

## **Joint Transportation Committee Studies 2007 Interim—July 2007 update**

### State Ferry System Review--Phase 2

This study is an extension of work done by the Joint Transportation Committee last interim. The JTC Work Group is to oversee implementation of ESHB 2358 and ferry system program reviews. Certain tasks are being done by a JTC consultant, the Transportation Commission, and/or the WSDOT. Issues to be addressed include ferry fares and pricing strategies, levels of service, capital plans for boats and terminals, and financing strategies. The work group is to issue a progress report in December, 2007; however, most work products are likely to be completed in 2008. \$500,000 is appropriated for this effort.

- *The Ferry Review Policy Group has been appointed*
- *Cedar River and Associates (Kathy Scanlan) under JTC contract*
- *Staff group has bi-weekly meetings to coordinate tasks among WSF, Transportation Commission, and JTC*
- *Commission user-survey Request for Proposals has been issued, consultant proposals due September 12<sup>th</sup>*
- *Ferry Review Policy Group meeting August 28<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-3:00, PSRC*
  - *Review of study scope and participant roles and responsibilities*
  - *Update on Commission User survey*
  - *WSDOT life-cycle and cost allocation models*
  - *Other issues*

### Freight Investment Study

This consultant study, mandated in SSB 5207, is to evaluate existing fees paid by the freight industry and potential industry and other fees to finance freight congestion relief investments. This includes an evaluation of other states and countries' programs and their impact on competitiveness. The study is examining the structure of a project recommendation body. The study includes a stakeholder group composed of industry representatives, and is to be completed prior to the 2008 Session. \$500,000 was appropriated for this study; however, the JTC determined to limit study proposals to \$400,000.

- *Consultant contract with Cambridge Systematics team signed mid-July*
- *29 Member Stakeholder Group appointed*
  - *Stakeholders interviewed by phone*
  - *First Stakeholder meeting held Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup>*
  - *Next meeting, late September*
- *Freight Investment Study Policy Group, first meeting Sept. 11th, 1:30-4:00, Seattle area*

(over)

## Agency Council for Coordinated Transportation

This study is mandated in SHB 1694 and is to review legal and programmatic changes needed to effectively coordinate special needs transportation services at the regional level. This includes examining non-traditional service providers, facility siting decisions, and strategies for a decentralized broker system. One or more meetings with providers, brokers and the many agencies sponsoring trips for persons with special needs will be held and the JTC intends to retain a consultant to assist with the evaluation. This study requires a final draft report in December, 2008. \$300,000 is appropriated for this effort.

- *Staff has met with certain ACCT and agency staff*
- *List of consultants has been developed*
- *Draft of RFP complete, to be shared with JLARC and ACCT staff*
- *Consultant selection process to be initiated in September*
- *One or more stakeholder meetings are required*
- *JTC Co-chair communication with House Appropriations and Senate Ways and Means Committees and Governor to invite participation on study Policy Group*
- *Communication will be initiated with JLARC and ACCT*