

**09/24/2025**

Dear Commissioner Rolfes,

On behalf of the Kingston Community Advisory Council and the Kingston Transportation Committee, we are writing to express our serious concerns regarding the impact that the new Active Traffic Management System (ATMS) will have on traffic in and around Kingston, particularly at the intersection of Barber Cutoff Road and Highway 104, which sits at the western edge of the Kingston Urban Growth Area (UGA).

We recognize the significant improvements the ATMS will bring to downtown Kingston and welcome its operation in the coming months. However, the original proposal included a holding lot that was later removed due to budgetary and environmental concerns. While these concerns are valid, the removal of the lot shifts critical traffic impacts onto the Barber Cutoff intersection, creating safety risks for both vehicles and pedestrians that cannot be ignored.

Without the holding lot, ferry traffic that previously lined up within downtown Kingston will now stage on the shoulder of Highway 104. This will substantially increase the number of occasions in which this line extends through the Barber Cutoff Road intersection, which sits on a 45 MPH section of highway immediately after a sweeping curve for eastbound drivers. Vehicles turning west from Barber Cutoff Road often have their line of sight blocked by queued ferry traffic, creating a dangerous conflict point. The intersection is also treacherous for pedestrians due to its design, and increased low-visibility turns caused by ATMS-queued ferry traffic will only heighten the danger to those walking along the edge of the UGA. With the Urban Growth Area designated as a priority for the County, it is especially important to address these risks promptly.

The Kingston Community Advisory Council and the Transportation Committee have been advocating for improvements at this intersection for many years. With the imminent launch of the ATMS, the need for action has never been more urgent. We strongly urge Kitsap County to work with WSDOT to develop a comprehensive plan of solutions for this intersection. In particular, we believe either installation of a traffic signal or construction of a roundabout would provide controlled, predictable movements that reduce collision risk and improve safety.

We appreciate your leadership and commitment to public safety, and we ask that the County prioritize this intersection without delay. We also request that you work with WSDOT to ensure they are accountable partners in developing and implementing improvements that safeguard both residents and travelers. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss solutions and next steps.

Sincerely,  
KCAC Transportation Committee