



April 24, 2009

This Week:

- Preparing for Washington, D.C. meetings
- Gearing up for summer: peak season surcharge begins May 1
- JTC meeting
- Steel Electric vessels update
- Update on federal stimulus funding

Preparing for Washington, D.C. meetings

I will be in Washington, D.C. for a couple of days next week to support Senator Murray's efforts at an April 29th press conference announcing the introduction of her "Ferry Transportation Enhancement Act" bill. This very welcome legislation would greatly expand federal funding for the ferry discretionary program. This program has provided needed federal funding for ferries and WSF has benefited significantly from this program. While in our nation's capital, I will also be meeting with members of our state delegation and their staff.

Gearing up for summer: peak season surcharge begins May 1

The peak season officially begins at WSF on Friday, May 1 with an additional 25 percent surcharge applied generally to full fare vehicle/driver tickets. The peak season surcharge does not affect passenger fares or frequent user multi-ride fares except on the Anacortes/San Juan routes. More information is available online at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries.

JTC meeting

On Thursday, I attended a Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) meeting in Olympia where I heard discussion on the Cedar River Group's Long-Range Finances and Vessel Sizing and Timing reports. I also listened to a presentation on interim JTC projects that will involve WSF.

Steel Electrics vessels update

We continue to work with prospective buyers Environmental Recycling Systems (ERS) and Managing Green. ERS submitted a new proposal on April 10 that was significantly lower than their previous offer. We are evaluating all options including determining the domestic scrap market value.

Update on federal stimulus funding

WSF has submitted applications to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for two grants totaling \$8.4 million. This funding, part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (stimulus), will fund several preservation projects on both vessels and terminals. After the FTA approves our applications, they will go through a Department of Labor review (estimated 30 days) and the Congressional release process (estimated at up to 30 days). In addition, we will be submitting applications under other stimulus grant programs, including the Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction (TIGGER) and the \$60 million Recovery Act Ferry Boat Discretionary program.

Next Week:

- Washington, D.C. meetings
- City of Mukilteo and Everett Port Commission meeting
- Hood Canal Bridge closure May 1

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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