



June 19, 2009

This Week

- Port Townsend/Keystone Community Meeting
- Temporary Reduction of Ferry Capacity in the San Juan Islands
- New Employee Orientation
- Mukilteo Tank Farm Land Transfer
- Ferry Weather Update
- Update on USCG Crew Endurance Requirements
- Recognizing the Efforts of WSF Employees

Port Townsend/Keystone Community Meeting

We wrapped up our ninth and last community meeting in Port Townsend on Monday night. We had over thirty people attend to listen to a recap of 2009 legislative session and issues facing WSF moving forward. I enjoyed responding to questions and listening to the comments. I want to thank everyone who took the time to attend one of the June community meetings. I hope to return in the late fall for another round.

Temporary Reduction of Ferry Capacity in the San Juan Islands

The 34-auto *Hiyu* will operate on the San Juan inter-island route for approximately one week beginning Saturday, June 20 while maintenance on the 144-car *Kaleetan* is completed.

The *Hiyu* – the ferry system's only backup vessel – will replace the 90-auto *Sealth* on the inter-island route. The *Sealth*, along with the 144-auto *Elwha*, 144-auto *Yakima* and 124-auto *Chelan* will provide service between Anacortes and the San Juan Islands for the start of the summer sailing schedule. Once the *Kaleetan* returns to service, it will join the *Elwha*, *Yakima* and *Chelan*, and the *Sealth* will return to the inter-island route. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you and I greatly appreciate your patience while we work extended hours to repair the *Kaleetan*.

New Employee Orientation

I attended a new employee orientation at Colman Dock on Monday morning. I enjoyed meeting this group of employees who will begin service with WSF. I will attend the last orientation at the end of June, which completes the series for 2009.

Mukilteo Tank Farm Land Transfer

On Wednesday, I met with the Department of Archeological and Historic Preservation to discuss issues of mutual interest, including the status of the land transfer of the tank farm property, which is about one-fourth mile east of the Mukilteo Ferry Terminal. Currently the U.S. Air Force owns the property and is legislated to provide it to the Port of Everett, who in turn, will deed it to WSF.

Ferry Weather Update

The WSF IT Department is working with the University of Washington Atmospheric Science Department on a solution that will allow five WSF vessels to continue providing inland weather information for the UW's Ferry Weather Web site. The vendor that collects and transmits this data on behalf of WSF, Meteor Communications, is scheduled to discontinue this service as of June 30. Meteor Communications has agreed to extend this service for three months while WSF and UW replace old equipment on the vessels and develop a new system to collect and transmit this data.

Update on USCG Crew Endurance Requirements

I last provided an update on the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) crew endurance program in my June 5 e-mail. For those new to my weekly emails, WSF management and the unions have worked with the USCG for seven years to develop and implement an acceptable crew endurance program to address crew fatigue, focused on training and education. WSF has been working for the last several months responding to USCG directives to amend its crewing schedules to meet federal crew endurance guidelines that require no more than 12 hours work in 24 hours. We continue to have discussions with the USCG about how to best resolve this important issue.

Recognizing the Efforts of WSF Employees

I would like to direct you to a letter published over the weekend in the *Everett Herald* that commends the efforts of WSF employees. It takes the efforts of every employee to safely transport our nearly 23 million annual customers to their destinations.
<http://heraldnet.com/article/20090613/OPINION02/706139986#Kind.person.ferry.employees.save.the.day>

Next Week:

- Centennial Accord Meeting
- Washington State Transportation Commission Subcommittee

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division Web site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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