



## Dozens of new employees to join the fleet

I'd like to welcome several new crewmembers that will help us provide increased service in the weeks ahead. Because of COVID-19, we were unable to conduct mandatory face-to-face new deck employee training until late June. The first class of nine has graduated and is already working in the fleet. Our next class of seven is scheduled to graduate this weekend and we'll be training three more classes of 10 over the next two months!



*Firefighting is just one of several training a new employee must complete before they can serve as a crewmember on one of our vessels.*

Unfortunately, our Edmonds/Kingston and Mukilteo/Clinton routes will remain on one-boat weekend service until we have crewing available to allow us to increase service. As a reminder, crew availability is just one of our [COVID Response Service Plan](#)'s four pillars of service that are

## August 6, 2020

### Masks available for customers

Did you know we have masks available on our vessels for customers who need them? Anyone at our terminals or on our ferries will need a face covering to comply with the [governor's proclamation](#) – inside or outside – if they are unable to physically distance from others.



*Unless you're in a vehicle, everyone aboard our ferries is required to wear a mask inside the cabin or on any outdoor deck of the vessel.*

### \$5 million grant award for Issaquah-class upgrades

We're receiving \$5 million in federal funding to make critical upgrades to two of our Issaquah-class ferries. We'll use the money for new engine components to replace parts that have

dictating our [current schedules](#). The others are ridership, vessel availability and funding.



*Ten new terminal employees going through our electronic fare system training at our Seattle headquarters. They are set to graduate Friday, Aug. 14.*

#### **New Mukilteo terminal transit center**

Construction crews have poured concrete for our [new Mukilteo terminal](#) transit center, where commuters can hop on or off their buses. The transit area features a drop-off point, including two ADA spots, where drivers can stop briefly to drop people off before continuing back out to First Street. The new terminal is scheduled to open at the end of this year.



*The new Mukilteo terminal transit center is mere steps from*

reached or exceeded their 20-year lifespan. The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) [announced the grant](#) last month. In May, Sen. Maria Cantwell sent a [letter](#) to the USDOT recommending us for the grant. Thank you to Sen. Cantwell for your strong support, which helped us obtain \$39.2 million from the CARES Act and \$1.5 million to convert a ferry from diesel to hybrid-electric earlier this year.



*An unplanned replacement of a failed engine on an Issaquah-class vessel would cause 15 months of lost service.*



*"Yes! Officer Ernie is on the job all day at this testy intersection. Shout out to WSF for stepping up and getting the extra help we so desperately need right now. Not a long-term solution but much appreciated."*

*-Kingston business owner on [Facebook](#)*



*the ferry. Riders will be able to access it by using the terminal building's east stairs or elevator.*

**Amy Scarton**

Assistant Secretary, WSDOT/Ferries Division

*We are now contracted with Puget Sound Executive Services for weekend traffic control at Kingston and our other terminals.*



WSF Weekly Updates are available on our website at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly)

Questions? Contact us at [WSFWeeklyUpdate@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:WSFWeeklyUpdate@wsdot.wa.gov)

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) information**

If you would like to learn more about accessibility and the tools we have available, visit [www.wsdot.wa.gov/Accessibility](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Accessibility)