

Joint Procurement of 144-car ferry vessels, Washington and British Columbia

The Joint Transportation Committee shall convene a series of meetings between representatives of the Washington State Ferries and British Columbia ferries as well as the respective shipyard contractors for new vessel construction for each system.

The purpose of the meetings is to explore joint procurement of additional 144-car capacity ferry vessels for use in either ferry system.

Benefits may include, but are not limited to:

- Construction savings accruing to both ferry systems due to the economies of scale of purchasing multiple vessels
- Additional relief vessel capacity available to both ferry systems
- Enhanced service on the international route connecting Washington and British Columbia

Meeting participation by:

- Washington State Ferries (WSF)
- BC Ferries (BCF)
- Respective shipyard contractors for new vessel construction

Legislative members:

- Representative Jeff Morris
- Representative Norma Smith
- Senator Mary Margaret Haugen
- Senator Curtis King

JTC Staff lead/back-up: Beth Redfield/Mary Fleckenstein

House Transportation Committee: Alison Hellberg

Senate Transportation Committee: Hayley Gamble

Office of Financial Management: Erik Hansen

30-May-12

Prepared by the Joint Transportation Committee

General project approach

Convene a first public meeting with representatives of BC Ferries, WA State Ferries and Washington Legislators. The purpose of the first meeting is to establish the areas of collaboration which are of joint interest to both ferry systems. Meeting participants would determine whether/which shipyards would need to be included in subsequent meetings on the subject of joint vessel procurement. Topic areas would include vessel procurement, use of liquefied natural gas as a ferry fuel, and other coordinated efforts that could benefit the two ferry systems.

Subsequent meetings will be planned based on the outcomes of the first meeting.

Draft Agenda for First Meeting:

- Invite Representative Morris to make opening remarks
- Systems' vessel procurement plans
 - Long term plans, policies, regulations
 - Role of 144-car vessels
 - Discussion of opportunities and challenges of joint procurement
- Use of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) on ferries
 - Update on BCF activities
 - Update on WSF activities
 - Discussion of opportunities and challenges of LNG
- Discussion of other areas of collaboration, existing and potential
- Identify next steps