



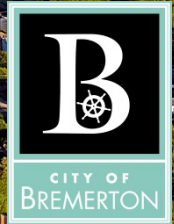
BREMERTON
WASHINGTON

2021 State of the City

Making Bremerton Better for All



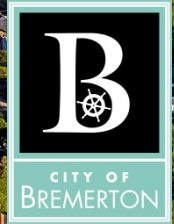
Photo courtesy of Port of Bremerton



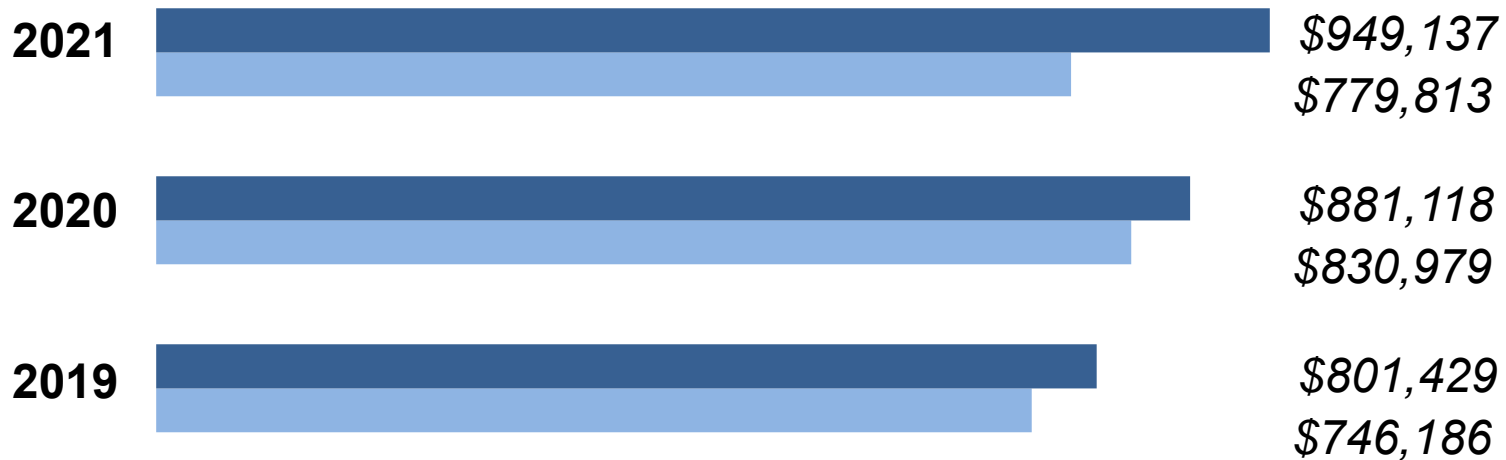
City of Bremerton Sales Tax History 2019 vs 2020

The graph represents the City's cumulative sales tax totals for 2019 and 2020. During COVID-19 in 2020, the sales tax rebounded significantly since July and increased by 4.9% compared to the prior periods.



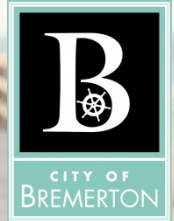


January and February Sales Tax Activity (2019-2021)



■ Feb ■ Jan

Most Affordable Beach Towns

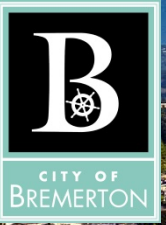


City of Bremerton Recently Ranked as 39th Most Affordable Beach Town in the Country!

SmartAsset looked at data for 218 waterfront cities across four metrics: median home value, average number of rooms per house, median property taxes paid and monthly housing costs. Second year Bremerton ranked in the top 40.

