FTA grant for new Seattle terminal

This week, Assistant Secretary Amy Scarton joined members of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to announce a $5.9 million grant for our Seattle Multimodal Terminal at Colman Dock Project. The FTA is providing funding for construction of an elevated pedestrian walkway between our new terminal building and a future entry facility on Alaskan Way. The walkway will be a key element in supporting a fast, safe and efficient way for our walk-on customers to access downtown Seattle and other transit options.

FTA Acting Administrator K. Jane Williams, WSDOT Deputy Secretary of Transportation Keith Metcalf, King County Metro General Manager Rob Gannon and Assistant Secretary Amy Scarton at the grant announcement.

August 29, 2019

New vehicle holding lane for Southworth terminal

Southworth is getting a new holding lane just outside the terminal! Crews are currently paving the right shoulder of eastbound State Route 160/Southeast Sedgwick Road before Southeast Southworth Drive. Signs and pavement markings for the new lane will go in next week.

A new vehicle holding lane is going in on eastbound SR 160/Southeast Sedgwick Road approaching our Southworth terminal.

Symphonic sounds on Sound from Walla Walla

Customers aboard Walla Walla were able to enjoy the sounds of the Seattle Symphony while sailing the Sound yesterday afternoon!
vehicle onto a vessel should plan for long wait times, especially during peak times. To reduce or eliminate ferry wait times, consider walking on or taking an early morning or late evening sailing. If you do drive, arrive early for your scheduled sailing, stay updated with our ferry alerts and check terminal conditions. Also, be sure to check our sailing schedule as many routes will be on a holiday timetable on Monday, Sept. 2. I wish everyone a safe Labor Day weekend!

Our ferries will carry half-million customers over the last long weekend of the peak travel season. We usually see a 20-percent drop in ridership after Labor Day.

Pacific Northwest ferry operators meet on the water

Day two of our meeting with the region’s ferry operators was out on the water last Friday. Tacoma deck and engine crews welcomed us aboard and our guests got to see firsthand how they operate the Jumbo Mark II class vessel. Following the ferry ride, we toured our Eagle Harbor Maintenance Facility on Bainbridge Island. With ten shops full of skilled tradespeople, there was plenty to boast about. We concluded the day at Colman Dock with a tour of the old and new Seattle terminals. It was a great opportunity to share with our industry partners how far we’ve come and what’s in store for WSF.

“…My husband and I take the ferry between Southworth and Fauntleroy 5 days a week. We get to see Matt [O’Farrell, Able-Bodied Seaman] & Rob [Turkel, Able-Bodied Seaman] on the 7:55 a.m. ferry every morning. […] My experiences with them both are always positive but I also watch them interact and take care of others. They are kind, generous with a great attitude and a smile. They’re also very good at the technical aspects of their job. I count myself and my husband lucky that they are on the crew for our morning crossing. We know we are in very capable and caring hands.”
The WSF Executive Team with representatives from BC Ferries, Black Ball Ferry Line and Clipper Vacations at Seattle’s Colman Dock.

Nicole McIntosh
Chief of Staff, WSDOT/Ferries Division

WSF Weekly Updates are available on our website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly
Questions? Contact us at WSFWeeklyUpdate@wsdot.wa.gov

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