Washington State Ferries
2040 Long Range Plan

Technical and Policy Advisory Group

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Agenda

• Welcome and introductions
• Status update
• Community engagement recap
• Lunch break
• What will we add to the Plan?
• How will we modify the Plan?
  – Reliable service
  – Customer experience
  – Manage growth
  – Sustainability and resilience
  – Implementation and investment
• Next steps
Timeline

Develop Long Range Plan
- Ridership forecasting (summer 2017 - February 2018)
- Analysis (winter - spring)
- Develop Draft Plan (spring - fall)
- Progress report to Legislature (June)
- Finalize Plan
  - Deliver Final Plan to Legislature (January 2019)

Stakeholder engagement
- Technical Advisory Group meetings
- Policy Advisory Group meetings
- Executive Advisory Group meetings

Community engagement
- April-May open houses
  - Explain long range planning process and gather community input to shape Long Range Plan.
- September-October public meetings
  - Review and comment on Draft Plan during 45-day public comment period.
Draft Plan

Reliable service
- Replace aging vessels and invest in new vessels to maintain reliable service.
- Preserve and improve terminals to enhance safety and operations.
- Invest in attracting, retaining and strengthening the workforce.

Customer experience
- Provide better trip planning information.
- Reduce customer wait times.
- Enhance multimodal connections and accessibility.

Manage growth
- Increase walk-on ridership.
- Spread out demand and maximize WSF’s existing assets.

Sustainability and resilience
- Green the fleet and reduce our environmental footprint.
- Plan for emergencies and climate change to sustain reliable service through 2040.
Implementation and Investment Planning

- Near term (0-2 years)—stabilizing the system.
- Medium term (3-7 years)—building the infrastructure.
- Long term (8-20 years)—responding to growth.
Getting the word out

70 posters displayed at terminals and aboard ferries

1,932 unique project website views

69 tweets

167,163 total impressions

14 emails

1 press release sent to statewide media

30 news articles

sent to listserv subscribers
Fall community engagement

- 11 open houses
- 6 floating open houses
- 3,639 participants
- 3,028 online open house participants
- 611 open house/floating open house attendees
- 390 total comments
What we heard

- Support prioritizing reliable service through **building new vessels**.
  - Replace aging vessels soon.
  - Add service relief vessels.
  - Prioritize vessel maintenance.

- Enhance **technology** to improve operational efficiencies and accessibility.
  - Upgrade ticketing, fare collection, and reservation systems to improve loading processes.
  - Improve customer information and travel alerts.
  - Improve terminal and ferry amenities like wi-fi and seating.
What we heard

- Many participants supported **multimodal transportation** through transit connections and improved amenities.
  - Build partnerships to improve transit connections.
  - Improve terminal and onboard amenities for walk-on passengers and bicyclists.

- Most participants commented on providing system **capacity enhancements** to meet growing ridership demands.
  - Implement capacity improvements beyond what is proposed in the Plan.
  - Support terminal improvements like overhead loading and improved queuing.
What we heard

- Define new **metrics** and implementing **strategies** to manage growth.
  - Expand vehicle reservations.
  - Adjust pricing and prioritize local residents.
  - Support adding “vehicle wait time” as a performance metric.

- Focus on designing **resilient** and **environmentally friendly** vessels and terminal areas.
  - Prepare for emergencies.
  - Support for hybrid-electric vessels and noise reduction.
  - Make terminals and surrounding spaces more environmentally friendly.
Who we heard from

The following agencies and organizations provided feedback:

- Ferry Advisory Committees (FAC)
  - Bainbridge Island FAC
  - Clinton FAC
  - FAC Executive Council
  - Kingston FAC
  - Mukilteo FAC
  - San Juan County FAC
- City of Port Townsend
- City of Tacoma
- Community Transit
- Greater Kingston Chamber of Commerce
- Island County Board of Commissioners
- Jefferson County/Port Townsend FAC
- Jefferson County Commission
- King County Water Taxi
- Kingston Citizens Advisory Council
- Kitsap Economic Development Alliance
- Kitsap County Department of Public Works
- Kitsap Transit
- Management of Mobility Division, WSDOT
- Pierce Transit
- San Juan County Council
- San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau
- Save Our Marsh
- Seattle Department of Transportation
- Sound Transit
Questions?
Modifications to the final Plan

• Add strategies based on feedback from advisory groups and organizations:
  – Revise performance metrics.
  – Pursue partnerships with mobility on-demand services.
  – Re-examine scheduling as a tool for enhancing on-time performance.
  – Re-examine opportunities to enhance shipyard availability to support rapid building of vessels.
Modifications to the final Plan

- Add focus areas based on public input and community engagement:
  - Explore parking opportunities at and near terminals.
  - Coordination with transit agencies that provide passenger-only service.
  - Additional considerations beyond the constraints of this Plan.
  - Consider the impact to service in the absence of long-range investment.
Modifications to the final Plan

- Clarify information presented in the Draft Plan:
  - Better illustrate the fleet composition and new vessels called for during the planning horizon.
  - Strengthen the discussion of accessibility, particularly with respect to multimodal connections and ADA needs.
  - Expand on strategies to manage growth, including service hour adjustments, freight traffic needs, parking, mode shift, and two-season schedule.
  - Expand on electrification and emergency response planning.
  - Identify and prioritize future studies and specify key decision milestones.
Implementation timeline

- **2020**
  - Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth decision milestone
    - New vessels (124)
    - Southworth 2nd slip and Fauntleroy terminal improvements

- **2025**
  - Edmonds/Kingston decision milestone
    - New vessels (144 or 202)
    - Edmonds terminal improvements

- **2030**
  - Increase vessel capacity: San Juan Interisland
  - Add service hours: Anacortes/San Juan Islands, Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth (winter/spring/summer & 2-season schedule), Pt. Defiance/Tahlequah (midday)
  - Add service hours: Port Townsend/Coupeville (spring/summer)
  - Increase passenger capacity: Seattle/Bainbridge and Seattle/Bremerton

- **2035**
  - Increase vessel capacity: Mukilteo/Clinton (fall/winter/spring)

- **2040**
  - Increase vessel capacity: Edmonds/Kingston (Option A: third vessel)

**Vessel retirement schedule**
- **Hyak** 2030
- **Tillikum** 2032
- **Elwha** 2023
- **Kaleetan** 2026
- **Yakima** 2027
- **Issaquah** 2019
- **Kitsap** 2020
- **Kitselas** 2022
- **Spokane** 2023
- **Walla Walla** 2024
- **Cashmere** 2025
- **Chelan** 2026
- **Sealth** 2027

**Fleet modifications**
- **Decision milestone**
  - New vessels (Olympic Class)

**Jumbo Mark II Hybrid Electric Conversion**
- 5 new Olympic Class
- 4 new vessels (124-car)

**Kwa-di Tabul Hybrid Electric Conversion**
- Option A: 7 new vessels (144-car)
- Option B: 6 new vessels (two 202-car and four 144-car)

**Summer relief vessel count**
- Planned relief
- Unplanned relief

**Terminal projects**
- Mukilteo
- Colman Dock
- Friday Harbor
- Fauntleroy
- Clinton
- Edmonds
- Southworth
- Anacortes
- Lopez

**Terminal preservation and improvement projects**
- Electrify 18 terminals

**Workforce**
- WSF Workforce development supplemental plan
- Increase investment in workforce development for mentor and training programs

**30% of employees eligible to retire from 2019-2024**

**Near term**

**Medium term**

**Long term**
Next steps
Thank you!