



July 18 2008

This week:

- Port Townsend/Keystone reservations update
- Seattle/Bremerton route returns to regular service
- Biodiesel update
- Washington State Patrol (WSP) installs cameras at Seattle/Bainbridge terminals
- Steel Electric vessels posted on eBay
- Propeller Club plaque presentation
- Suburban cities panel

Port Townsend/Keystone reservations update. To improve the customer experience and with the community's support, we have increased the number of vehicle spaces available for advanced reservations effective Thursday, July 17. To make a reservation visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries or call 1-888-808-7977.

Seattle/Bremerton route returns to regular service. This Sunday evening, July 20, we will move the 144-car *Hyak* to the Seattle/Bremerton route, releasing the 188-car *Walla Walla* to return to the Edmonds/Kingston route. These vessel moves are necessary to fulfill ongoing maintenance and inspections throughout the fleet. This reduces the vehicle capacity on the Bremerton route, but increases passenger seating.

Biodiesel update. Biodiesel testing continues on the Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth (Triangle) route with the fueling of the *Klahowya* on Saturday, July 19. The *Klahowya* will operate on a five percent blend (B5) of tallow-based biodiesel and ultra-low sulfur diesel (95 percent). The *Issaquah* has performed well and experienced no operational problems so far. The *Tillikum* has experienced some sludge accumulations, which researchers at the University of Idaho are analyzing. Biodiesel testing is an important piece in our efforts to conserve fuel and reduce pollution. More information is available on our Web site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/Ferries/Environment/biodiesel.

Washington State Patrol (WSP) installs cameras at Seattle/Bainbridge terminals. I would like to notify customers of WSP's new program. WSP has begun testing a camera system designed to automatically check the license plates of every vehicle entering Colman Dock and Bainbridge Island ferry terminals. The test system reads the license plates of every vehicle entering those terminals, digitizes the number, and checks it against critical lists.

Steel Electric vessels posted on eBay. The Steel Electric Class ferries were posted to eBay Wednesday, July 16. I will be sure to report any progress in next week's update.

Propeller Club plaque presentation. The Seattle Chapter of the Propeller Club honored the ferry system for its continued support of the Seattle Maritime Festival in 2008. The Propeller Club is a civic, social and charitable organization that benefits *Sea Scouts*, *Youth Maritime Association* and other maritime causes.

Suburban cities panel. I participated in a transportation panel on Wednesday night along with WSDOT Chief Operating Officer Dave Dye and Sound Transit Chief Executive Officer Joni Earl to discuss regional transportation issues. The audience was largely appointed and

elected officials from King County cities. The discussion regarding the ferry system centered on the current budget difficulties and the long-range planning process underway.

Next Week:

- Meetings regarding the ferry finance legislative work, including Joint Transportation Committee workgroup, Washington State Transportation Commission Subcommittee and local agency review team
- Briefing to Bremerton City Council on July 23
- FAC Executive Council on July 24

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division Web site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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