



Feb. 6, 2009

**This Week:**

- Governor's Press Conference
- House and Senate Transportation Committees
- WSTC Subcommittee
- Fare Collection Changes
- Meetings with State Legislators

**Governor's Press Conference**

On Monday, Secretary Hammond and I attended the Governor's press conference. The Governor spoke about the financially constrained environment for many state agencies, including WSDOT. She announced that WSF bargaining units also understand the situation and had agreed to forgo pay raises. I appreciate the bargaining units and our employees demonstrating that they understand the difficult financial situation facing WSF.

**House and Senate Transportation Committees**

On Monday and Wednesday, Feb. 2 and 4, Secretary Hammond and I presented WSF's Revised Draft Long-Range Plan to the House and Senate Transportation Committees. We reviewed the changes to the plan, the financial implications and the policy decisions before legislators. I look forward to continuing this dialogue during session.

**WSTC Subcommittee**

Today, we are meeting with members of the Washington State Transportation Commission (WSTC) to provide a briefing on WSF's Revised Draft Long-Range Plan and to get an update on their work to recommend funding options for the financial gaps identified in both Plan scenarios.

**Fare Collection Changes**

WSF is making several fare-collection changes beginning Wednesday, Feb. 25, including:

- Separating the senior/disabled fare into two categories.
- Removing discounted single round-trip fares (senior, disabled, youth) from kiosks and the WSF Web site; however, customers can still purchase Senior or Disabled ReValue cards (5 trips in 90 days) online with proof of eligibility.
- Eliminating checks and Canadian currency as forms of payment.

I understand that these changes may inconvenience some of our customers, but I believe they are necessary to help simplify fare collection and reduce costs at a time when WSF is facing a significant budget shortfall. These measures will also help preserve the discounts for only those who are truly eligible. For more information, please visit the WSF Web site at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries) or call 1-888-808-7977

**Meetings with State Legislators**

I continued my meetings with House and Senate Transportation Committee members this week. I met individually with thirteen legislators this week, and discussed a range of issues facing the ferry system. I appreciate their time and I look forward to continuing these conversations.

**Next Week:**

- Continue meetings with legislators
- Ferry Advisory Committee Executive Council meeting

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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