Rank	City	Median Home Value	Average Rooms per House	Median Annual Property Taxes	Median Monthly Housing Costs	Index
38	North Miami, FL	\$ 202,600	5.1	\$ 1,628	\$ 1,216	75.46
39	Bremerton, WA	\$ 238,600	6.1	\$ 2,283	\$ 1,268	75.31
40	Hallandale Beach, FL	\$ 215,600	3.9	\$ 1,927	\$ 968	75.00

Full list of ranked cities can be found at: <https://smartasset.com/mortgage/most-affordable-beach-towns-2021>



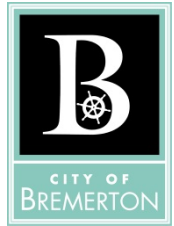
Bremerton Region Named One of Top 50 Most Fitness Friendly Metros in U.S.

SmartAsset looked at data for 301 metropolitan areas across several metrics: percentage of residents who walk or bike to work, fitness establishments per 10,000 establishments, among other factors.

Rank	Metro Area	Commuters Who Walk or Bike	Concentration of Fitness Professionals ¹	Concentration of Fitness Businesses ²	Percent of Fast Food Restaurants ³	Hourly Pay for Personal Trainers	Index
49	Blacksburg-Christiansburg, VA	3.7 %	39	89	47 %	\$ 20.45	73.33
50	Bremerton-Silverdale-Port Orchard, WA (Tie)	5.9 %	38	73	36 %	\$ 21.24	73.12
50	San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley, CA (Tie)	6.5 %	34	79	36 %	\$ 28.53	73.12

Full ranking at: <https://smartasset.com/checking-account/most-fitness-friendly-places-for-2021>

Bremerton Area Ranked as 9th Most Vibrant Medium-Sized Community in America



- Bremerton-Silverdale area received ranking Arts Vibrancy Index Report for 2020; selected out of 900 cities in the U.S.
- The City moved up to #9 in 2020 from #10 in the previous year
- In addition to Bremerton's art and culture venues, the City of Bremerton was recognized for efforts that have been supported through recent arts initiatives and objectives put in place since 2018

Excerpt from the Arts Vibrancy Index Report:

Bremerton is currently focusing its efforts to revitalize a downtown street with a housing-based “day to night” urban center, honoring musician Quincy Jones. To preserve the history of a 1970 relief wall, Bremerton also created an “Open Air Gallery” (outside) to enhance revitalization through public art. Bremerton is now home to a unique arts festival, Wayzgoose Kitsap, where local artists hand-carve linoleum blocks and print them with full-sized steamrollers.”

Source: Sixth Annual Arts Vibrancy Index Report - National Center for Arts Research at Southern Methodist University, Dallas TX



