



August 22, 2008

**This week:**

- U.S. Coast Guard Crew Endurance
- Elwha Update
- Crew of Tacoma
- Steel Electric Class Ferries
- U.S. DOT Maritime Administration
- Mark your calendars

**U.S. Coast Guard Crew Endurance**

The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) has told us that we need to improve crew endurance. This requirement means that the number of hours some employees work within 24 hours needs to be reduced. I have formed a team to take a careful look at the schedule and work with different bargaining units and the USCG on how to get this done efficiently. This may mean some changes on routes starting with the January (winter) 2009 schedule. Once we have more information, we will begin to work with our ferry advisory committee (FAC) chairs on implementation and communication.

**Elwha Update**

The 144-car Elwha was scheduled to return to the Anacortes/San Juan Islands route on Friday evening, Aug. 15. The vessel experienced problems with the propulsion control system on its way to Anacortes and subsequently returned to our Eagle Harbor Maintenance Facility for evaluation and repair. In the meantime, the 90-car Sealth will remain on the Anacortes/San Juan Islands route. The current plan is to get the Elwha to the Anacortes/ San Juan Islands for service on Monday.

**Crew of Tacoma**

I want to personally thank the Captain and the deck and engine crews for their quick response and care for a passenger experiencing breathing problems aboard the Tacoma on Tuesday afternoon. Unfortunately, by the time medics arrived the passenger had passed away. We grieve for the passenger's family and friends.

**Steel Electric Class Ferries**

We have received a lot of communication from brokers and potential bidders regarding the sale of the Steel Electric Class ferries. As part of this communication, it has been requested that we extend the time to receive bids. We have decided to honor this request and extend the time to receive bids to September 5, 2008.

**U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration**

On Tuesday, I attended a breakfast held for the Maritime Administration. I met the new leadership for the administration and was provided an overview of federal maritime issues.

**Mark your calendars**

We have set the fall public meeting schedule. These meetings build on the information shared and the comments received at the June/July public workshops regarding the ferry financing studies. You can find the materials and public comments from prior meetings online at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/planning/ESHB2358.htm> . Please mark your calendars:

- **Bremerton/Seattle – Wednesday, Sept 24**  
6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. / Kitsap Conference Center, 100 Washington Avenue, Bremerton
- **Edmonds/Kingston - Thursday, Sept. 25**  
6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m./ South County Senior Center, 220 Railroad Avenue, Edmonds
- **Vashon Island - Monday, Sept. 29**  
6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. / McMurray Middle School Multi-Purpose Room, 9329 SW Cemetery Road, Vashon Island
- **Southworth - Tuesday, Sept. 30**  
6:30-9:00 p.m./ Long Lake Bob Oke Community Center, Port Orchard
- **Mukilteo/Clinton - Wednesday, Oct. 1**  
6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. / City Council Chambers, 4480 Chennault Beach Road, Mukilteo
- **Bainbridge Island/Seattle - Thursday, Oct. 2**  
6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. / Bainbridge Island Commons, 402 Brien Drive, Bainbridge Island
- **San Juan Islands - Monday, Oct. 6**  
11:40 a.m. – 3:40 p.m. / Aboard inter-island ferry, departing Friday Harbor at 11:40 a.m.
- **Keystone/Port Townsend - Tuesday, Oct. 7**  
5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. / Fort Casey State Park, Auditorium B, 1276 Engle Road, Coupeville
- **Anacortes - Thursday, Oct. 9**  
6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. / City Hall Council Chambers, Anacortes

**Next week:**

- Continue work on ferry finance legislated studies
- Meeting with Kitsap County Commissioner
- Continue meeting with federal legislators

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division Web site at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly).

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