

City of Shelton, Mason Transit Authority team on crossing lights

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Pedestrian safety could improve near the Transit-Community Center in downtown Shelton, thanks to an agreement between the city of Shelton and Mason Transit Authority (MTA).

The Shelton City Commission on Monday night agreed to an interlocal agreement with MTA to install blinking pedestrian crossing lights near the center.

MTA will buy two sets of solar LED pedestrian crossing systems, to be installed in front of the Transit Center on Franklin Street, and at the intersection of Sixth Street and Railroad Avenue.

The city will own the two systems and provide all the materials and labor to install them. During the five-year agreement, the city cannot remove or relocate the pedestrian crossing systems without MTA's approval.

The interlocal agreement also agrees that the city and MTA cannot be held liable for

interruption in the service of the pedestrian lights during the following conditions: "acts of God, civil or military authority, acts of the public enemy, terrorism, bomb threats, computer virus, epidemic, power outage, acts of war, accidents, fires, explosions, earthquakes, floods, failure of transportation, machinery, or supplies, vandalism, strikes or work interruptions by the employees of any party."

The \$10 million transit center opened in April 2015.

The Transit-Community Center project began in 2006, when MTA purchased the 57-year-old building from the National Guard. Two years later, the state gave a \$235,000 community project grant for an engineering/design study that determined the building was a good candidate for renovation and preservation.

In 2011, MTA received a \$3.28 million Federal Transit Administration grant. Two years ago, it received a federal grant for almost \$1.5 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation.



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Journal photo by Gordon Weeks