

Ferry Systems in Washington State

Ferry systems in Washington State have not been reported in the Summary of Public Transportation since 1996 and at that time, only the Washington State Ferries was included.

This publication includes the Washington State Ferries which now operates 22 ferry vessels, as well as data and information from four additional ferry systems.

**With the exception of the Kitsap Transit Foot Ferry which in past publications has been included under Kitsap Transit in the Small Urban Transit section.*

King County Ferry District

In April 2007, the King County Ferry District (KCFD) was created to expand transportation options through water taxi services. King County Council members are the Ferry District Board of Supervisors.

The KCFD funds and oversees the operations of two existing water taxi services. The KCFD contracts with the King County Marine Division for operations. The KCFD also took over the water taxi service between West Seattle and Downtown Seattle (previously the Elliott Bay Water Taxi).

Kitsap Transit Foot Ferry

The Kitsap Transit Foot Ferry provides service between the Bremerton, Port Orchard and Annapolis Ferry Docks on weekdays and between Port Orchard and Bremerton.

Lummi Island Ferry

Whatcom County Public Works Ferry Division is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Whatcom Chief. This ferry serves Lummi Island residents, visitors, and businesses, transporting over 197,980 passengers during 2010.

Pierce County Ferry System

Pierce County took responsibility for the Steilacoom to Anderson and McNeil Island ferry route in 1938. The ferry system is the lifeline for Anderson and Ketron Island residents and visitors. It has seen a passenger use growth from 34,000 in 1968 to 199,261 in 2010.

Washington State Ferries

Washington State Ferries (WSF) began in 1951 as the Washington Toll Bridge Authority, taking over the operation of the privately owned and operated Puget Sound Navigation Company. In 1974, the Authority added the facilities and vessels associated with the Port Townsend-Keystone route, owned and operated by Black Ball Transport, Inc. Creation of the Washington State Department of Transportation in 1977 (previously Department of Highways) included assuming the Toll Bridge Authority and WSF became one of its Divisions.

Washington State Ferries operates the largest ferry fleet in the United States. 22 ferries cross Puget Sound and its inland waterways, carrying over 23 million passengers. From Tacoma, Washington, to Sidney, British Columbia, Washington State Ferries travel up and down the Sound, acting as a marine highway for commercial users, tourists and daily commuters.

Annual Operating Information

	2010
Passenger Ferry Services	
Revenue Vessel Hours	139,476
Total Vessel Hours	140,254
Revenue Vessel Miles	1,016,063
Total Vessel Miles	1,026,932
Passenger Trips	23,609,171
Diesel Fuel Consumed (gallons)	17,248,950
Employees - FTEs	1,871.9
Operating Expenses	\$219,442,928
Farebox Revenues	\$40,534,047
Revenues	
Operating Related Revenues	
Local Funds (Directly Generated - Property Taxes)	\$1,216,195
MVET	\$106,813
Farebox Revenues	\$40,534,047
Federal Section §5307 Operating	\$1,266,467
Other State Operating Grants	\$57,095,891
Other Operating Sub-Total	\$119,305,361
Other-Interest	\$7,924
Other-MISC	\$119,297,437
Total (Excludes Capital Revenues)	\$219,524,774
Federal Capital Grant Revenues	
Federal Section §5307 Capital Grants	\$33,862
Federal Section §5309 Capital Grants	\$6,226,414
CM/AQ and Other Federal Grants	\$8,917,886
Total Federal Capital	\$15,178,162
State Capital Grant Revenues	
Other State Capital Funds	\$116,521,144
Total State Capital	\$116,521,144

Expenditures		
	2010	
Local Capital Expenditures		
Local Funds	\$345,234	
Total Local Capital	\$345,234	
Other Expenditures		
Other Expenditures	\$602,242	
Depreciation	\$614,473	
Total (Non-Capital) Expenditures	\$1,216,715	
Debt Service		
Interest	\$32,011	
Principal	\$0	
Total Debt Service	\$32,011	
Total Funds by Source		
	2010	% of Total
Operating		
Total Local Investment	\$161,764,658	73.49
Total State Investment	\$57,095,891	25.94
Total Federal Investment	\$1,266,467	0.58
Total Operating	\$220,127,016	100.00
Capital		
Total Local Investment	\$345,234	0.26
Total State Investment	\$116,521,144	88.24
Total Federal Investment	\$15,178,162	11.49
Total Capital	\$132,044,540	100.00

