



**Presented to the Washington State Transportation Commission
November 16, 2016 –Marysville, Washington**

The Past History of the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe

The Sauk-Suiattle Indian people lived under the gaze of Whitehorse Mountain for many generations. We lived as hunters, gathers and fishermen in the region of Sauk Prairie near the present-day town of Darrington, Washington. In the early days, we were known as the Sah-ku-mehu.

We were canoe people, plying the swift waters of the Sauk, Suiattle, Stillaguamish, Cascade and Skagit Rivers in our river canoes. Though our homelands were in the foothills of the North Cascades, we often traveled downriver to Puget Sound. There we harvested fish, shellfish and other foods not available in the mountains. We even voyaged in large seagoing canoes.

We also traveled over the mountains to gather food, herbs and other necessities. We became skilled horsemen, trading with tribes from Eastern Washington. Our free roaming horses grazed among our relatives there.

Our Homelands were the entire drainage area of the Sauk, Suiattle and Cascade Rivers. We had an important village at Sauk Prairie near the confluence of the Sauk and Suiattle Rivers. The village consisted of eight traditional cedar longhouses which were destroyed in 1884 by early non-Indian settlers who had laid claim to these lands under the U.S. Homestead Act.

We thus became a landless people, but continued to live in scattered groups close to our traditional homelands. Though many of our tribal members left the area or joined other neighboring tribes during our exodus, we maintained our tribal government, our social structure, our identity, and most importantly, our hope for the future

Our tribal membership numbered around 4,000 before 1855, and by 1924 our numbers had dwindled to 18 members. Residents in the Sauk Suiattle Indian Reservation are the surviving descendants of the original peoples who lived in this special valley. Our current membership numbers around 200 individuals. The Sauk Suiattle Indian Tribe's enrollment requirements are one quarter Indian Blood and proof of decendency from the ancestral Native Americans who inhabited this unique valley recorded in the 1942 United States Census.

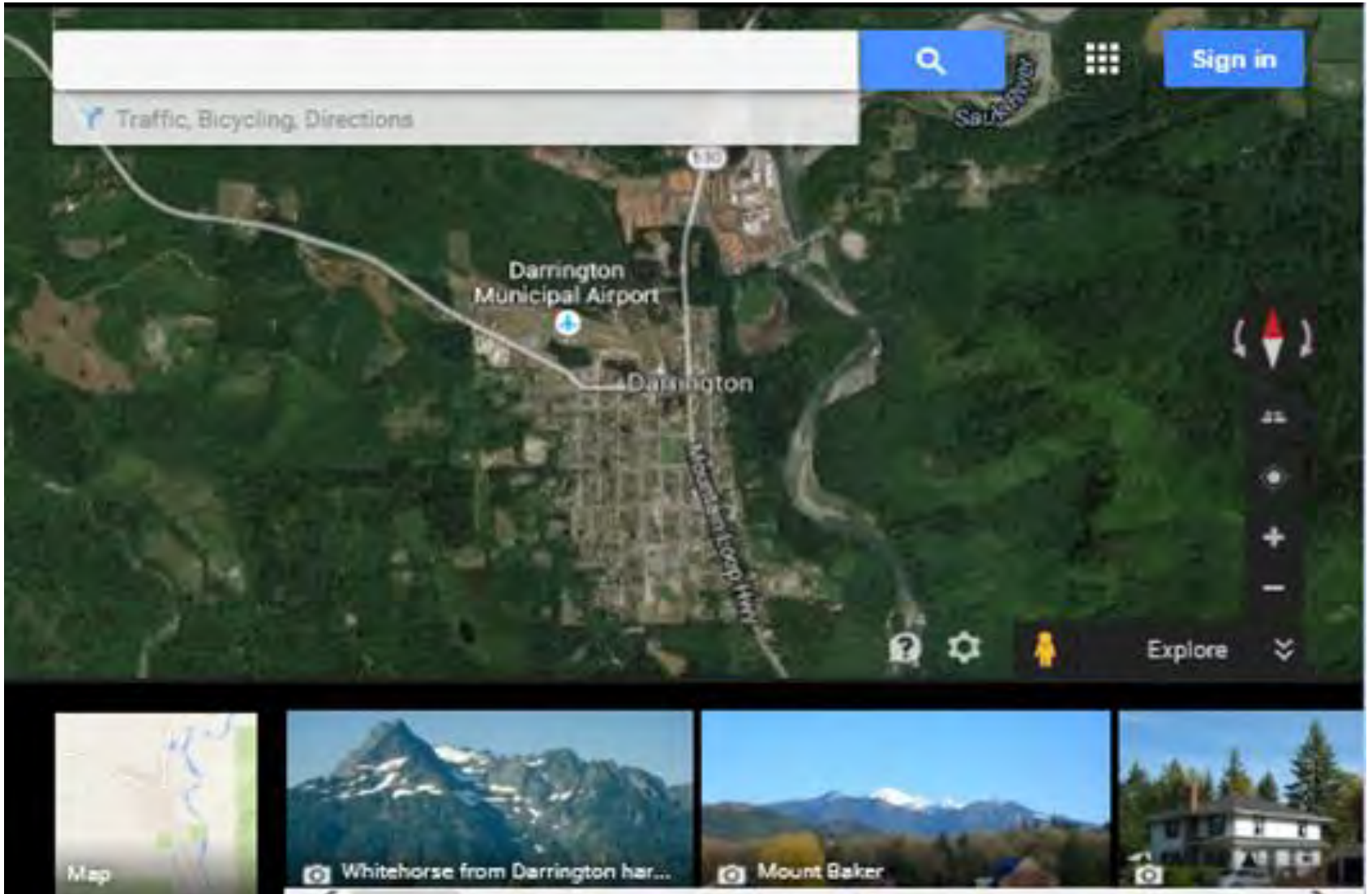
The Present Day Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe

