



April 23, 2010

This Week:

- Gov. Gregoire congratulates Port Townsend students for submitting winning vessel class name
- May Community Meeting Schedule
- Meetings in Washington, D.C. to promote the U.S. Ferry Systems Investment Act
- WSDOT commemorates construction of second new ferry

Gov. Gregoire congratulates Port Townsend students for submitting winning vessel class name

Gov. Chris Gregoire visited Blue Heron Middle School in Port Townsend on Thursday to congratulate students for naming our new vessel class. WSF conducted a contest to name the new classification of 64-car ferries with fourth-grade students from Chimacum, Port Townsend and Whidbey Island. Blue Heron student Rose Dunlap submitted the winning entry, Kwa-di Tabil (pronounced kwah DEE tah-bayle), which translated from the Quileute dialect means "Little Boat." The first Kwa-di Tabil Class ferry, Chetzemoka, is scheduled to begin service in late summer 2010. We're building two more Kwa-di Tabil Class ferries, which will begin service in 2011 and 2012. For photos of the event, visit www.flickr.com/photos/wsdot/sets/72157623767660087/

May Community Meeting Schedule

The agenda for the May community meetings has been posted at www.wsdot.wa.gov/Ferries/commuterupdates/pub_meetings.htm. Topics include a recap of legislative session, priorities for 2010, fare change process and emergency service planning. We will also have an opportunity to discuss issues specific to your route and community. I look forward to seeing you at one of the nine meetings scheduled.

Meetings in Washington, D.C. to promote the U.S. Ferry Systems Investment Act

I was in Washington, D.C. for two days this week to promote the U.S. Ferry Systems Investment Act, a bill proposed by Sen. Murray and Rep. Larsen. I joined five other U.S. public ferry systems in meetings with members and staff of the House Transportation Committee, staff of the Senate Environmental and Public Works Committee, and staff of the U.S. Department of Transportation. We discussed the importance of ferry service as part of the overall transportation system and promoted the U.S. Ferry Systems Investment Act. You may read more about the bill at <http://murray.senate.gov/transportation/ferrybill.pdf>

WSDOT commemorates construction of second new ferry

Construction of the state's second Kwa-di Tabil Class (64-car) ferry officially got underway Monday at Todd Pacific Shipyards (Todd) in Seattle. WSDOT Secretary Paula Hammond and I were on hand to help Todd officials commemorate the event. Secretary Hammond struck the first arc weld on the keel signifying the start of construction of the second vessel of the class. View photos of the event at www.flickr.com/photos/wsdot/sets/72157623767660087.

Next Week:

- Scheduling and on-time performance internal workgroup
- Skagit and Island County Regional Transportation Planning Organizations
- Tour of Everett Shipyard
- Meeting with Lummi Nation

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

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