



## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

Date: June 14, 2023

### Johnson Parkway/SR305 Roundabout Ribbon Cutting

Poulsbo, WA –

“Through the hard work and vision of so many people, we are pleased to complete Johnson Parkway; a new road which improves the safety of Highway 305, enhances pedestrian connectivity, and highlights the cultures of our shared community” (Mayor Becky Erickson).

The Johnson Parkway roadway linking SR305 to Noll Road will officially open to the public on June 17, 2023. The project includes:

- A new roundabout on SR305, located at the south City limits of Poulsbo;
- New and improved roadway that connects to Noll Road, shared use path, and sidewalks;
- Non-motorized tunnel crossing under SR305, connecting Lemolo Shore to the east side of the City for bikes, pedestrians, and occasional wildlife;
- A newly constructed shared use path which is a small segment of the future Sound to Olympics Trail and the nationwide Great American Rail-Trail;
- Removal of one fish barrier on Bjorgen Creek and culverts for two tributary streams;
- Construction, restoration, enhancement, and maintenance of 2.5 acres of wetlands with 10 acres of natural wetlands and stream buffer adjoining the roadway; and
- More than 7,500 trees (seedlings) that were planted as part of this project.

The Johnson Parkway project is the biggest transportation project the City has undertaken. The project conception started as early as 1992 as part of the Noll Road Corridor Transportation Study and was further developed in two more studies in 2008 and 2016. The project was designed to be inclusive of all users and prioritized the environment by improving fish and wildlife habitat.

Construction started in January 2021 and spans nearly a mile. The new roundabout and connection to Noll Road will provide safety and mobility improvements for both motorists and non-motorized users. The project provides safer access to SR305 and is expected to reduce serious injury crashes in the area. The shared use path will be a safe amenity for all non-motorized users and will be part of the future Sound to Olympics Trail. Additionally, it will provide safer access to transit stops.

The City engaged three local artists to include public art. The art reflects the acknowledgement of the native lands of the Suquamish, the importance of the environment, and the diversity of our citizens.

They include Elijah Burnett, who designed “Peaceful Waters,” Kate Ahvakana, who designed “Traveling,” and Lisa Stirrett, who designed the art etched on the retaining wall located on the perimeter of the roundabout, titled “In the Midst.”

The project was designed by Parametrix, Inc. and constructed by Active Construction Inc. (ACI) from Puyallup, WA. The lead agency was the City of Poulsbo and construction administration was provided by WSDOT. The total construction cost including construction administration is approximately \$20.5 million. The roundabout was funded by Connecting Washington Funds from the legislature, spearheaded by Senator Christine Rolfes. The other elements of the project were funded by the City of Poulsbo, Transportation Improvement Board, Federal Highway Administration State Transportation Plan (STP) Funds and City utility funds.

The City of Poulsbo wishes to thank the community for their support of this project and their patience through construction. Additionally, we thank the many groups, citizens, agencies, and our City Council - all of whom made this project possible and demonstrated their commitment to this investment in our City.

Please note, Johnson Parkway will be limited to local traffic only between the hours of 8:00 am and 11:00 am on June 17<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate our grand opening. Johnson Parkway will be fully open to the public following our ribbon cutting celebration. For additional information, please visit our website at [www.cityofpoulsbo.com](http://www.cityofpoulsbo.com).

