

WSDOT Ferries Division

2007 Ferry Financing Legislation Status Report: Vehicle Level-of-Service Standards

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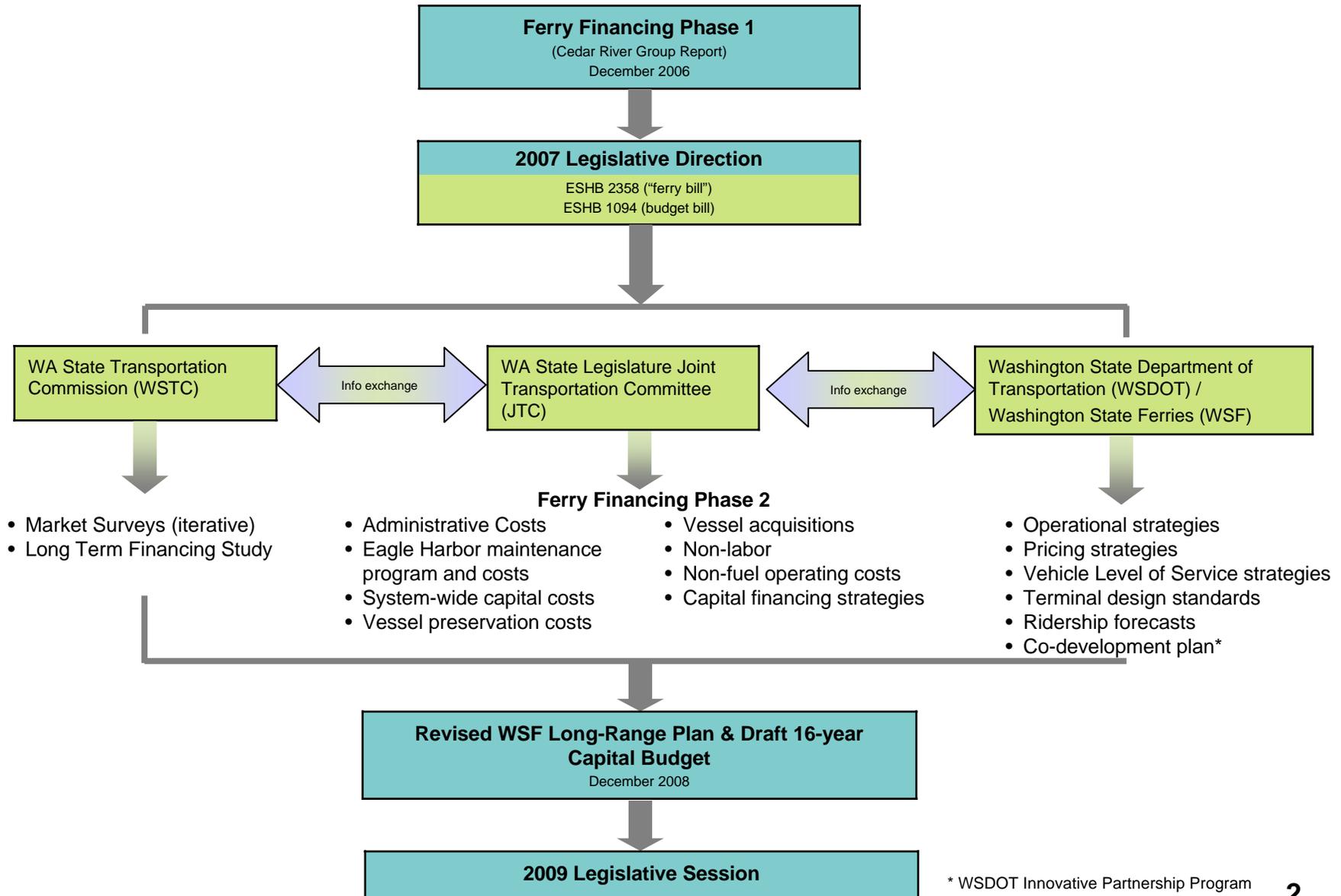
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Ferry Finance Legislation