**Open Air Gallery:
Art Panel Exhibit**

**Washington Ave &
Manette Bridge**

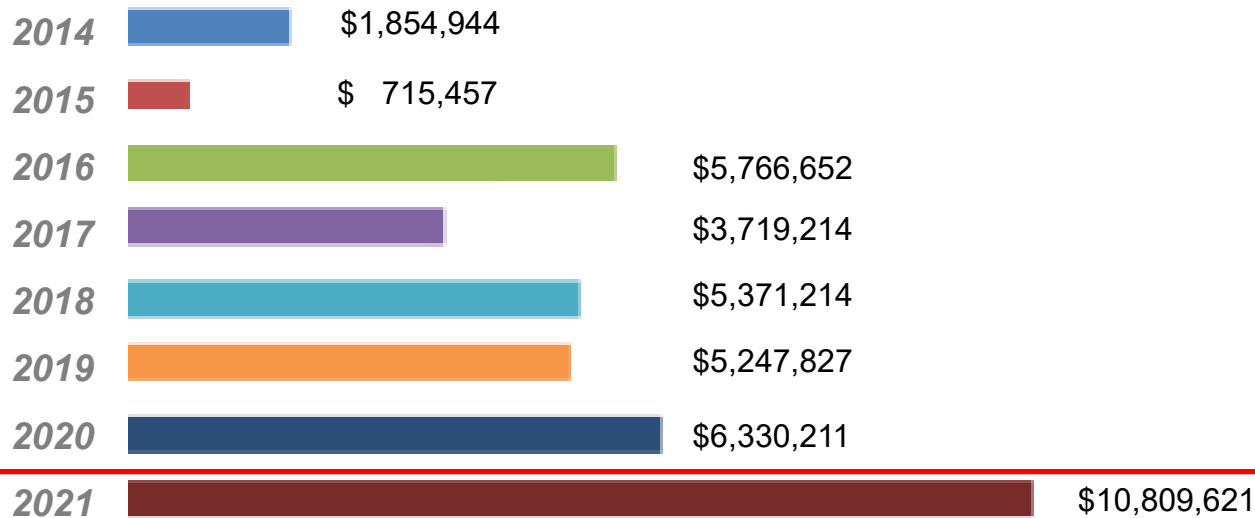


Housing and Commercial Development Improvements

- **2020:** Record year of permit valuations (\$143+ million) with a total of 1,265 permits
- **2021:**
 - 2,000+ homes and apartments and 230,000 sq. ft. of commercial space in pipeline
 - Continue with infill development toolkit to increase number of developable properties for affordable housing; estimated 2,350+ residences would be added
 - over 20 years
 - Modify accessory dwelling unit (ADU) regulations to allow up to two per lot



January Permit Activity



January 2021 permit valuation was \$10.8 million in construction approved (record breaking for a January). The permits submitted and currently under review as of January 31 totals \$108 million. This includes permits for 155 new homes in Bremerton vs 38 new home submittals in January of last year, a 300 percent increase.



Permit Activity Update

January and February of 2020 were the highest permit records the City had ever seen for the approval of construction for the start of a year (usually January/February is pretty "slow"). In 2021 we're breaking that record again.

Permit Trending 2020 v 2021	
2020 Total Year	\$143,423,389
2021 approved and in review as of 3/1	\$136,476,548
Difference	\$6,946,841

We are already within \$7 million of last year's total and we still have 10 months of the year to go!



Proactive Code Enforcement

- **2020:** Completed second full year of proactive code enforcement; addressed 950+ issues as part of program
- **2021:** Continue enhanced code enforcement program to address issues



Affordable Housing Assistance

2020:

- \$100,000 in City funding and \$530,000+ in CARES Act funding for Bremerton Rental Assistance Program – helped prevent eviction, maintain rental housing for 77 City residents
- \$100,000 in City funding and \$25,000 in CDBG funding for City's weatherization and minor home repair program; helped reduce heating and housing costs for 15 Bremerton residents

2021:

- Additional \$100,000 and remainder of CARES Act funds earmarked for City's rental assistance program with \$100,000 match by Bremerton Housing Authority
- Additional \$100,000 and \$50,000 CDBG funding for weatherization and minor home repair program



Kitsap Lake Management Plan

2020:

- Implemented lake monitoring with weekly testing to track water quality
- Completed algae control, aquatic vegetation harvesting, and herbicide application to invasive vegetation; **Efforts increased water clarity from 5 feet to 15 feet**
- Secured Dept. of Ecology grant and other funding for \$200,000 to design 4 stormwater treatment systems

2021:

- Complete watershed and vegetation management plans to improve long-term water quality
- Implement control efforts to help limit algae growth
- Begin design of 4 stormwater treatment facilities at specific sites and install stormwater treatment at Kitsap Lake Park as part of clean-up of lake



Park Upgrades

2020:

- Completed \$40,000 in accessibility improvements to Evergreen Rotary Park
- Applied for \$850,000 in state grants for LuLu Haddon Park and developed park master plan
- Secured funding for improvements: approx. \$1 million in state grants for Kitsap Lake Park and \$25,000 grant for Ivy Green Cemetery

2021:

- Complete and open Warren Avenue Park/Playfield following \$1.5 million renovation
- Complete development of construction documents/permitting, bid and award construction contract for Kitsap Lake Park
- Accept grant award, approve grant agreements and begin development of construction documents for LuLu Haddon Park improvements
- Work with YMCA on increasing public access to City-owned Jarstad pool
- Complete master plan for Gold Mountain Golf Complex Cascade Course improvements



