

Jan. 9, 2009

This week:

- Draft Long-Range Plan Public Hearings
- JTC Meeting
- Kitsap Realtors Briefing
- System-wide service adjustments
- ORCA Launch Workshop
- Winter Weather Update

Draft Long-Range Public Hearings

WSF began a series of ten public hearings on the draft long-range plan this week in Port Townsend, Whidbey Island, Vashon Island and Bremerton. The format for the hearings is a 30-minute presentation followed by a 90-minute public comment period. We've experienced record turnout at these hearings as community members and local representatives take advantage of this opportunity to comment on the draft plan. All comments are being recorded and are critical to the development of this plan, which will be provided to the State Legislature on Jan. 31. The draft plan is available on the WSF Web site at: www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/planning/ESHB2358. I encourage you to review the draft plan and attend an upcoming hearing in your community. The hearings for next week are:

- **Monday, Jan. 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Southworth**
South Colby Elementary, 3281 Banner Rd. SE, Port Orchard.
- **Tuesday, Jan. 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Bainbridge Island/Seattle**
Bainbridge Island Commons, 402 Brien Dr., Bainbridge Island.
- **Wednesday, Jan. 14, 6-8 p.m. – Kingston/Edmonds**
Kingston Yacht Club, 25915 Washington Blvd., Kingston.
- **Thursday, Jan. 15, 11:35 a.m.-3:30 p.m. – San Juan Islands**
Aboard San Juan Inter-Island Ferry.
- **Thursday, Jan. 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Anacortes**
Fidalgo Senior Center, 1701 22nd St., Anacortes.

Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Meeting

On Tuesday, Jan. 6, WSF staff presented the draft long-range plan to the JTC in Olympia. We reviewed both of the service and investment options contained in the draft plan and greatly appreciated the legislators' comments and questions.

Kitsap Realtors Briefing

I met with the Kitsap Association of Realtors on Wednesday, Jan. 7 and briefed them on the draft long-range plan. We had a productive discussion and I appreciated hearing their comments and answering their questions.

System-wide service adjustments

Several routes are operating at reduced capacity in January. The Port Townsend/Keystone route is being served by a passenger-only ferry for four weeks while the Steilacoom II is out of service for U.S. Coast Guard required inspection and scheduled maintenance. The Point Defiance/Tahlequah route is being served by the 34-auto Hiyu, while the 48-auto Rhododendron is out of service for scheduled maintenance and its annual inspection. The Seattle/Bremerton route is being served by the 124-auto Chelan while the

144-auto Kaleetan is out of service for scheduled maintenance. I appreciate the patience of our passengers during the WSF winter maintenance season.

ORCA Launch Workshop

Today, I attended the "One Regional Card for All" (ORCA) Launch Workshop in Seattle. Many transportation agencies were in attendance and we discussed the schedule and roll-out strategy.

Winter Weather Update

Winter weather has certainly taken hold of the Puget Sound region in recent weeks. WSDOT crews have been working around the clock to keep highways open as one storm after another has hit the Pacific Northwest. At WSF, our crews are well trained and experienced in safely operating our vessels in high winds, heavy seas and snowy conditions. I thank them for their efforts during these challenging conditions.

Next week:

- Week 2: Draft Long-Range Plan Public Hearings
- Monthly Meeting with U.S. Coast Guard Captain
- Washington State Transportation Commission Meeting

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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