Work Program 2006-2009



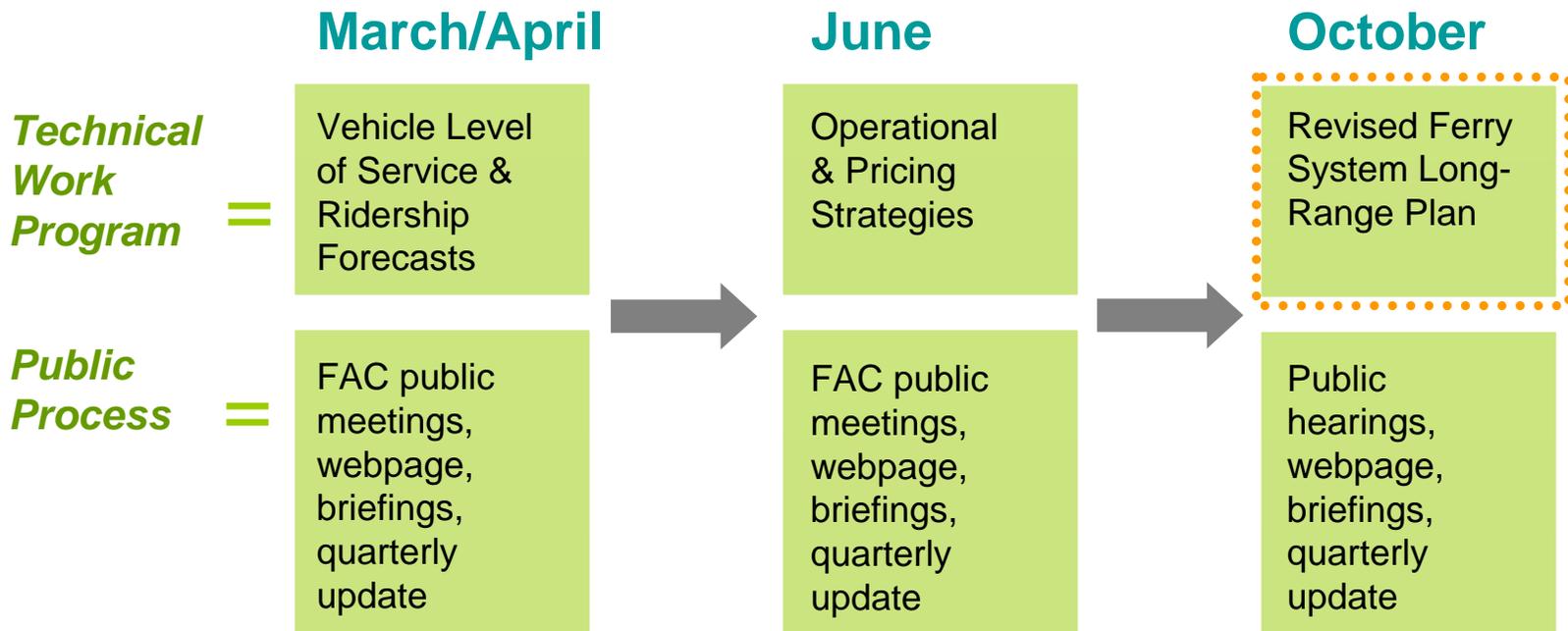
* WSDOT Innovative Partnership Program

Why does this work matter?

- The ferry system needs a mechanism to determine when it is appropriate to add capacity (system-sizing)
- System-sizing determines what is the appropriate fleet size (# of vessels) and composition (type & size of vessels)
- Future fleet determines the needs for terminal improvements

What is the work plan?

The work culminates in a revised long-range plan for the ferry system.



Vehicle LOS: What is it?

Vehicle Level-of-Service (LOS) is a way to measure congestion. The ferry system uses an average day to set this standard. When the system surpasses the standard, specific actions are outlined to reduce congestion – or waiting time for a ferry.

