Triangle Task Force

Washington State Ferries
July 19, 2018
Schedule concepts
Outreach Timeline

- **June Triangle Task Force**
  - Afternoon schedule concept review
  - Data of interest for August meeting
- **July Triangle Task Force**
  - Morning schedule concept review
- **August Combined TTF/FAC**
  - Draft complete schedule review
  - Data analysis and comparison
- **October Public Outreach**
  - Input on draft schedule
- **December Update to Summer Schedule**
  - Final schedule
Route operations

- Vessels and crossings
  - Three vessels
  - Three destinations (four slips)
  - Different crossing times
Route operations

- **Vessels and crossings**
  - Three *vessels*
  - Three *destinations* (four slips)
  - Different *crossing times*
  - Varying *dwell times*
    - Unloading/loading
    - Destination(s)
    - Traveler mix
Design Priorities

- Borrowing from engineering:

  - Strong
  - Light
  - Cheap

  PICK 2!
Schedule Priorities

- Frequent
- Full
- On Time
Current Schedule Performance

- Frequent
- Full
- On Time
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*WSDOT*
Data of Interest

• Boat size/capacity
• Load limits (existing & potential)
• Empty space counts
• Wait time/queue length
• Origin/destination sailing counts
• Throughput
• Medical evacuations
• Growth in drive-around traffic
  …
• What else?
University of Washington study
Triangle Task Force Meeting: University of Washington
Daniel J. Evans School Research Project

July 19, 2018
Who Are We?
What Is Our Scope?

Identify and compare alternatives for improving ticketing and loading procedures at the Fauntleroy terminal - subject to available data

- Pull together widely discussed and “moon shot” alternatives
- Develop transparent criteria to compare alternatives, with respect to environmental, economic and social/community values
- When, why and by whom is each alternative favored?
- What issue is each trying to solve?
Additionally:

- Assess and recommend approaches for **community engagement**
- Analyze long-run **sensitivity** - what if constraints relax?
- **Communicate** with community, legislature, and others along with WSF

Agenda for Today:

● Update since last month
● Alternatives and Criteria for Evaluating Alternatives
● What are we hearing thus far?
● Where are we heading next?
● Breakout sessions
  ○ Get feedback on criteria and alternatives
  ○ Explore what is important, what is success from different perspectives
  ○ Gather suggestions and insights to inform our research moving ahead
Sources of Information:

- Dock visits to observe queuing, ticketing, loading
- Ferry rides to observe loading, unloading, sailing, dwell time
- Interviews and meetings with WSF staff, Task Force members, and others
- Exploring available WSF data:
  - Customer satisfaction
  - Driver destinations
  - Tollbooth operations
  - Terminal services
  - Practical solutions
- Reviewing studies and resources:
  - Community engagement plans
  - Cedar River Fare Media Study
  - Scheduling plans
  - WSDOT Connecting Washington Report
Types of Criteria to Evaluate Alternatives

What is the value added (or the cost) of various alternatives from the perspective of the public, ecological systems, Legislature, WSF, etc

- Social and Public Value Impacts
- Economic Impacts
- Environmental Impacts
Specific Criteria to Gauge Value of Each Alternative

- Ability to Meet Demand
- Time Spent getting through Tollbooth
- Impact on WSF Revenue
- Cost
- On-time Performance
- Unused Capacity (empty spaces on boats)
- Customer Satisfaction
- Customer Understanding of Process
- Technical and/or Technological Feasibility
- Equity in Service by Community
- Equity in Wait Times
- Safety for Passengers
- Safety for WSF Staff
- Safety of Traffic Officer(s)
- Relationship between WSF & communities
- Ecosystem Health
- Other Environmental Impacts
Categories of Alternatives - some overlap

- Ticketing/Loading/Queuing
- Fares
- Sailing Schedule
- Communication
- Operations - Staffing/Training
- Structural/Dock/Vessels (outside current scope)
Alternatives re: Ticketing/Loading/Queuing

- Increase Fauntleroy terminal staffing during rush hour
- Revisit space allocation for SW dual destination boats
- Change loading layout for dual destination boats
- Unload cars before foot traffic
- Institute pre-ticketing dedicated lane
- Implement wireless access on dock and along Fauntleroy Way
- Bicycle or other for traffic officer

- Re-institute bypass lane
- Redefine peak time as 1 - 7 pm
- Vehicle mobile ticket sales on dock
- On-vessel vehicle ticket sales
- Implement vehicle reservations
- Implement Good to Go! system
- Expand integration with ORCA system
- Update handheld scanners
Alternatives re: Fares/Operations/Communication

- Coordinate w/transit connections
- Re-route some V/SW ferries to downtown Seattle
- Incent oversize vehicle trip timing
- Increase vehicle fares to incent walk-ons
- Flat rate for car and driver only
- Preferential fares for dual destination riders
- Reduce or eliminate walk on fares
- Optimize schedule per Justin

- Charge eastbound
- Educate drivers re queuing and navigating tollbooth
- Communicate wait time to F vehicles in real time
- Educate riders re transit connections
- Educate riders re pre-ticketing
- Reconsider/prioritize performance metrics
- Train & Retain Triangle Route staff
Longer Term Alternatives

- Dock replacement (trestle and transfer span replacement)
- Fauntleroy dock changes (longer, wider, taller, 2 slip)
- Roadway changes north and south of Fauntleroy Dock
- Smaller Ferry Capacity
- Parking lot for Vashon park and ride – more capacity
# Assessing Alternatives Against Criteria

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Community engagement analysis & suggestions

● Current activity: Explore what’s been done, modes and media employed, what information was produced, who was the intended audience, what was the intended goal (why)?

● Existing Strategies: WSTC FROG Surveys, WSDOT 2016 Community Engagement Plan, Long Range Plan community engagement design, public meetings, social media, TTF, FACs etc.

● Our objective: identify the gaps and develop suggestions for future WSF community engagement and public education.
What we are hearing so far overall:

- Many ideas and alternatives for change and improvement
- Many perspectives on what is important, what is feasible, what is success
- Tradeoffs - variable preferences about balancing competing objectives

- Constraints and the “What Would it Take?” Question
  - Budget, Increased Staff, Technology
  - Data Requirements for Planning and Optimizing
  - Public Understanding of Processes

Communication/engagement supports shift from frustrated to aware

Notable level of understanding/appreciation for WSF efforts heard!
Next Steps:

- Continue to interview TTF, WSF staff and others
- Hone Alternatives and Criteria

- Analyze alternatives transparently in a structured framework
  - Evaluate against explicit criteria
  - Develop stakeholder profiles for weighing the criteria - reflect which criteria matter and how much each matters
  - Consider how subsets of the criteria cluster or tradeoff?
  - Ask “what would it take” to make various alternatives fly?
  - How do available data support these comparisons?
Questions?
Breakout Sessions
Breakout Sessions:

I. Criteria
What’s missing or needs revision?

Which criteria are most important to your community - such that you’d weight them more strongly in assessments of the alternatives?

II. Alternatives
What’s missing or needs revision?

Which alternatives are most likely to improve the Triangle Route? Based on which criteria?

What would it take to make various alternatives fly?
Thank you!