



Connecting with our customers and employees through virtual community meetings

Thanks to everyone who joined us for our first-ever [virtual community meetings](#) on Saturday and Tuesday. Following a brief presentation on 2019 highlights and what's next for implementation of our [2040 Long Range Plan](#), I joined members of the WSF Executive Team and senior staff in answering questions from participants about a range of topics. About 200 people registered for the online meetings, about half of those had never been to a WSF public meeting! I hope to see that number grow as we continue to try out new ways of connecting with you.



The WSF Executive Team, senior staff members and I answer questions from webinar participants during Tuesday evening's virtual community meeting.

Temporary sailing schedule on Seattle routes Jan. 4-20

You may need to change your normal routine next month if you're a regular Bainbridge and Bremerton ferry rider. Both

December 12, 2019

Sidney, British Columbia service resumes

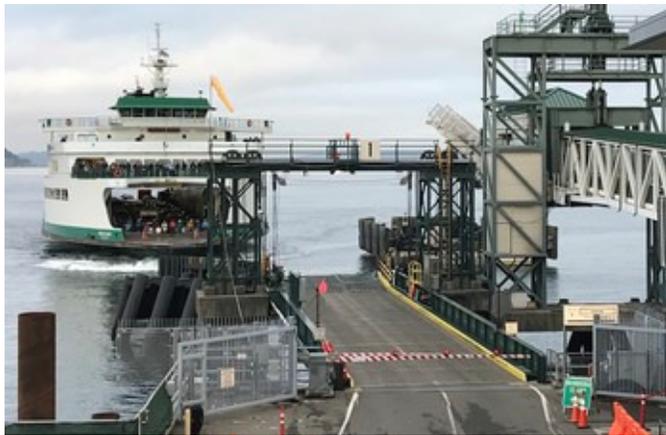
We're back in business on our [Anacortes/Friday Harbor/Sidney, B.C. route!](#) International service resumed on Monday with the return of *Chelan*, one of just two vessels in our fleet certified to sail in international waters. The 52-year-old *Elwha* has been out of service since spring for extensive steel deck repairs. I extend a warm thank you to everyone, especially our international customers, for your patience and understanding over the past few weeks. Please remember that we do not sail to and from Sidney during our winter [sailing schedule](#), which begins Jan. 5.



We resumed service on our international route to and from Sidney, B.C. on

routes will be on a temporary sailing schedule starting Saturday, Jan. 4, due to work on the [Seattle Multimodal Terminal at Colman Dock Project](#).

All [Bainbridge](#) and [Bremerton](#) sailings will share a single slip at Colman Dock through Monday, Jan. 20, to provide contractor crews with more space to efficiently complete critical work on the north side of the dock. In order to prevent more than one ferry from arriving at or departing the slip at the same time, vessels may operate slower, and departure times will shift between five and 30 minutes on most sailings, but sailings later in the evening shift as much as one hour.



All Bainbridge Island and Bremerton arrivals and departures at Seattle's Colman Dock will follow a temporary sailing schedule Jan. 4-20 while all sailings share a single slip.

All customers using our Seattle routes on Jan. 4-20 should sign up for [ferry alerts](#), plan for longer travel times, check [VesselWatch](#) to get real-time status of your ferry's location and arrive at the terminal early, especially if departing from Colman Dock. I understand that the smallest change in our schedules can be challenging for many of you, and that's why we worked to minimize the duration of this temporary schedule. Thank you for your flexibility as we continue our efforts to replace our seismically vulnerable flagship ferry terminal!

Executive Team tours Seattle/Bremerton route

My team and I hosted members from WSDOT Headquarters on our Seattle/Bremerton route today. After updating them on construction at our Seattle and Mukilteo terminals, as

Monday with the return of Chelan.

Pedestrian path near new Mukilteo terminal site back open

The pedestrian path from the Sounder Train station east to the end of our new [Mukilteo Multimodal Terminal Project](#) site reopened on Monday. For now, the walkway is a temporary configuration that uses the sidewalk and parts of the newly paved First Street. That means areas of the pathway will require pedestrians to step up or down a curb. Crews will continue making improvements to the pathway, pouring additional sidewalks and extending its length. First Street, which will lead to the new holding lanes and transit center, is closed to vehicles until the project opens next fall.



Crews pour concrete for the sidewalks along the new First Street in Mukilteo, which was also paved recently.

Toys for Tots donation

I want to applaud our employees and customers for their generous donations to the U.S. Marine Corps [Toys for Tots](#) Program! Last Friday, we walked over and

well as our efforts to electrify our fleet, we all took a tour of the wheelhouse and engine room aboard *Chimacum*. It was nice to talk to so many of our vessel crewmembers. Thank you to all the staff who spent time with us! I will continue to hold “floating meetings” of the WSF Executive Team on a regular basis out in the fleet.



WSF Executive Team and staff, members from WSDOT Headquarters and me in the Chimacum wheelhouse with a few of the vessel's crewmembers.

Holiday Cruise for People with Disabilities

The Active Ferry Employee Charitable Trust (AFECT) held its 34th Annual Holiday Cruise for People with Disabilities on Sunday. Dozens of ferry employees – including an entire crew – donated their time to welcome hundreds of patients from local care facilities, their families and caretakers aboard our newest vessel *Suquamish*. The cruise around Seattle's Elliott Bay is fueled by donations, including the fuel to run the boat and the gifts presented to attendees. The food and beverages were donated by ferry food vendor, Centerplate. AFECT also partners with the U.S. Coast Guard and the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services to organize the event.

delivered four huge boxes full of new, unwrapped toys, a tricycle, as well as a check for \$430 to the [KIRO 7 Cares Toy Drive](#). This was our 11th year participating in the program, which distributes toys as holiday gifts to less fortunate children. It's always nice to give back to the communities we serve!



Our WSF elves delivered four huge boxes of toys, a tricycle and a \$430 check down the road to the KIRO 7 Cares Toy Drive on Friday.



Check out [more photos](#) from this year's AFECT Holiday Cruise for People with Disabilities aboard Suquamish on Dec. 8.

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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