Arts and Culture

- **2020:** 3 art wraps, completed selection of 3 new art panels for installation on Wash. Ave wall; and continued poet laureate program
- **2021:** 2-4 art wraps, coordinate reopening of City Wayzgoose arts festival planned for 2022, continue poet laureate program, select and install 3-5 new art wall panels to the Wash. Ave. Open Air Gallery



Police Support and Crime Reduction

2020:

- Police reached full-level staffing in January, which was the first time since 2007; Of those positions, 7 of them reopened and 3 were filled by end of the year
- Traffic and bike units temporarily assigned to assist patrols during early months of pandemic to ensure full assistance to residents
- Prepared for 8 large protests in the Bremerton area – No violence or property damage
- Continued City's Intelligence Led Policing initiative – analyzed real-time data to determine current issues, trends, and crime “hot spots” for response by patrol officers and City staff



Police Support and Crime Reduction

2021 :

- Continue full staffing of police force and bicycle patrols
- Hire behavioral health and police body camera support positions
- Upgrade video security cameras
- Continue implementation of Intelligence Led Policing initiative
- Look for ways to continue development of Safe Place program
- Develop remote technology options for starting new Block Watch opportunities in neighborhoods
- Implement the Behavioral Health Program for crisis intervention and continue Navigator Program to connect those with mental health and addictions with services and treatment resources



Police Support and Crime Reduction

2020 Bike Unit Statistics

- Total arrests (both felony and misdemeanor) - 262
- Infractions – 46
- Sex offender contact - 18
- Trespass notices - 36
- Reports written - 406

2020 Traffic Unit Statistics

- Reports - 437
- DUI arrests - 40
- Total arrests - 195
- Injury hit and run investigations - 35
- Vehicular assault investigations - 3
- Fatal collision investigations – 2

2020 - K9 “Esco” had:

- 53 tracks and 18 building searches
- Resulted in 26 arrests and 9 evidence finds

2020 - K9 “Loki” had:

- 24 tracks and 3 building searches
- Resulted in 6 arrests and 3 evidence finds



Fire Reduction and Public Safety

2020:

- Hired 5 emergency personnel and maintained hiring of firefighters over past three years to maintain efficiency and emergency response
 - 493 life safety inspections completed
 - 0 loss of life due to fire, 24 fires investigated
 - Responded to 8,653 emergency incidents, avg response time 5:59 minutes
- First full year of implementation of Marine 20 fire rescue boat – 30 responses and 6 people rescued from the water
- Ladder 1 fire truck responded to 2,003 calls
- Crews trained over 900 hours on both Ladder 1 and Marine 20 fire rescue boat during the year



Fire Reduction and Public Safety

2021:

- Seek additional funding sources to assist with hiring of additional staffing to improve efficiencies, emergency response
- Purchase Wildland Fire Engine and new Paramedic unit
- Complete first full year of implementation of mobile unit to better respond to opioid and mental health incidents in partnership with Peninsula Community Health Services
- Ensure assistant fire chief position permanently filled
- \$4.5 million public safety bond (2015) will be completed this year. The bond allowed the purchase of a new Ladder 1 (L-1) truck, two fire engines, two ambulances, 5 staff vehicles and other safety equipment. Remodel of fire stations two and three are the last two projects to be completed this year under the bond.



