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## Park and Ride Opens with First Electric Vehicle Charging Station

SHELTON, WA – Mason Transit Authority has reopened the Pear Orchard Park and Ride after recently completing renovations including an electric vehicle (EV) charging station. The park and ride is located off SR 3 near N. Front Street, near the Shelton Yacht Club.



Pear Orchard Park and Ride serves bus route 1 and worker/driver buses to the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. It has parking spaces for 32 vehicles. Upgrades include increased parking, shelter for waiting passengers, lights, security cameras, landscaping and Mason Transit's first EV charging station.

"The improvements make our park and ride safer and more comfortable for commuters, especially as we go into winter," explained Amy Asher, general manager of Mason Transit. "EV chargers are important because people use electric vehicles for short trips then jump on the bus for the long commute."

Pear Orchard Park and Ride is part of a \$10 million package funded through state grants to improve transit safety and encourage ridership. Later this summer and fall, four other renovated park and ride locations will open, including Shelton-Matlock, Cole Road, Pickering and Belfair. The new location in Belfair will include additional bus parking and will serve as a North Mason operations hub for Mason Transit. When complete, the renovated and new park and ride locations will more than triple parking for commuters.

<u>Mason Transit Authority</u> serves the Mason County community and connects with area transit systems including Grays Harbor Transit, Intercity Transit (Thurston County), Jefferson Transit, Kitsap Transit, Squaxin Island Transit, and Sound Transit, which in turn provides connections to the ferries, Amtrak and Greyhound service. **You can go anywhere from here!** Mason Transit Authority is a partner in the Health & Safety Commitments Program of The American Public Transportation Association.



Located off SR3 and N. Front Street, the renovated Pear Orchard Park and Ride features 32 parking spaces and electric vehicle charging stations.