

findinghome Address Correction Frequently Asked Questions



For more information, visit http://bit.ly/kcaddress or call Kitsap1 at (360) 337-5777.

What is the Address Correction Project?

A countywide effort to correct addresses, eliminating out-of-sequence addresses and confusing or duplicate street names in an effort to help with public safety response and provide vital information to an enhanced and improved 911 telephone network while giving clearer direction for deliveries and visitors. If emergency responders can't find you, they can't help you.

A secondary purpose of the project is to make certain new address numbers for future developments will correctly fit into the existing address number range within each section of each county road.

Also, ensuring all property owners are aware that their address numbers should be displayed at their driveways to be seen clearly from either direction of the road. For this reason, Kitsap County will provide blue reflective address signs at no cost to property owners whose road address numbers were reassigned by the County.

Why does my address have to change?

Kitsap County is establishing a consistent countywide addressing scheme which involves correcting addresses, and in some cases naming or renaming roads, while at the same time coming into compliance with the Washington state's implementation of Next Generation 911 service.

When do I start using my new address?

As of the Effective Date inserted in the letter you received from the Department of Community Development.

What if I receive my mail through a post office box?

You can continue to receive your mail through a post office box. Emergency responders will use the new address to locate your home or other structure in the came of emergency. You will still need to notify the post office of your new address.

I've used the same address for 30 years. Why do I have to change my address? Logical, consistent addressing saves lives. It's vital to have a correct address that works with the new 911 identification system.

Does this change the legal status of my property?

No new deed is needed. The property is described by the legal description and Assessor's tax parcel number, not by the address. This should have no effect on related legal documents.

Who do I need to inform of my address change?

The Department of Licensing and anyone you receive mail from including:

- Bank
- Cable/ Dish Provider
- Cell Phone
- **Employer**
- Family
- **Insurance Companies**
- Magazines Subscriptions

Who does the county inform?

- United States Postal Service
- Local Branch of the United States Postal Service
- County Central Communications (CenCom 911)
- Cascade Natural Gas
- Kitsap County Auditors/Elections
- Kitsap County Road Department
- Kitsap County Mapping

- Medicaid, WIC, and other Government offices
- Online Purchasing web sites
- Utilities
- Lenders
- Tenants/Renters
- GPS Search Companies (Google Maps, Bing Maps, etc.)
- Kitsap County Treasurer
- Kitsap County Assessor
- Kitsap County Wastewater Division
- Puget Sound Energy
- Local School District
- Local Fire District
- **Local Water District**

How long will the Post Office (USPS) deliver mail to my old address?

One year from the date of the notification to USPS. After that mail to the old address is returned to sender. Post both your old and new address on your mail box for six months.

How does this effect emergency response to my residence?

Emergency response systems first take the 911 call, then find the target – your residence. If emergency responders can't find you, they can't help you.

Where can I get a blue sign with my new address on it? Fill out the form on our website or contact Kitsap1 at 360-337-5777 or e-mail help@kitsap1.com.

Can I appeal my address change?

Yes. This is a land use decision; you have the right to appeal per Kitsap County Code Title 21.04.090 Appeals.

- There is a fee to submit the appeal (currently \$500)
- To apply for an appeal complete the appeal application found on our website

How do I get a formal letter verifying my address change?

The letter you received is sufficient in most situations. Contact Kitsap1 at 360-337-5777 or e-mail help@kitsap1.com if you need additional documentation.

How do I correctly post my new address?

Per Kitsap County Code Chapter 16.60, the Kitsap County Department of Community Development is responsible to provide uniformity in the designation of address numbers and road names. These are requirements for posting addresses: **For residential addresses**:

- Numbers no less than 4 inches in height shall be posted on your residence.
- The numbers should be visible and legible from the street or road fronting the property
- In a color that contrasts with the color of your residence
- If the numbers are not visible from the street, display them near the main entrance to the property.
- Post both your old and new address on your mail box for six months.

<u>Will all address numbers on county roads be changed?</u> All addresses on each section of county roads have been examined to determine if they are sequentially correct. Certain areas of the county are targeted before others based on factors such as problem areas where 911 has been unable to swiftly locate addresses in emergency situations or where there is a demand for new address numbers due to new development.

Can I get an address for my undeveloped piece of property?

No. Addresses are assigned in conjunction with the approved building permit application for primary residence or during the final plat process.

Is the County going to reimburse for the expense of changing my address on personal items? No.

Why can't GPS (Global Positioning Systems) solve this problem?

GPS (Global Positioning Systems) are an increasingly popular method for people to find locations. However, the effectiveness of GPS is limited by the quality of the data the devices rely upon. In other words, the ability of a GPS unit to find an address is dependent on the quality of the address data. This project aims to improve our address data.

How to inform Google maps of your address change.

- 1. Open google maps and make sure you are signed in.
- 2. Zoom in and click where the see the problem.
- 3. In the top left corner, click the main menu =.
- 4. Click send feedback.

- 5. Click report a data problem.
- 6. Follow the instructions to report your issue
- 7. Click Submit.