- The Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe (SSIT) is located in one of the most beautiful and scenic places in the state of Washington. The Consolidated Boundaries of the Tribe extend more than 2,000 square miles North and South and about 100 square miles East to West (see consolidated boundary map) The Tribe is located about 85 miles NE of Seattle and seven miles outside the City of Darrington
- There are 236 members of the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe. About one hundred sixty (160) of these members reside on the reservation and the surrounding near reservation area and some 76 members are scattered in Washington and several states in the United States of America
- **Tribal Demographic Profile 2014-2016**
 - a.) acreage, and (described below)
The Total acreage of lands within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation, regardless of ownership status (Tribal, private, State or Federal): **14.98 Acres**
 - b.) Total acreage of lands outside the boundaries of the Reservation not including individual allotments held in trust or lands owned by the Tribe in fee simple: **749.83** (Trust Land = 99.63 and Fee Land = 650.20)
 - (c) Poverty Rate as 2014-2015 Need Assessment is **27.0%**
 - (d) Median Income 2014-2015 **\$38,186**
 - (e) High School Drop-Out Rate 2014-2015 **67.90%**
 - (f) Number/Rate of Tribal Members in Poverty in 2014-2015 **80.90%**
 - (g) Family Composition per Household **4.5**

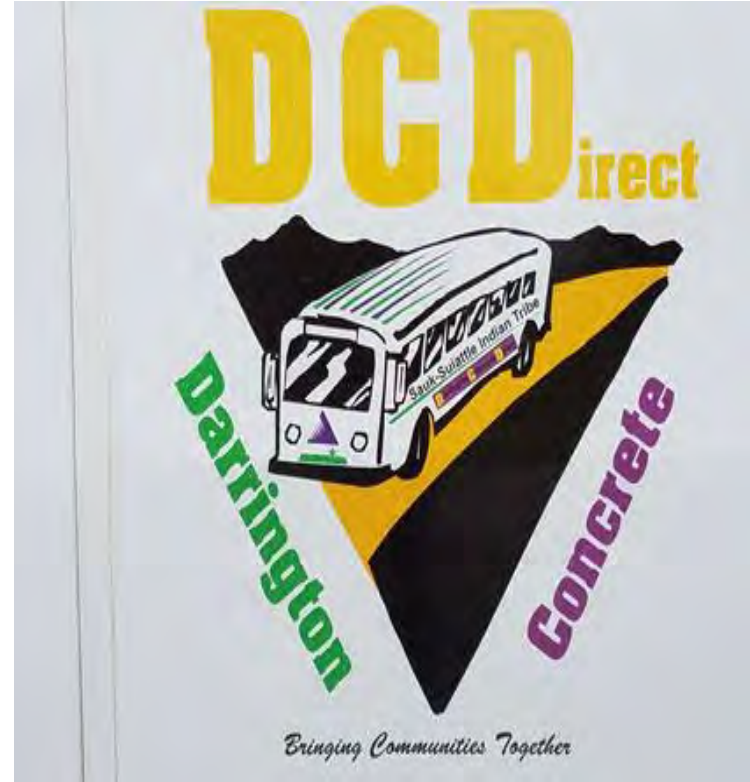
The Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe's Reservation



The Town of Darrington



**Sauk Suiattle Indian Tribe
The DC (Darrington-Concrete)-Direct Shuttle Bus Service
Public Transportation Service**



Sauk Suiattle Indian Tribe
The DC (Darrington-Concrete)-Direct Shuttle Bus Service
Public Transportation Service

Mission: The DC-Direct Shuttle Bus Service is a public transportation program operated by the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe committed to providing safe, reliable, and courteous transportation to all residents of the reservation, the rural towns of Darrington, Concrete, Rockport and all communities from Darrington to Concrete on SR 530 and 20.

