Quite the sight as *Elwha* sails into Seattle’s Lake Union

Ferry fans lined Seattle’s Lake Washington Ship Canal Monday morning to witness an unusual sight as one of our iconic ferries sailed through! Tugboats guided the 144-car Super-class *Elwha* from our Eagle Harbor Maintenance Facility on Bainbridge Island to the Lake Union Drydock Company where it will undergo repairs on its deck steel. During its journey, the vessel passed through the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks, then under the Ballard, Fremont and Aurora bridges, before entering Lake Union.

*Dozens of people lined the sides of the large lock at the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks in Ballard to watch as tugboats guided Elwha through the tight canal.*

August 1, 2019

**Fall vehicle reservations now available**

Vehicle reservations are now available for sailings on our Fall 2019 Sailing Schedule, which runs from Sept. 29 through Jan. 4, 2020. For our Anacortes/ San Juan Islands/Sidney, BC routes, we release 30 percent of available vehicle space two months prior to the start of each season, another 30 percent two weeks before each specific sailing, the final 30 percent two days prior and the remaining 10 percent is saved for emergency and stand-by vehicles. On the Port Townsend/Coupeville route, all reservations (80 percent of available vehicle space) are released two months prior to the start of each season with the remaining 20 percent saved for emergency and stand-by vehicles.
With Elwha 73 feet, 2 inches wide and the large lock 80 feet wide, there were only 6 feet, 10 inches of wiggle room as the vessel passed through the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks.

As Elwha passed offices lining the canal in Seattle's Fremont neighborhood, a crowd of people gather to watch the vessel pass under the Fremont Bridge.

The cover of our Fall 2019 Sailing Schedule brochure features Seahawks fans cheering on the home team aboard Kaleetan.

Opening of new Clinton pickup and drop-off area delayed

The contractor working on our new pickup and drop-off area near Clinton terminal has informed us that their estimate of reopening Ferry Dock Road has been pushed back to mid-September because of site limitations and the need for further hillside work. We understand this closure and construction affects many of our customers and the surrounding neighborhood. We’re working with the contractor to complete the project as early as possible.
There was a collective gasp at Gas Works Park as Elwha came into view, entering Lake Union with the backdrop of the Seattle skyline.

Vehicle travel on our busiest route to improve in 2020

Our Mukilteo/Clinton route is the busiest for vehicles. Last year from July through September, we carried nearly 630,000 vehicles to Whidbey Island and back. When the [new Mukilteo Multimodal Terminal](https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferry.htm) opens in fall 2020, getting to and from Whidbey Island will be a different experience for vehicles, walk-on passengers, and cyclists. Read our [recent blog post](https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/News/Blogs/2020/07/New-Mukilteo-Multimodal-Terminal/) to find out how.

Our new Mukilteo Multimodal Terminal will have an overhead walkway for passengers to load and unload, reducing conflicts with vehicles below.

Nicole McIntosh
Chief of Staff, WSDOT/Ferries Division

If you have questions or concerns about the Ferry Dock Road project in Clinton, call our 24/7 hotline at 206-402-8070.

Lane closure near Anacortes terminal
Monday, Aug. 5

You may want to factor in some extra drive time if you need to catch a ferry out of Anacortes on Monday, Aug. 5. The left lane of State Route 20 Spur heading into the terminal may be closed from just before Lot C to just before the toll booths for Puget Sound Energy work between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The left lane heading into our Anacortes terminal may be closed from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Aug. 5, for Puget Sound Energy work.