King County Ferry District

Anne Noris

Clerk of the King County Council and Ferry District Board

516 Third Avenue, Room 1200

Seattle, WA 98104

206-296-1020

www.kingcountyferries.org



System Snapshot

- **Service Area:** King County/Puget Sound – Downtown Seattle to Vashon Island
- **Congressional District:** 7
- **Legislative District:** 34
- **Type of Government:** Special Purpose District
- **Governing Body:** Ferry Board of Supervisors
- **Tax Authorized:** Property Tax Levy \$1,183,252 (approximately 1/3 cent per \$1000 Assessed Value)
- **Fares:** Vashon Island \$4.50

Intermodal Connections

The King County Ferry between Vashon Island and Downtown Seattle connects to Metro Transit.

Annual Operating Information

	2010
Passenger Ferry Services (Purchased Transportation)	
Revenue Vessel Hours	1,421
Total Vessel Hours	1,421
Revenue Vessel Miles	28,410
Total Vessel Miles	29,640
Passenger Trips	153,634
Diesel Fuel Consumed (gallons)	89,321
Employees - FTEs	7.5
Operating Expenses	\$1,523,203
Farebox Revenues	\$444,807
Revenues	
Operating Related Revenues	
Sales Tax	\$0
Local Funds (Directly Generated - Property Taxes)	\$1,216,195
Utility Tax	\$0
MVET	\$0
Farebox Revenues	\$444,807
Other State Operating Grants	\$527,111
Total (Excludes Capital Revenues)	\$2,188,113
Federal Capital Grant Revenues	
Federal Section §5307 Capital Grants	\$15,690
Total Federal Capital	\$15,690
State Capital Grant Revenues	
Other State Capital Funds	\$136,745
Total State Capital	\$136,745
Expenditures	
	2010
Local Capital Expenditures	
Local Funds	\$0
Total Local Capital	\$0
Other Expenditures	
Other Expenditures	\$602,242
Total	\$602,242

Total Funds by Source		
	2010	% of Total
Operating		
Total Local Investment	\$2,263,244	81.11
Total State Investment	\$527,111	18.89
Total Federal Investment	\$0	0.00
Total Operating	\$2,790,355	100.00
Capital		
Total Local Investment	\$0	0.00
Total State Investment	\$136,745	89.71
Total Federal Investment	\$15,690	10.29
Total Capital	\$152,435	100.00

Kitsap Transit Foot Ferry

Richard M. Hayes

Executive Director

60 Washington Avenue, Suite 200

Bremerton, WA 983371888

360-377-7086

www.kitsaptransit.org



System Snapshot

- **Service Area:** Kitsap County
- **Congressional District:** 1 and 6
- **Legislative District:** 23, 26, 35
- **Type of Government:** PTBA
- **Governing Body:** Board of Commissioners
- **Tax Authorized:** Current authorization is 0.8 percent of sales tax (0.5 percent in 1993 increased to 0.8 in 2001).
- **Fares:** Base fare is \$2.00 per trip for Routed and Paratransit fare (\$1.00 reduced fare); \$50 for monthly pass.
- **Intermodal Connections:** The Kitsap Transit Foot Ferry provides service between the Bremerton, Port Orchard, and Annapolis Ferry Docks on weekdays and between Port Orchard and Bremerton on Saturdays. Kitsap Transit provides connections to all four WSF terminals in Kitsap County and provides service to many area elementary, middle, and high Schools as well as both branches of Olympic College. Mason Transit connections are available at the Bremerton Transportation Center and Jefferson Transit meets Kitsap Transit at our Poulsbo Transfer Center.

