



Congratulations to our next generation of employees

As you know, workforce development is one of our top priorities. About a third of our vessel and terminal personnel will be eligible for retirement within the next five years. So of course I was pleased to find out this week that several of our deck employees have been promoted to become our newest mates, and our terminals will have dozens of new faces in the months ahead!

Nineteen of our deck employees successfully completed the 2019 WSF Mate Orientation program after spending time in the WSF Navigation Lab and Simulator at [Seattle Maritime Academy](#), attending class lectures on many subjects, being sent on WSF vessels with mentors for field days and completing rigorous knowledge and skill assessments at [Pacific Maritime Institute](#). The new mates are now eligible to work as chief mates in the ferry fleet!



The 2019 WSF Mate Orientation program class aboard Issaquah at our Eagle Harbor Maintenance Facility on Bainbridge Island.

Meanwhile, our terminals welcomed 14 new employees on Sunday, March 31, following 10 days of training. The group

April 4, 2019

Save the date!
Public meetings coming to ferry communities

We're partnering with local [Ferry Advisory Committees](#) to host public meetings for each ferry route to inform and engage the communities we serve. Join us to learn the latest about the ferry system and share your thoughts. Topics include proposed changes to fares, implementation of the [2040 Long Range Plan](#) and local projects specific to each route. Each meeting will include a brief presentation and an opportunity to ask questions and share comments.

Kingston

Monday, April 29
6 p.m.
Village Green Community Center, 26159 Dulay Road NE, Kingston

Coupeville

Wednesday, May 1
6 p.m.
Island County Commissioner's Hearing Room, 1 NE 7th St., Coupeville

is our first of four classes this year, so get ready to see many new people working our terminals!



These 14 new terminal employees make up the first of four classes in 2019. This group began working in the fleet on Sunday, March 31.

I invite you to join me in wishing our new mates and all of our new terminal employees a job well done!

New Fautleroy/Vashon/Southworth schedule begins

This week we started a brand [new schedule](#) on our “Triangle” route. Thanks for your patience as we adjust to this brand new process both on our vessels and at our terminals. We’ll provide an update about how this major project is progressing in next week’s WSF Weekly Update. In the meantime, keep up the great work!

Seasonal service to Canada returns with a celebration

Our [seasonal service](#) to Sidney, B.C. resumed on Sunday, March 31, with pomp and circumstance! Anacortes community members and Acting Director of Community Services and Planning Ray Deardorf were aboard the inaugural sailing on *Elwha* to help celebrate the occasion with a brief ceremony at our Sidney terminal. There will be [one round trip](#) between Anacortes and Sidney via Friday Harbor through June 22, when a second round trip will be added for the busy summer season.

Bremerton

Wednesday, May 8
5:30 p.m.
Kitsap Conference Center,
100 Washington Ave.,
Bremerton

Bainbridge Island

Thursday, May 9
6 p.m.
Bainbridge Island Senior
Center, 370 Brien Drive SE,
Bainbridge Island

Anacortes

Tuesday, May 14
4 p.m.
City Hall Municipal Building,
904 6th St., Anacortes

San Juan Islands

Wednesday, May 15
5 p.m.
Orcas Senior Center, 62
Henry Road, Eastsound

Southworth

Tuesday, May 21
6 p.m.
Harper Church, 10384 SE
Sedgwick Road, Port
Orchard

Mukilteo

Thursday, May 23
[Terminal project](#) open house
5-6 p.m., meeting 6 p.m.
Rosehill Community Center,
304 Lincoln Ave., Mukilteo

Vashon Island

Thursday, May 30
7 p.m.
Vashon Island High School
Cafeteria, 9600 SW 204th
St., Vashon Island

Colman Dock construction update

Get ready for more [big changes](#) this spring at



Anacortes Town Crier Richard Riddell looks on shore as Sidney Town Crier Kenny Podmore, his Consort Rhonda Todrick and a Canadian Mountie await the arrival of Elwha.

Welcome aboard, Naval Command College!

Our Director of Vessel Engineering Matt von Ruden hosted 55 officers from the [Naval Command College](#) (NCC) aboard *Wenatchee* last week. His guests represented more than 50 nations and saw firsthand how we operate as the nation's largest ferry system. This visit also holds a special connection because Matt is a 2006 graduate of the NCC's parent college, the U.S. Naval War College. This was a great visit and we wish them a safe journey back to their campus on the East Coast! Also, I want to extend a thank you to Seattle terminal staff and the *Wenatchee* crew for their hospitality.



Seattle's Colman Dock! Customers will see new pedestrian bridges and changing work zones as we continue to [replace our seismically vulnerable flagship terminal](#).



The vehicle holding lanes under the new terminal building and on the southern section of the dock reopened this week.



Lanes in other areas will close periodically to construct a new overhead walkway to the [temporary Marion Street Bridge](#).



There will be no changes for [walk-on customers](#) until summer, when the first portion of the new terminal building will open.

Director of Vessel Engineering Matt von Ruden speaks to Naval Command College officers aboard Wenatchee while on the Seattle/Bainbridge Island route.

Amy Scarton

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WSF Weekly Updates are available on our website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly

Questions? Contact us at 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