Goal #1: To provide fixed route public transportation to bridge the gap of public transportation from the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe's Reservation and Tribal Lands to the Town of Darrington and Concrete; and further connect these rural communities to Community Transit in Snohomish County on Route 230 and Skagit Transit in Skagit County Route 717/8

Sauk Suiattle Indian Tribe
The DC (Darrington-Concrete)-Direct Shuttle Bus Service
Public Transportation Service

Goal #2: To expand and enhance the public transportation to all current customers, and attract and sustain socio-economic development and commerce in our service area.

Goal#3: To go beyond the expectations of our customers to deliver comfortable and reliable public transportation services; by working very hard for not accepting today's best as tomorrow's limitations.

Services:

- Fixed Route Service, Monday –to- Friday from 6:00 am – 6:00 pm
- A fourteen (14) Passengers Bus with a Wheel Chair Lift (2 Wheel Chairs)
- SSIT Reservation, the Town of Darrington and the City of Concrete
- Connects to Route 230 Community Transit and Route 717/8 Skagit Transit
- Total of 66 Miles R/T Per Run

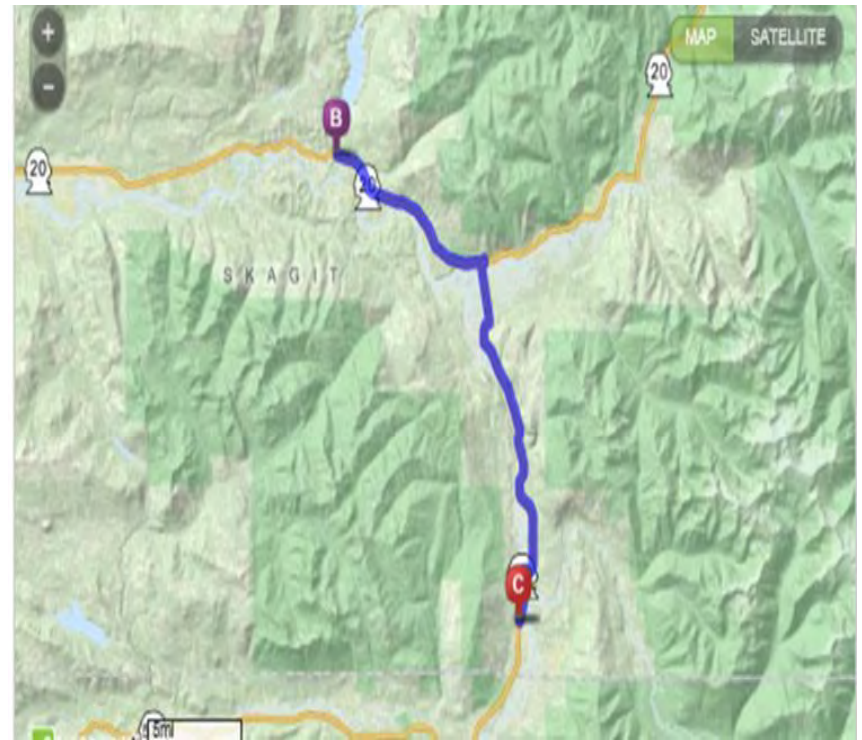
The DC-Direct Fixed Route Map

The SSIT Reservation, Town of Darrington and City of Concrete

This Route from the SSIT Reservation to Darrington and around the Town R/T



Point C is the SSIT Reservation and Point B is the City of Concrete. This is also part of the First Route.



Challenges of the DC-Direct Shuttle Bus Service Operated by Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe

Future Challenges 2017-2019

- Capital Funding - Equipment
- Operating Funding – Thanks to WSDOT Consolidated Grant
- Marketing and Education on Public Transportation Mobility
- Public Safety Programs
- Human Resources Experience
- Technology and Cell phones

Current Challenges 2015-2017

- Planning Funding – Tribe/FTA
- Capital Funding –US DOI BIA
- Operating Funding - WSDOT
- The Oso Mud Slide -ER
- Technology & Cell phones
- Marketing and Education
- Public Safety Programs Funding
- Human Resources Experience
- Perceptions/Stereo-Type

Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe
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- **Bus Drivers: Daniel Ward, Jordan, Paul Cunningham, Shannan McMahan and Toni Lenon**
- **Ronda Metcalf**, General Manager Tribal Administration (360) 436-0131
- **Thank you!!!**