Nuisance Property Abatement Program

Two programs started in 2018 allow City to clean up nuisance property:

- Court-appointed receiver program (RCW 7.60)
 - 2 properties in progress/scheduled in 2021
- Abatement program (RCW 35.80)
 - 2 properties in progress/scheduled in 2021

Note: 20 properties added to abatement priority list and being assessed for action beginning in 2021



Streets and Sidewalks Program

2020:

- Constructed 3,000-ft of sidewalks and installed 15 ADA curb ramps
- Continued construction of the Kitsap Lake Safe Routes to School project
- Constructed first phase of 6th Street overlay from Callow Ave to Naval Ave
- Began design of second phase of 6th Street overlay from Warren Ave to Pacific Ave
- Eliminated over 900 trip hazards by repairing sidewalks using leveling and grinding techniques.
- Started design of pedestrian safety improvements for the Warren Avenue Bridge
- Secured \$675,000 in grant funding for \$750,000 commuter transportation and traffic study in partnership with U.S. Navy



Streets and Sidewalks Program

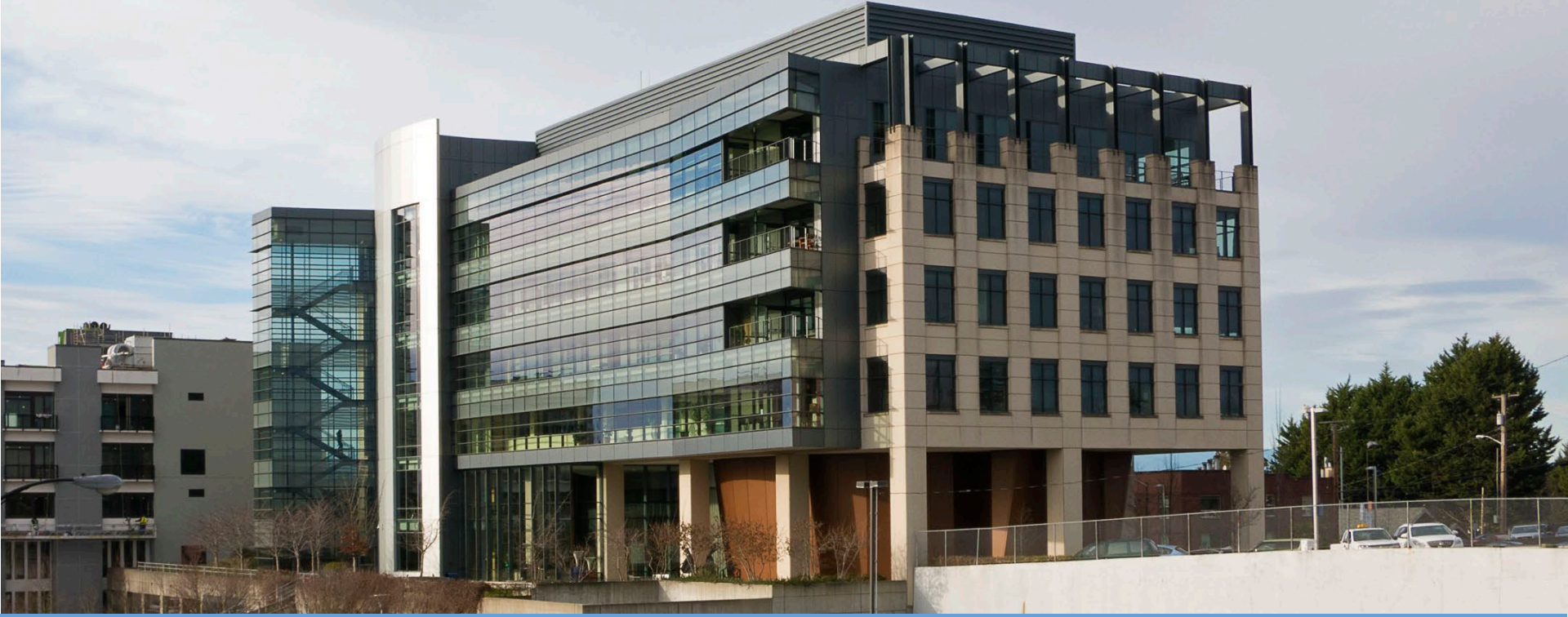
2021:

