



April 17, 2009

This Week:

- Meeting with U.S. Senator Patty Murray's representatives
- Port Townsend/Keystone Vehicle Reservations: Make them early!
- Post Legislative session strategic team
- Meeting regarding the Mukilteo Ferry Terminal
- Port of Anacortes meeting
- Gearing up for the ORCA Smart Card Launch on April 20

Meeting with U.S. Senator Patty Murray's representatives

I had the pleasure of riding the 4:15 p.m. sailing out of Bremerton on Monday with representatives from Senator Murray's Washington, D.C. and local offices. We talked about a number of ferry-related issues, including federal stimulus funds, transportation reauthorization funds, and various WSF projects.

Port Townsend/Keystone Vehicle Reservations: Make them early!

We are preparing for unprecedented demand on the Port Townsend/Keystone route this spring. Customers who use this route should be planning ahead now, as the six-week closure of the SR 104 Hood Canal Bridge begins May 1, and other springtime events and holidays – like the Port Townsend Rhododendron Festival May 11-17 and Memorial Day weekend May 22-25 – will also bring large volumes of traffic to the route. Customers can make reservations on the WSF Web site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries or by calling 5-1-1 between 7 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. (Beginning Sunday, April 26, phone hours will be extended to 7 a.m. to 6:50 p.m.)

Post Legislative session strategic team

I am organizing a strategic team of WSF staff to implement Legislative direction once session concludes on April 26. Our work will include finalizing the long-range plan and beginning to work on the operational strategies based on the decisions from the Legislature. I am very excited to get this group underway and there will be a lot to do this year!

Meeting regarding the Mukilteo Ferry Terminal

On Thursday, I participated in a meeting with Governor Gregoire, Secretary Hammond, Senator Shin, Representative Liias, Senator Haugen, Mukilteo Mayor Marine and others regarding the future of the Mukilteo Ferry Terminal.

Port of Anacortes meeting

I met with the Port of Anacortes Board of Commissioners on Thursday evening to discuss issues relating to a new lease for the Anacortes Ferry Terminal.

Gearing up for the ORCA Smart Card Launch on April 20

WSF is one of seven regional transit providers participating in the ORCA (One Regional Card for All) project, which is a simplified fare collection program. WSF is taking part in a media technical briefing today in preparation for the "soft launch" on April 20.

ORCA will be an exciting payment alternative for customers who travel on ferries, buses and trains. For some ferry customers, depending on the types of fares you use, Wave2Go will continue to be your preferred option. Visit www.orcaiscoming.com to learn more about the ORCA

Smart Card. Equipment testing and troubleshooting will continue during the “soft launch” until ORCA is fully launched, which is tentatively scheduled for June 1.

Next Week:

- Planning for June 2009 public meetings
- Media event for Hood Canal Bridge closure
- Federal funds update

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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