- Illustration – traffic signal analogy
- Current standards based on number of boats missed
- Standards for passengers and HOVs differ

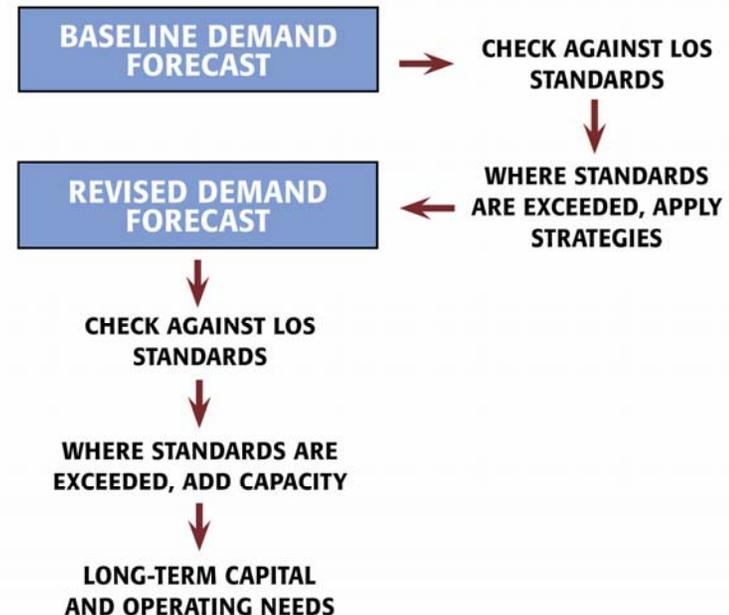
Vehicle LOS: Past and Proposed Approaches

Past LOS standards were based on congestion only.
The proposed approach bases LOS standards on congestion and service effectiveness

Current



Proposed

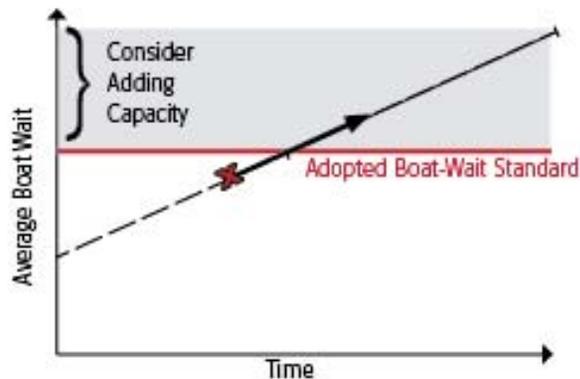


How Can the LOS Standards Support Balancing Strategies and Capacity?

Pre-ESHB 2358

Standard based on Congestion Only

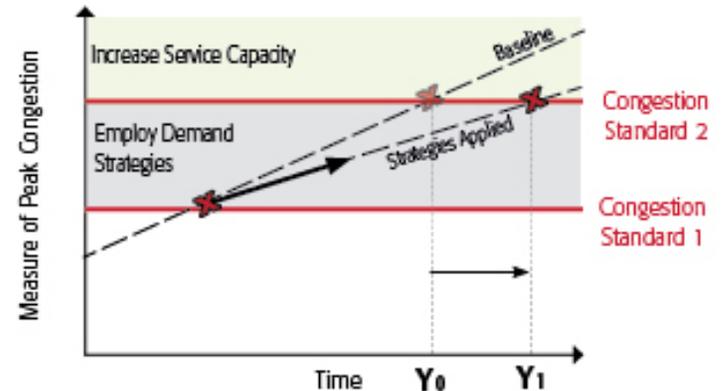
- Standards designed to address acceptable levels of congestion for various user groups
- Focus is on “typical” peak conditions
- Exceeding any single standard would suggest a need to add service



Proposed Approach

Standards based on Congestion and Service Effectiveness

- Meet needs of all Markets
- Use current assets most efficiently
- Adjust for growing demand but do not overbuild the system
- Vary by route and/or travel shed



Next Steps

- Review public input
- Incorporate Washington State Transportation Commission survey results
- Using the new ridership forecast data, see where adopted LOS standards would be exceeded
- Look at operational and pricing strategies to help manage demand
- Share these strategies in June at FAC public meetings for review and comment

Questions?

For more information on
WSDOT Ferries Long Range Plan Work Program,
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Visit: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/planning/ESHB2358.htm>