



Feb. 27, 2009

This week:

- *Kitsap Sun* editorial board
- Rhododendron's return to service delayed
- JTC staff workgroup
- FTA meeting
- WSF managers meeting
- South Whidbey Island community meeting

### ***Kitsap Sun* editorial board**

On Monday, I met with the *Kitsap Sun* editorial board, which included members from the community. The interview was also broadcast live online. I responded to questions about the revised draft long-range plan for the ferry system, including the need for a sustainable funding source, new vessels, and operational improvements.

### **Rhododendron's return to service delayed**

The 48-auto Rhododendron was scheduled to return to service on the Point Defiance/Tahlequah route this weekend. The vessel's return has been delayed due to emerging repair needs. We now expect the vessel to return to service by Tuesday, March 3. Since Jan. 6, this route has been served by the 34-auto Hiyu while the Rhododendron is out of service for scheduled maintenance and its annual inspection. I apologize for the inconvenience this delay may cause some of our customers and I appreciate your patience as we work to return the Rhododendron as quickly as possible.

### **JTC staff workgroup**

On Wednesday, we met with staff from the Governor's office and Senate and House Transportation Committees to prepare for a presentation to the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) on Monday, March 2. The Cedar River Group will present its analysis and recommendations based on a review of WSF's draft long-range plan.

### **FTA meeting**

On Thursday, Secretary Paula Hammond, WSDOT staff, and I met with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Regional Administrator Rick Krochalis and his staff. We discussed ways to improve coordination between WSDOT and the FTA.

### **WSF managers meeting**

Today, I met with WSF managers for a quarterly check-in on ferry system operations. This was my opportunity to show appreciation for the hard work of many at WSF, to reflect on my first year as Assistant Secretary, and to set goals for the ferry system in 2009.

### **South Whidbey Island community meeting**

Representative Norma Smith has invited me to attend a community meeting tomorrow on South Whidbey Island. The topic of discussion is the proposed vehicle reservations system, a key demand management strategy in WSF's draft long-range plan. I look forward to discussing the possibility of vehicle reservations with the community and listening to their concerns, so we may address them in the development of a vehicle reservations system.

**Next week:**

- Joint Transportation Committee Meeting
- Continue meetings with House and Senate Transportation Committee legislators

- Meet with bargaining unit representatives

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).

*To unsubscribe, reply to this message with "unsubscribe" in the subject of the e-mail.*