



Thanksgiving travel rush

Plan for big crowds next week at our terminals and on our ferries as we all make our way to visit family and friends near and far. Many riders are expected to sail westbound Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 27, through Thursday morning, Nov. 28, and then eastbound Thursday afternoon through Friday, Nov. 29.

To reduce or eliminate wait times, consider walking on the ferry. Passenger capacity is far greater than vehicle capacity on all our ferries. [Vehicle reservations](#) are recommended on the Anacortes/San Juan Islands and Port Townsend/Coupeville routes. Expect limited vehicle space on the Port Townsend/Coupeville route on Wednesday, Nov. 27 and Thursday, Nov. 28 as some evening sailings will be canceled due to [tidal currents](#). As a reminder, no reservations are available to and from Sidney, B.C. as this route has been suspended through Sunday, Dec. 8 due to required maintenance on both vessels certified to sail international waters, the Elwha and Chelan.

Several routes will run on modified holiday schedules on Thanksgiving day, Nov. 28 so be sure to check the [sailing schedule](#) in advance.

November 21, 2019

Toys for Tots

We've partnered again with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve [Toys for Tots Program](#) to collect new, unwrapped toys to distribute as holiday gifts to less fortunate children in the community. Look for collection boxes at select terminals if you would like to drop off a donation through Dec. 3!



Last year, we delivered six huge boxes full of toys to [KIRO 7 Cares Toy Drive!](#)



"...I want to give my sincere thanks to the staff at the Anacortes terminal and the crew on the 6:30 pm to



Consider signing up for [ferry alerts](#) before the busy holiday rush so you get the latest traffic information for your route.

December virtual community meetings coming soon!

My leadership team and I are excited to reach out to our customers through our first ever online webinars on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 9 a.m. and Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. Join us for a brief presentation on highlights of 2019 and what's next for implementation of our [Long Range Plan](#). Be sure to [register](#) today in order to participate and share your comments.



Unable to join our webinars? Meeting materials and recordings will be posted online after each meeting.

Orcas on Sunday 11/10. I was traveling as a walk-on with my 101 year old disabled grandmother, coming from Island Hospital ER and needing extra assistance on and off the ferry. [...] a kind worker (sorry I did not catch his name) brought out a wheel chair and wheeled her up to the passenger deck. Thea had a long and exhausting day at the hospital and was so appreciative [...]. Thank you so much!"

-Sarah and Thea, Orcas Island

Next Weekly Update will be Thursday, Dec. 5

There will be no Weekly Update on November 28. I wish everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday week.

Presentations on the waterfront and in Olympia

On Tuesday, I joined a panel of other maritime leaders in our region in the Working Waterfront and Maritime Innovation Tour as part of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region's (PNWER) annual Economic Leadership Forum. I shared with participants our agency's plan for greener ferries that includes converting two existing Jumbo Mark II class ferries from diesel to hybrid-electric propulsion and the construction of a new hybrid-electric Olympic class ferry vessel.

Later today, I will speak to the House Transportation Committee (HTC). I will be joined by Director of Vessels Matt Von Ruden and we'll discuss highlights of 2019 and what's ahead for the upcoming legislative session. Tune in to a live broadcast available on [TVW](#) at 3:30 p.m. today.

Amy Scarton
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