



Washington State Ferries



Washington State  
Department of Transportation

# Washington State Ferries Weekly Update



October 3, 2014

## **This week:**

- Travels in the fleet
- Conversations with labor partners
- Visit from National Transportation Safety Board
- *Tokitae* work wraps up tonight
- Marine naturalist presentations
- Learn more about plans for a new Mukilteo terminal
- Advertising update
- Seattle Times Rant & Rave: Who let the dogs out

## **Travels in the fleet**

This week I continued touring different routes and vessels and meeting the crews who operate our fleet. Yesterday, I toured the Fauntleroy terminal with Doug Schlieff, Regional Operations Manager. This morning, I joined Terminal Engineering Director Tim Smith and Terminal Engineering Manager Nicole McIntosh on a tour of Colman Dock and heard more about our role in revitalizing Seattle's waterfront. This afternoon, I'll travel to Eagle Harbor with Harry Thompson, Puget Sound Metal Trades Council Executive Secretary.

## **Conversations with labor partners**

On Thursday, I joined Secretary Peterson at the Inlandboatmen's Union meeting and heard a lot of important ideas. Thank you to all of our labor partners who have met with me or shared their ideas during my first few weeks on the job.

## **Visit from the National Transportation Safety Board**

This week I met with Capt. Tracy Murrell, Marine Safety Director at the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and Capt. John Veentjer and John Lauber, Chair and Vice Chair of the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee. We had a productive conversation about the importance of safety related to passenger vessels. NTSB is partnering with operators, like WSF and offering safety training resources. I will certainly continue our collaboration with the NTSB and the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee.

## ***Tokitae* work wraps up tonight**

Crews plan to complete work tonight to install temporary modifications to the *Tokitae*'s upper car deck ramps to reduce the chance that vehicles with low clearance will scrape. In order to spare waterfront neighbors, crews completed all of the loud construction work away from the shore while the vessel was sailing around the Central Sound. This work is going smoothly and we look forward to testing this approach before installing permanent modifications in December. I commend the crews for working all through the night to make these repairs without disrupting service for our customers.

## **Marine naturalist presentations**

Since May, volunteers from The Whale Museum in Friday Harbor, the Orca Network and the Shaw Ocean Discovery Centre in Sidney, BC gave a total of 42 Marine Naturalist presentations aboard our ferries. The presentations help educate Puget Sound residents about ongoing research and recovery efforts to protect local Orca whale populations. Thank you to all of the volunteers and WSF staff who helped organize these presentations.

### **Learn more about plans for a new Mukilteo terminal**

You're invited to an [open house](#) on Wednesday, Oct. 8, to learn about plans for the new Mukilteo terminal. Attend to learn more about what to expect during the first phase of construction and provide feedback on plans to improve traffic near the terminal.

### **Advertising update**

Since the beginning of the year, we've generated almost \$1 million in gross revenue from advertising campaigns on our website, vessels, in terminals, and through the visual paging system. Successful advertising campaigns have included partnerships with Delta Airlines, Capital One, and Virginia Mason.

### **Seattle Times Rant&Rave: Who let the dogs out**

This is a wonderful shout out for our crews from the Seattle Times' Sept. 29 Daily Rant&Rave column:

*RAVE To the Washington state ferry employee who saved our dogs when we accidentally left our car door ajar when going to the passenger deck on the ferry. When we returned, we found him standing protectively next to our wide-open car, holding both dogs by their leashes. His quick thinking prevented what could have been great heartbreak.*

Lynne Griffith  
Assistant Secretary WSDOT/Ferries Division

Hyperlink within the email:

Mukilteo Multimodal Project: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/ferries/mukilteoterminal/multimodal/>

Weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly).

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