# *You're Invited!*

## **To the SR305 / Johnson Parkway Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting**

**Date: Saturday, June 17, 2023**

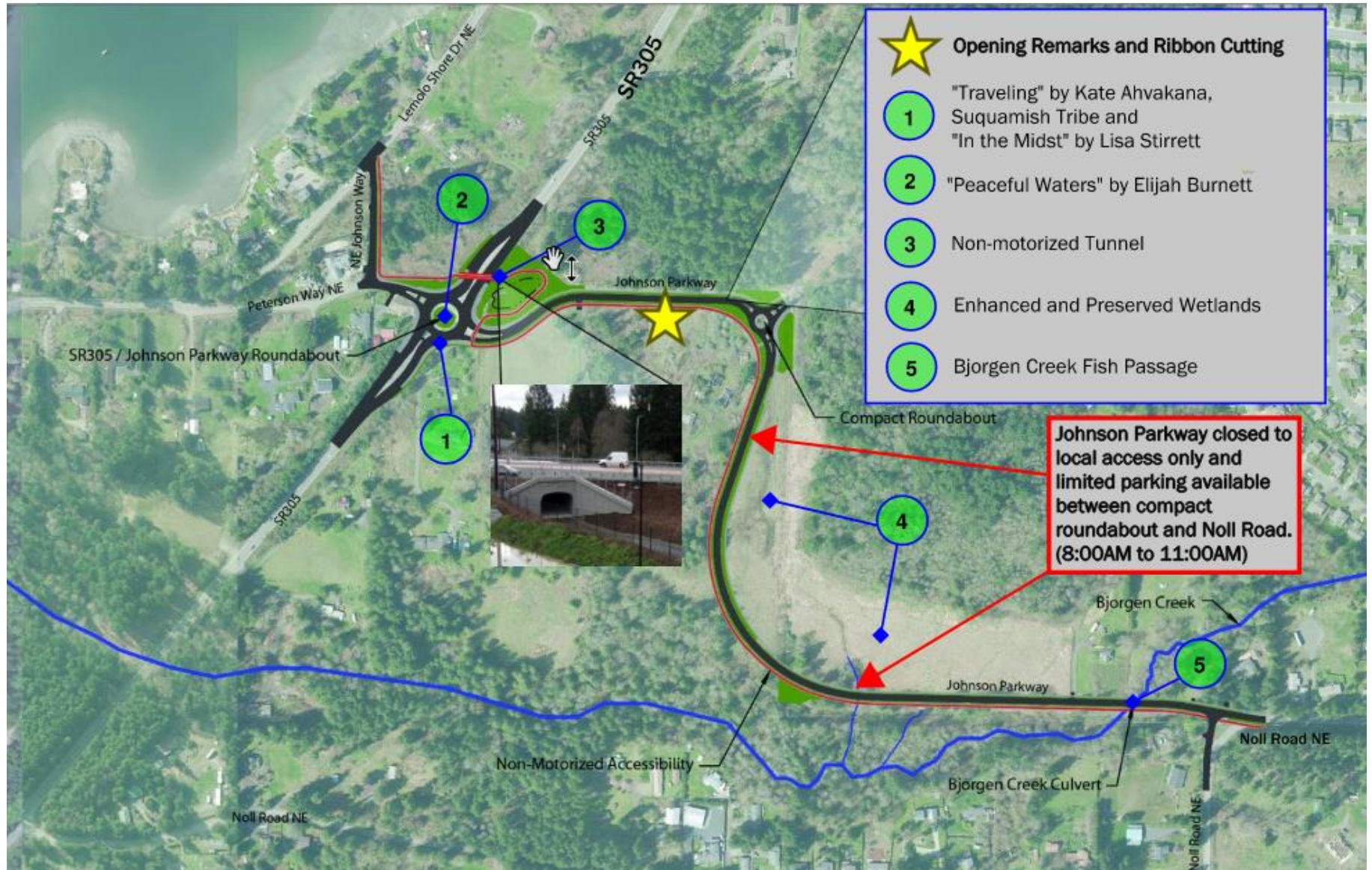
**Dedication & Ribbon Cutting start promptly at 9:30 am  
(Arrive 15 minutes early to enjoy a walk to the site)**

- ❖ Join guest speakers Mayor Becky Erickson of the City of Poulsbo, and Leonard Forsman, the Chairman of the Suquamish Tribe to celebrate the project completion.
- ❖ We welcome you to walk, bike, and explore the new shared-use path, non-motorized tunnel, Johnson Parkway improvements, and Bjorgen Creek & Fish Passage.
- ❖ Meet the project team and the local artists of our newly installed artwork.
- ❖ Plan to arrive 15 minutes early to allow time for parking and walking to the ribbon cutting site. Parking will be limited (see the attached map). Traffic on Johnson Parkway will be limited to local traffic only until the road opens at 11:00 am.

*We hope to see you there!*

- The City of Poulsbo & the Project Team

# SR305/JOHNSON PARKWAY SITE MAP



Dedication & Ribbon Cutting: 9:30 am

June 17, 2023