Annual Operating Information				
	2008	2009	2010	% Change
Passenger Ferry Services (Purchased Transportation)				
Revenue Vessel Hours	6,699	5,982	5,869	-1.89
Total Vessel Hours	6,795	6,106	5,969	-2.24
Revenue Vessel Miles	48,998	45,064	44,448	-1.37
Total Vessel Miles	50,023	46,304	45,452	-1.84
Passenger Trips	525,455	473,926	444,296	-6.25
Diesel Fuel Consumed (gallons)	47,073	42,849	42,658	-0.45
Employees - FTEs	5.0	10.6	10.4	-1.89
Operating Expenses	\$1,886,367	\$1,804,442	\$1,811,449	0.39
Farebox Revenues	\$300,442	\$548,627	\$751,773	37.03
See the Kitsap Transit section for agency information.				
Revenues				
Operating Related Revenues				
Farebox Revenues	\$300,442	\$548,627	\$751,773	37.03
Total (Excludes Capital Revenues)	\$300,442	\$548,627	\$751,773	37.03
Total Funds by Source				
	2008 Data	2009 Data	2010 Data	% of Total
Operating				
Total Local Investment	\$300,442	\$548,627	\$751,773	100.00
Total State Investment	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00
Total Federal Investment	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00
Total Operating	\$300,442	\$548,627	\$751,773	100.00
Capital				
Total Local Investment	\$0	\$0	\$0	-
Total State Investment	\$0	\$0	\$0	-
Total Federal Investment	\$0	\$0	\$0	-
Total Capital	\$0	\$0	\$0	-

Lummi Island Ferry

Public Works Administration

322 N. Commercial Street, Suite 210

Bellingham, WA 98225

360-676-6692

www.co.whatcom.wa.us/publicworks/ferry/index.jsp



System Snapshot

- **Service Area:** Service to Lummi Island from Bellingham.
- **Congressional District:** 2
- **Legislative District:** 42
- **Type of Government:** County
- **Governing Body:** Whatcom County Executive and County Council
- **Tax Authorized:** Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax (Ferry Deficit Reimbursement) of
- **Intermodal Connections:** Connects Lummi Island to the City of Bellingham 365 days a year.

Fares	Cost	Surcharge	Total	Rate Basis – Roundtrips
Passenger/Pedestrian	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$7.00	1 round trip
Child Under 12	Free	\$0.00	Free	1 round trip
Commuter	\$40.00	\$75.00	\$115.00	25 round trips
Needs Based Passenger	\$17.00	\$75.00	\$92.00	25 round trips

Complete fare structure: www.co.whatcom.wa.us/publicworks/ferry/pdf/012311rates.pdf

Annual Operating Information

	2010	
Passenger Ferry Services (Purchased Transportation)		
Passenger Trips	197,980	
Operating Expenses	2,593,833	
Farebox Revenues	\$1,021,866	
Revenues		
Operating Related Revenues		
Farebox Revenues	\$1,021,866	
Other Operating Sub-Total	\$1,290,541	
Other-Interest	\$7,924	
Other-MISC	\$1,282,617	
Total (Excludes Capital Revenues)	\$2,312,407	
Other-MISC includes County Road Fund transfer and Ferry Deficit Reimbursement.		
Total Funds by Source		
	2010	% of Total
Operating		
Total Local Investment	\$2,312,407	100.0
Total State Investment	\$0	0.0
Total Federal Investment	\$0	0.0
Total Operating	\$2,312,407	100.0
Capital		
Total Local Investment	\$0	-
Total State Investment	\$0	-
Total Federal Investment	\$0	-
Total Capital	\$0	-

Pierce County Ferry System

Deb Wallace

Airport and Ferry Administrator

9850 64th Street West

University Place, WA 98467

253-798-4638

www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/abtus/ourorg/pwu/ferry/ferrymain.htm

System Snapshot

- **Service Area:** Steilacoom, Anderson Island, and Ketron Island.
- **Congressional District:** 9
- **Legislative District:** 28
- **Type of Government:** County
- **Governing Body:** Executive and County Council
- **Tax Authorized:** 6.5 percent State Sales and Use Tax plus 2.8 percent Local City/County Sales and Use Tax
- **Intermodal Connections:** The Pierce County Ferry connects to Pierce Transit.
- **Fares:**

	Winter	Peak (May 15–Sept 15)
Adults	\$ 4.70	\$ 4.70
Child Under 5	Free	Free
Commuter (x5)	\$ 18.50	\$ 18.50
Disabled/Senior	\$ 2.40	\$ 2.40
Youth (15-18)	\$ 3.40	\$ 3.40