- Build and repair 2,500 feet sidewalks and install 40 ADA curb ramps
- Implement third full year of 5-year contract to eliminate trip hazards on City sidewalks
- Complete overlay of 6th Street (Warren Ave to Pacific Ave)
- Design East 11th St and Perry Ave project
- Begin design and complete downtown bike lane improvements (Complete Streets)
- Design Naval Avenue project from 1st to 15th Streets
- Complete design and construction of Kitsap Way/SR 303 corridor improvements
- Finalize design of Washington Avenue and 11th Street improvements
- Begin Bremerton commuter transportation and traffic study in partnership with U.S. Navy
- Complete Citywide wayfinding plan



Medical Care Access

- **2020:** Supported completion of CHI Franciscan/Harrison primary healthcare and residency program facility
- **2021:** Support completion and opening of urgent care on Kitsap Way by CHI Franciscan/Harrison



Diversity

- **2020:** Created a workforce diversity and inclusion policy and updated Equal Employment Opportunity program:
 - Began implementation of workforce diversity plan and expanded outreach for recruitments; completed mandatory implicit bias training for all employees and assigned to all new hires; assigned diversity training; updated policies and procedures to comply with new policy and legal requirements
- **2021:** Begin development of recruiting strategy to expand hiring pool; continue with mandatory training; research and incorporate other employers' workforce diversity best practices; provide training on Equal Employment Opportunity laws



Parking

2020:

Parking Enforcement

- Continued improving parking enforcement through use of new tools such as License Plate Reader technology and corresponding updates to residential parking permits program

Parking Management

- Updated signage in parking garages, improved waitlist policies, updated rates and parking options
- Added technology improvements including online parking permit applications and payments and expanded use of pay by phone to improve efficiencies
- Pivoted regulation and enforcement to respond to parking needs of residents and essential workers during COVID-19 pandemic restrictions



Parking

2021:

- Continue improving parking enforcement and tools through use of new technology, including full implementation of License Plate Reader technology
- Continue updating and improving parking signage throughout the City
- Initiate commuter survey on improving access to multi-modal transit options and Smart Commuter program
- Improve bike access in downtown core
- Continue to improve and adopt technology for online parking tools and apps for residents
- Develop new permit options for recreational vehicles (RVs) including boats and boat trailers
- Make updates to the City's residential parking permit program



Transportation

2020:

- Supported continued operation through reduced capacity of Bremerton fast ferries and local foot ferry service during COVID-19 pandemic

2021:

- Support Kitsap Transit study for new fast ferry terminal in Seattle to meet demand of Bremerton fast ferries/other routes and which ties into connections with Seattle's downtown core and transit
- Analyze multi-modal transit options (ferry, buses, park and ride, van and carpool, bike lanes, pedestrian walkways, taxi, rideshare, etc.) and identify gaps to improve mobility in the City
- Work on continuing to restore Sunday service and making transit improvements across the City



Mental Health

2020:

- Continued support for development of Pendleton Place
- Launched mobile healthcare partnership with Peninsula Community Health Services and Bremerton Fire Department to better respond to opioid and mental health incidents

2021:

- Support construction of Pendleton Place housing
- Complete first full year of implementation of mobile unit to better respond to opioid and mental health incidents in partnership with Peninsula Community Health Services
- Implement the Behavioral Health Program for crisis intervention and continue the Navigator Program



Business Opportunity and Economic Growth

2020/2021:

- Completed and adopted Eastside Village (Harrison Hospital area) study in 2020; begin implementation of Eastside Village plan for increased housing and continue partnership in support of demolition of former Harrison Hospital in 2021
- Completed study on redeveloping Callow Ave business district in 2020; update City's regulations to help support Charleston District revitalization in 2021
- Finalized Wheaton Way/SR 303 Corridor study in 2020; final report to be delivered in 2021
- Expand broadband access by working with Kitsap Public Utility District



Business Opportunity and Economic Growth

2020/2021 (continued):

