



December 4, 2009

### **This Week**

- San Juan County Council Briefing
- Port Orchard Rotary Club Briefing
- Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council Briefing
- Bainbridge Island Terminal Curb Ramp Installation
- 64-car Ferry Class Naming Contest
- Customer Compliment

### **San Juan County Council Briefing**

I accompanied U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Captain Englebert to the San Juan Islands on Monday to speak to the county council about some of the recent schedule changes related to the new USCG crew endurance requirements. We also discussed the current auditing effort under way to monitor crew fatigue and the new vessel construction program. I enjoyed the opportunity to discuss ferry issues with the council.

### **Port Orchard Rotary Club Briefing**

I joined WSDOT Olympic Region Administrator Kevin Dayton in speaking to the Port Orchard Rotary Club on Tuesday morning. Kevin addressed highway projects in Kitsap County and I talked about progress and challenges for the ferry system. I appreciated the invitation from the Rotary.

### **Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council Briefing**

On Tuesday, I met with the Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC) to provide a briefing on the legislated vehicle reservations pre-design study. I reviewed the work to date and discussed the potential benefits to both customers and WSF as well as what we have learned from our own experience with vehicle reservations on three routes – Port Townsend/Keystone, Anacortes/Sidney B.C. and San Juan Islands commercial. We have also learned a great deal from other ferry systems world-wide that use reservations. WSF will submit its draft report on December 15 and the Legislature will use that information during the 2010 legislative session.

### **Bainbridge Island Terminal Curb Ramp Installation**

We recently installed six new curb ramps and repainted crosswalk striping at the Bainbridge Island terminal to improve access for passengers. We worked with community members to identify specific locations where curb ramps were needed. We also installed curb stops to prevent vehicles from parking on walkways leading to the terminal. Thank you to those in the community who helped identify these needed improvements.

### **64-car Ferry Class Naming Contest**

At the Governor's suggestion, we are conducting a contest with fourth grade students from Chimacum, Port Townsend and Whidbey Island to name the new 64-Car Ferry Class. You may recall that the first new ferry was recently named Chetzemoka by the Washington State Transportation Commission at the suggestion of the Port Townsend community. However, the Chetzemoka and the two additional 64-car ferries to be built still need a class name, much like the 202-car Tacoma, Wenatchee and Puyallup ferries which are part of the "Jumbo Mark II Class." After consulting with school administrators, fourth graders were selected to participate because they are studying Washington State History. Submissions are due from the schools in mid-December. A panel from the Governor's Office, WSDOT and the communities will select a winner by mid-January.

### **Customer Compliment**

I want to share a customer compliment that I received this week and my appreciation for Chief Engineer Don Stewart for going above and beyond the call of duty.

*Now 66 years old, I've been riding the ferries across the sound since an infant, essentially without incident... This evening (29 Nov.) while parked near the stern of the Spokane on the 5:50 PM sailing from Edmonds, without prior hint of any problem, our car refused to start. I immediately jumped out and told a deck hand resulting in*

*our being pushed off almost immediately. But kudos go to the Chief [Engineer] who, departing his shift, noticed us near the foot of the dock lacking any further assistance. He volunteered to get his truck and help jump start our car...with his flashlight he was able to spot a corroded copper connection. With sufficient flexing of the copper cable, we were able to get the car started and complete our trip home to the Olympic Peninsula...While I expressed my appreciation to the Chief [Engineer] on the dock, I felt it only appropriate to express my appreciation for his assistance to those who are his superiors. Cheers and thank you for the many years of fine service.*

**Next Week:**

- Final Edmonds/Kingston Partnership Meeting. For more information visit [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/planning/vehiclereservations](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/planning/vehiclereservations)
- Tour of Eagle Harbor Maintenance Facility

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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