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NEWCASTLE AWARDS TRANSIT CENTER CONTRACT

The Newcastle City Council has awarded the construction contract for the City's new Transit Center to Marshbank Construction Company based in Lake Stevens. Marshbank was the lower bidder on the project at just over $2.1 million. The bid is about $600,000 lower than the engineer's estimate.

Marshbank is currently working on the expansion of Coal Creek Parkway through Newcastle. "We have a strong and respectful working relationship with Marshbank and look forward to working with them again to make the Transit Center something the entire City can be proud of," said Newcastle City Manager John Starbard.

The Newcastle Transit Center will showcase the changing character of Newcastle's community business center, focusing on a pedestrian and transit friendly urban core. It will feature 4 new bus shelters with intriguing design elements that are in some ways evocative of a coal miner's cabin, but yet are completely contemporary. The project will also bring major improvements to Newcastle's main intersection of Coal Creek Parkway and Newcastle Way including bike lanes, realigned crosswalks to enhance pedestrian visibility, and new sidewalks.

The City of Newcastle is partnering with Sound Transit on the $4.6 million project, 87% of which is funded through Sound Transit. The Transit Center is expected to break ground in late April or early May of this year, and will take about 8 months to complete. Regular construction updates can be found on the new website www.newcastletransitcenter.com.