- Bremerton Airport selected as one of top 6 airports to be considered for expansion in Washington state
- Work with Port of Bremerton and private partners to analyze economic benefits for expansion; discussions include potential job growth, business expansion and long-term prospects for Bremerton and region
- Work with partners to identify and fund construction of transportation improvements for Gorst corridor, sewer infrastructure, etc.
- Supported completion of Amazon distribution center of 120,000 sq. ft. in 2020; continue to support large employers locating in Bremerton



Finance

2020:

- Began transition to monthly water/sewer/stormwater billing for residents
- Implemented new technologies and processes across departments to improve efficiencies and expand digital services to residents and businesses during pandemic
- Fully integrated smart water meters in conjunction with remote reads to help residents identify their usage so they can take steps to reduce monthly water costs

2021:

- Continue implementation of monthly water/sewer/stormwater billing for residents
- Explore additional improvements and efficiencies using technology and new processes
- Evaluate technology to allow for a streamlined digital on-boarding of new hires



Naval Base Kitsap – Bremerton Transportation and Traffic Study

2020:

- Secured funding for \$750,000 commuter transportation and traffic study in cooperation with U.S. Navy to reduce gridlock and parking issues from heavy commuter traffic

2021:

- Begin rollout of commuter transportation and traffic study
- Gather public input on traffic and parking challenges for development of long-term solutions



Youth Academic and Civic Engagement

2020:

- Completed 2nd year of Mayor's Challenge program, which supported a study on preventing recurrent algae blooms in Kitsap Lake by students from Poulsbo Adventist School
- Completed 2nd year of Mayor's Youth Leadership Award program, which recognized academic achievement and civic leadership of high school students in the Bremerton district. Selected Isabella Meyer and Brianna Heriford for 2020 award.

2021:

- Administer Mayor's Challenge Award for student science project addressing City issue
- Continue 3rd year of Mayor's Youth Leadership Award program



COVID–19 Assistance in 2020

In 2020, as a result of COVID-19, my administration:

- Distributed nearly \$1.4 million in federal funds for Bremerton COVID-19 relief programs, including \$533,431 for the COVID-19 Bremerton rental assistance program; \$580,578 in Bremerton small business relief grants; and \$252,950 in technology purchases for virtual learning in the Bremerton School District
- Ensured residents would still have water and sewer services if they could not make payments due to the financial impacts of COVID-19.
- Waived late payment fees and interest in early months of COVID-19 for businesses who were not able to file their taxes and renew their licenses on time due to coronavirus
- Found a new location in downtown for the Bremerton Farmers Market so they could continue operating and meet coronavirus health and safety standards
- Supported City staff in staying healthy by providing remote working environment



COVID–19 Assistance in 2020 (cont.)

- Permitted outdoor seating in public parking spaces for Bremerton restaurants so they could meet certain safety conditions. Provided ability for businesses and others (including churches and schools) to expand into their private property with temporary tents and other similar structures like awnings.
- Opened up temporary parking on downtown streets for essential workers and for those who needed to meet appointments for critical services and care. Neighborhood parking enforcement was also lifted temporarily to assist residents during state’s stay-at-home orders.
- Supported Salvation Army in creating a 24-hour/7 day-a-week shelter for those facing homelessness during the pandemic
- Provided planning and staff support for COVID-19 testing in City-owned parking garage, among other locations



COVID–19 Assistance in 2021

In 2021, the City will continue to use CARES Act funding and provide staff assistance for COVID-19 response. This includes:

- Setting aside CARES Act funding to supplement the City’s Bremerton Rental Assistance Program to help prevent evictions
- Providing planning and staff support to Peninsula Community Health Services and St. Michael Medical Center in Bremerton for vaccination sites
- Continuing to support City staff in staying healthy by providing remote working environment
- Working to continue COVID-19 Bremerton small business relief grants this year



BREMERTON
WASHINGTON

2021 State of the City

Making Bremerton Better for All



Photo courtesy of Port of Bremerton