

OFFICIAL PROGRAM



Mason Transit Authority Transit-Community Center

Grand Opening

MASON COUNTY
JOURNAL



Reading the Journal while riding the bus is one of Mason County's favorite pastimes.

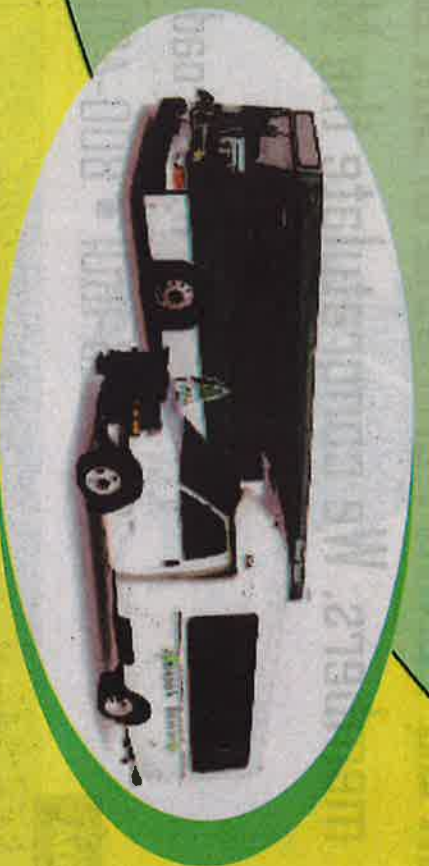
We've been reporting on the progress of Mason Transit from the early days of the first proposals to the first bus rides and beyond.

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Congratulations to MTA
and the people of Mason County!

MASON COUNTY JOURNAL



BREAKING GROUND



File photo from the March 24, 1955 edition of the Shelton-Mason County Journal
When ground was broken last Friday signaling the start of construction on Shelton's National Guard army, members of the original army land-funds raising committee were on hand, together with city, county, veterans group and business representatives. Shown above, back row from left: Mayor Herb Rotter, County Commissioners' Chairman Roy Mitchell, Mervin Wingard of Lumbermen's Mercantile, Mrs. Ethel Flatner, army committee, Chamber of Commerce President Chuck Rowe, Ed Faubert and Gib Rucker, army committee, American Legion Commander Tom Townsend, Maurice Needham, army committee chairman, and R.H. Hainsworth whose company received the contract; front row, Mrs. Eula Martin, army committee, Washington Adjutant General Libburn H. Stevens, Dave James of Simpson Logging Co., J.C. McElroy, army committee, Kenneth Rose, National Guard master sergeant representing B Battery, and Bill Dickie, army committee.

Together we can keep Mason County Safe



Pictured L - R: Mason County Sheriff Officer Gray with Rohrn, Officer Birkald with Jano; Bert Fisher, OCCU President and CEO; and Officer Corte with Soto.

Our Community Credit Union has partnered with the Mason County Sheriff's Department to provide a yearly supply of food to the K-9 Unit, which is entirely dependent on donations to operate. OCCU is happy to support and contribute to the K-9's Fueled by OCCU program.



Our Community Credit Union

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the communities we serve

We are proud to support the MTA Transit Community Center Celebration.

By bridging the needs of our communities with Heritage resources, we improve the quality of life for our customers, partners and local citizens.



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THE VISION

Mobility is an essential human need, no more or less vital to our existence than clean and safe air, water and food, as well as public safety and security. As such, mobility is a quality of life issue, and for those unable to provide their own mobility due to health, age, economic or other conditions, public transit can bridge the gap. Likewise, to ensure the well-being and future of our society, we have chosen to provide social programs to assist our community citizens in need. Often, those requiring human services rely on transit to get them there. This project efficiently and effectively integrates the delivery of transit and community services through transforming the 1950's-era Washington National Guard Armory building in Shelton into a regional multi-modal, inter-generational transit-community resource center.

THE PROJECT

The Transit-Community Center (T-CC) vision began in 2006 with the surplus purchase from the 57 year-old National Guard of the old Armory in Shelton. In 2008, the State provided a \$235,000 Community Project appropriation for an engineering/design study that determined the structure to be an excellent candidate for preservation and renovation. In the fall of 2011, Mason Transit Authority was awarded a \$3.28 million Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) grant to

complete the project. Then in 2013, MTA was successful in a legislative ask and awarded \$800,000 for the project and in 2014 received a \$1.5 million grant through the "Ladders to Opportunity" initiative from the FTA. This final funding allows MTA to complete the building.

The intent is to repurpose the facility into a Transit-Community Center that moves mobility management to the next level through co-locating and seamlessly integrating public transit and human/social service programs. The Center will provide a variety of transit services including a waiting area, public restroom, regional transportation information, lost and found, bus passes and other customer services, as well as hosting community agencies, programs and services that benefit all ages within the community.

The center will also provide citizens with information about the advantages of using transit to reduce pollution and enhance the environment. MTA is working with the public in assuring that the design of the facility will enable access for all community members to program activities. This transit-oriented development is part of a plan to improve livability in this region. Tenant lease revenue from public human service agencies, private sector participants, and event rentals at the facility will be used to cover operating and maintenance expenses.

THE NEED

Belief in the value of this project has led to the commitment of a significant federal investment, and it is now up to us to step up to the plate with our local match. Funds will be

used to renovate the existing 18,500 square foot structure with the upgrades necessary to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. MTA, in partnership with the Community Center Association, anticipates approaching the State Legislature for assistance with an appropriation of State funds to match the support within Mason County for this project of regional significance. In addition to legislative asks, efforts will be applied to a variety of fundraising activities, such as, paviers sponsored from donations made by community members.

This project is integral to enhancing the quality of life for Mason County residents. In the City of Shelton the project will revitalize the downtown and increase economic vitality while enhancing public transit as a viable solution to reducing pollution, vehicle miles travelled, and traffic congestion.

THE BENEFIT

The Transit-Community Center will provide employment opportunities for the duration of the construction phase and leave a valuable asset to the citizens of Mason County. This project will enhance local efforts to coordinate community transportation resources and reduce duplicative trips through consolidating destinations to a variety of social programs. The T-CC will support more of these resources as well as micro-businesses and job training in addition to contributing to economic development and tourism opportunities in the region.

The renovated facility will:

Create a link between multi-modal transportation (bus, cycling, and walking)
Provide a centralized location where people of all ages can come to meet, receive services, recreate, learn and socialize, making their connections through public transit, housing activities that include:

- Community and Transit information*
- Technology training*
- Public gatherings, classes and meetings*
- Youth and senior programs*
- Indoor athletics and other active programs*
- Social and human services agency offices*
- Private business enterprise*
- Disaster relief shelter*



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PROUD SUPPORTERS OF MTA'S NEW TRANSIT-COMMUNITY CENTER

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