



Washington State Ferries



Washington State Ferries Weekly Update



March 13, 2015

This week:

- Spring into a new sailing schedule
- Recap of Vashon Ferry Trestle Rehabilitation Project community meetings
- Meeting with the mayor of Seattle
- Travels in the fleet
- Save the date: Help welcome the new Olympic Class ferry *Samish* on May 20
- Customer compliment

Spring into a new sailing schedule

Plan ahead for the new spring sailing schedule and upcoming fare changes. The [spring sailing schedule](#) begins on Sunday, March 22, and annual peak-season [fare](#) surcharges go into effect May 1. The spring schedule includes the following changes:

- Opening of the Anacortes/Sidney, B.C. route with one round-trip per day
- The return of weekend interisland service in the San Juan Islands, plus an added sailing on Fridays
- The return of three-boat service on the Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth route on Saturdays and Sundays, and five minute sailing time adjustments during weekday morning and evening commute hours
- An additional Port Townsend/Coupeville sailing on Friday night, plus a second ferry joins the route starting Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10

As we head into warmer weather, it's a good idea to arrive early, plan for busier sailings and [make a reservation](#) if you're traveling on the San Juan Islands, Anacortes/Sidney B.C. or Port Townsend/Coupeville routes.

Recap of Vashon Ferry Trestle Rehabilitation Project community meetings

Members of the Vashon Island and Southworth communities had the opportunity to learn about upcoming construction at the Vashon terminal at two community meetings this week. Over 58 people joined us at meetings on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Staff shared information on what to expect during construction and adjustments to the ferry schedule to accommodate construction activity. Seismic upgrades to the terminal will begin this June and last until April 2016. For those who missed the meeting, materials and additional project information are available [online](#).

Meeting with the mayor of Seattle

On Thursday, I met with Mayor of Seattle Ed Murray. We discussed several topics, including the critical transportation and economic link our ferry system provides between the city of Seattle and communities on the west side of Puget Sound. Did you know nearly 12 million people a year travel through our Fauntleroy and downtown Seattle terminals? We also discussed our efforts to coordinate construction along Seattle's waterfront and our important safety project to replace the [Seattle Multimodal Terminal at Colman Dock](#). I look forward to working closely with the Mayor into the future.

Travels in the fleet

Last Thursday, I rode on the *Tokitae* with the "F" watch as they traveled from Edmonds to Kingston. As I mentioned last week, I presented the Washington State Ferries Life Ring Award to ABs Robert Schneider and Jeffrey Bradley. I also had an opportunity to talk with the whole crew. Here's a photo from the visit (From left to right: AB Mike Lawrence, OS Jeremy Gordon, Second Mate James Russell, OS Bruce Martin, Capt. Elliott, OS Anne Foshee, AB Robert Schneider, Port Captain Jay Mooney, me, and AB Jeffrey Bradley):



On Wednesday morning, Secretary Lynn Peterson and I rode the *Wenatchee* and gave a tour of the Seattle/Bainbridge Island route to several transportation professionals visiting from New York City (pictured below left with me and Secretary Peterson). We talked about ferry system operations and shared ideas for promoting the use of public transportation. On the return trip back to Seattle, I met Dirk Mahling, a frequent rider, playing music in the passenger cabin. I thought I'd share his wonderful characterization of life as a ferry commuter. He said ferries are a "magical vehicle that turns country bumpkins into businessmen."



Save the date: Help welcome the new Olympic Class ferry *Samish* on May 20

I invite everyone to help us welcome the second Olympic Class ferry, *Samish*, to the Washington State Ferries fleet. This vessel will carry 144 vehicles and will go into service on the Anacortes/San Juan Islands route with the summer sailing schedule. Please join us at the Anacortes ferry terminal on Wednesday, May 20, for an open house as First Lady Trudi Inslee christens the *Samish*. I will share additional details, including the exact event time, closer to the date.

Customer compliment

This compliment highlights the excellent customer service our employees exhibit every day:

[I] locked my keys in the car. Barb [at the Edmonds terminal] helped me call my wife and loaned me her phone so I could get [an] extra key. Thanks Barb!

Lynne Griffith
Assistant Secretary WSDOT/Ferries Division

Hyperlinks within the email:

Spring schedule: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/pdf/2015Spring.pdf>

Fares: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/fares/>

Vehicle reservations: <https://secureapps.wsdot.wa.gov/Ferries/Reservations/Vehicle/default.aspx>

Vashon project: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr160/vashontrestle/>

Seattle Multimodal Terminal at Colman Dock: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/ferries/colmanmultimodalterminal/>

Weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

To unsubscribe, reply to this message with "unsubscribe" in the subject of the email.