in Central Kitsap.
- Received 10th consecutive award for outstanding excellence for Manchester Wastewater System.
- Sewage treated:
CKTP—1.29 bil. gal.
Manchester—74.4 mil. gal.
Suquamish—70.7 mil. gal.
Kingston—29.0 mil. gal.
(new)

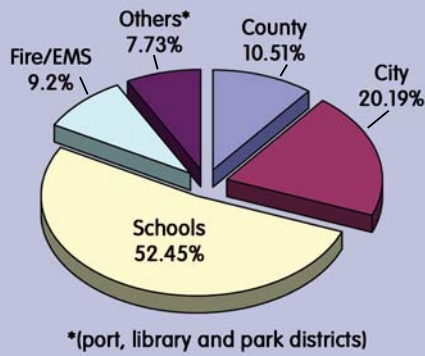
Surface & Stormwater Management Division

- Conducted performance audit of program.
- Collaborated with Health and Conservation District to reduce bacterial loading to Dyes Inlet.
- Awarded \$150,000 grant for Clear Creek Flood Plain Restoration.
- Removed 1,700 tons of sediment and debris from 10,340 catch basins and 388 stormwater ponds.
- 56 school and community presentations reached over 1,619 people.

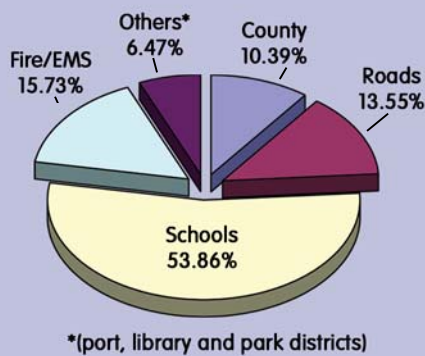
Solid Waste Division

- Partnered with Leadership Kitsap for Reuse-a-Shoe program.
- Kicked off Adopt-a-Road program.
- Collected 696,943 pounds of household hazardous waste.
- Named EPA WasteWise Local Partner of the Year.

Incorporated Area:
 (\$10.72) Taxes on a \$241,303
 Home = \$2,587



Unincorporated Area:
 (\$10.89) Taxes on a \$229,753
 Home = \$2,501



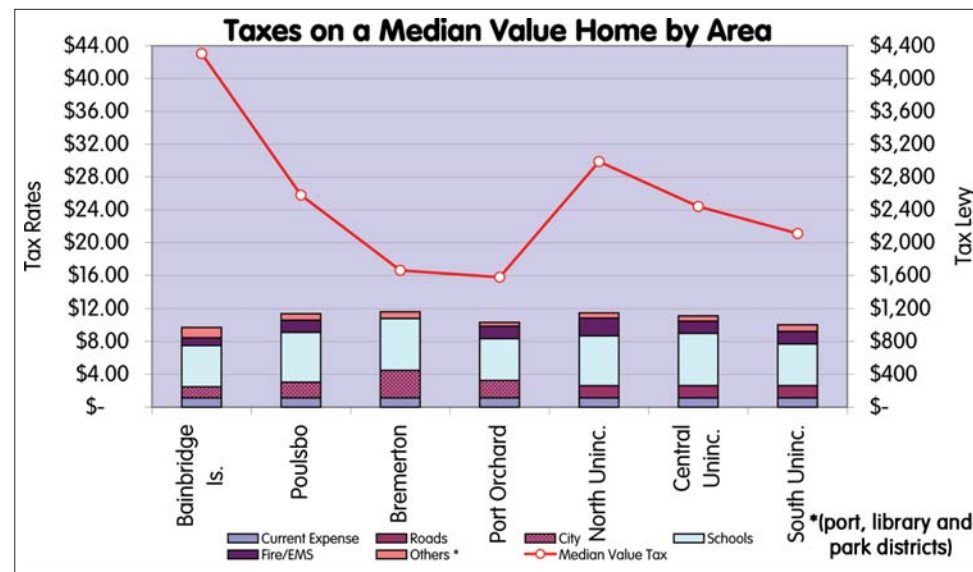
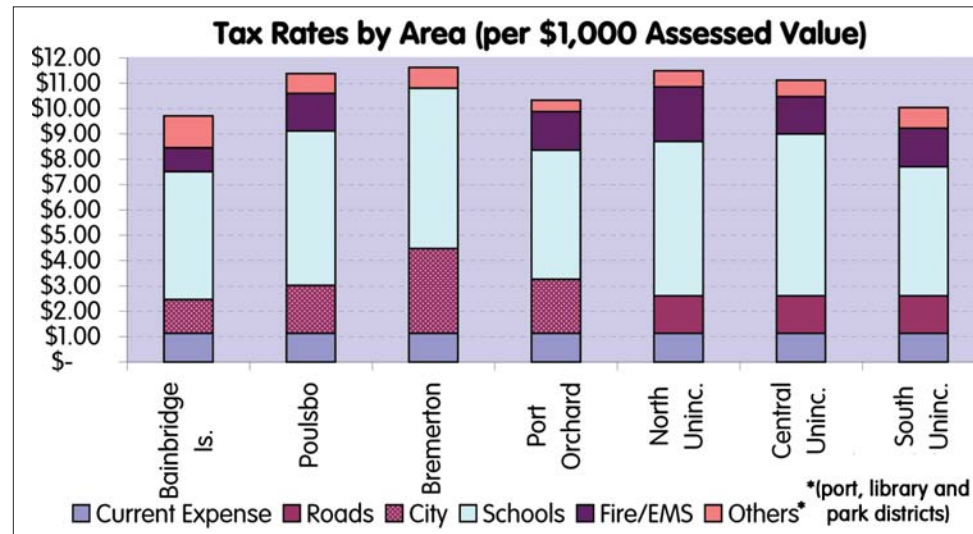
Current Expense* Property Tax Rates Per \$1,000 Assessed Value