Annual Operating Information

	2010
Passenger Ferry Services (Purchased Transportation)	
Revenue Vessel Hours	5,579
Total Vessel Hours	5,579
Revenue Vessel Miles	40,430
Total Vessel Miles	43,697
Passenger Trips	199,261
Diesel Fuel Consumed (gallons)	135,778
Employees - FTEs	-
Operating Expenses	\$4,970,443
Farebox Revenues	\$1,912,685
Revenues	
Operating Related Revenues	
MVET	\$106,813
Farebox Revenues	\$1,912,685
Federal Section §5307 Operating	\$1,266,467
Other State Operating Grants	\$441,965
Other Operating Sub-Total	\$2,102,321
Other-MISC	\$2,102,321
Total (Excludes Capital Revenues)	\$5,830,251
State Capital Grant Revenues	
Other State Capital Funds	\$26,122
Total State Capital	\$26,122
Expenditures	
Local Capital Expenditures	
Local Funds	\$32,754
Total Local Capital	\$32,754
Other Expenditures	
Depreciation (Not included in Total Expenditures)	\$614,473
Debt Service	
Interest	\$32,011
Total Debt Service	\$32,011

Total Funds by Source		
	2010	% of Total
Operating		
Total Local Investment	\$4,121,819	70.70
Total State Investment	\$441,965	7.58
Total Federal Investment	\$1,266,467	21.72
Total Operating	\$5,830,251	100.00
Capital		
Total Local Investment	\$32,754	55.63
Total State Investment	\$26,122	44.37
Total Federal Investment	\$0	0.00
Total Capital	\$58,876	100.00

Washington State Ferries

David Moseley

Assistant Secretary

2901 Third Avenue Suite 500

Seattle, WA 98121-3014

206-515-3400

www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries



- **Service Area:** Puget Sound, including: Sidney, Orcas, Shaw, Lopez, Anacortes, Coupeville, Port Townsend, Clinton, Mukilteo, Kingston, Edmonds, Seattle, Bainbridge Island, Bremerton, Fauntleroy, Vashon, Southworth, Tahlequah, and Pt. Defiance.
- **Fares:** www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/fares
- **Schedules:** www.wsdot.com/ferries/schedule
- **Intermodal Connections:** In Island and Kitsap Counties and on Vashon Island, transit service is timed and linked with ferry schedules. In downtown Seattle, there is very frequent transit service, but not specifically linked to ferry schedules. New intermodal connections issues will emerge with the construction of new intermodal ferry terminals in Mukilteo and Edmonds, that may have connections to commuter rail services.

Jumbo Mark II



[Puyallup](#) | [Tacoma](#) | [Wenatchee](#)

Jumbo



[Spokane](#) | [Walla Walla](#)

Super



[Elwha](#) | [Hyak](#) | [Kaleetan](#) | [Yakima](#)

Issaquah 130



[Cathlamet](#) | [Chelan](#) | [Issaquah](#) | [Kitsap](#) | [Kittitas](#)

Issaquah



[Sealth](#)

Evergreen State



[Evergreen State](#) | [Klahowya](#) | [Tillikum](#)

Kwa-di Tabil



[Chetzemoka](#) | [Salish](#)

Rhododendron



[Rhododendron](#)

Hiyu



[Hiyu](#)

Annual Operating Information

	2010
Passenger Ferry Services	
Revenue Vessel Hours	126,607
Total Vessel Hours	127,285
Revenue Vessel Miles	902,775
Total Vessel Miles	908,143
Passenger Trips	22,614,000
Diesel Fuel Consumed (gallons)	16,981,193
Employees - FTEs	1,854
Operating Expenses	\$208,544,000
Farebox Revenues	\$36,402,916
Revenues	
Operating Related Revenues	
Farebox Revenues	\$36,402,916
Other State Operating Grants	\$56,126,815
Other Operating Sub-Total	\$115,912,499
Other-MISC (Other Fare Related Revenues)	\$115,912,499
Total (Excludes Capital Revenues)	\$208,442,230
Federal Capital Grant Revenues	
Federal Section §5307 Capital Grants	\$18,172
Federal Section §5309 Capital Grants	\$6,226,414
CM/AQ and Other Federal Grants	\$8,917,886
Total Federal Capital	\$15,162,472
State Capital Grant Revenues	
Other State Capital Funds	\$116,358,277
Total State Capital	\$116,358,277
Expenditures	
Local Capital Expenditures	
Local Funds	\$312,480
Total Local Capital	\$312,480

Total Funds by Source		
	2010	% of Total
Operating		
Total Local Investment	\$152,315,415	73.07
Total State Investment	\$56,126,815	26.93
Total Federal Investment	\$0	0.00
Total Operating	\$208,442,230	100.00
Capital		
Total Local Investment	\$312,480	0.24
Total State Investment	\$116,358,277	88.26
Total Federal Investment	\$15,162,472	11.50
Total Capital	\$131,833,229	100.00