*Includes General Fund, Conservation Futures, Mental Health and Veteran's Relief Taxes.

Property tax levy rates for Kitsap County have decreased from \$1.52 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2001 to \$1.13 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2006.

Property Taxes 101: Demystifying Your Property Tax Bill



April is the time of year when taxpayers have received their property tax bills and are getting ready to pay them by the April 30 deadline. Where exactly does that money go? Although you send your property taxes to Kitsap County, the money is distributed to several different government entities, such as the state, cities, schools, fire districts, public utilities districts, library districts, parks and port districts.

If you live in unincorporated Kitsap County, about 24% of your taxes go to the county. This is split between the current expense (10.4%) and county road maintenance and construction (13.6%). The current expense covers most government functions, like courts, law enforcement, treasurer, auditor, assessor, parks and recreation and some health and human services.

In 2006, more than 64% of our

available current expense funds will go towards law and justice programs. People who live in cities pay the county's current expense tax, but do not pay the county road tax. Depending on the city, they instead pay between 13.7% and 28.8% of their property taxes to city government.

So, what is the property tax process, and why do you pay a certain amount every year?

The annual property tax process begins in the Kitsap County Assessor's Office. The Assessor is required to set the value of all property at 100% of market value, which is an estimate based on the real estate market. Factors such as location, size, views and current sales will impact the market value. Every year, the directors or commissioners of taxing districts also meet to decide how much tax to collect for the next year. However, they cannot collect more than 1%

more than the previous year's taxes with an adjustment for new construction. These meetings require public hearings where taxpayer input is solicited. The Assessor determines the levy rates for each district by multiplying the adopted taxes by 1,000 and dividing this result by the district's total assessed values. The levy rates are then applied to all property in their respective districts, and the Treasurer mails out tax bills on February 14. First-half payments are due on April 30 and second-half payments are due October 31. Property tax levy rates for the Kitsap County have decreased from \$1.52 per \$1,000 of assessed value in the year 2001 to \$1.13 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2006. The reduction in rate is due to the fact that assessed values have increased at a higher rate than 1%.

There are two different kinds of levies. Regular levies may be imposed by a tax district without voter approval and are subject to statutory and constitutional limits, including the 1% limit. Excess or special levies are approved by voters and generally allow for maintenance and operations or construction of buildings and facilities. These levies usually last for a fixed length of time, such as the school levies Kitsap County voters renewed in February and March that required a 60% majority vote to pass. Qualified senior or disabled citizens are exempt from these excess levies. Some voter-approved excess levies are for fixed-rate levies. In this case, taxes for that district would go up or down in exact proportion to property values.

How much you actually pay in property tax depends on where you live in Kitsap County. Average property values differ throughout the county, and each taxing district will have a different levy rate. The county encourages you to look at your property tax statement to see where your taxes go.

While a portion of your property tax bill funds county operations, it also helps keep vital entities like schools, cities, ports, public utilities districts and fire districts operating.