



Anacortes/Guemes Island Ferry Dock Maintenance & Repair Q&A
Answers provided by Skagit County Public Works, Engineering Division
16MAY2019

Q: The ferry dock bridges have the second lowest sufficiency ratings of all the bridges in Skagit County. What does that mean?

A: Sufficiency ratings can be lower because of age and many other factors that may not be directly related to the functional safety of the bridge. Recent state inspection reports for the ferry bridges have identified priority repairs that the county has already begun addressing. Construction will start this summer and continue in to 2020.

Q: Are the bridges structurally sound?

A: Yes. Are there components of the bridges that need to be replaced due to age? Yes. This is not unlike any other bridge in the County. If we had safety concerns, we would immediately assess and implement restrictions or other measures to ensure public safety.

Q: The priority repairs have been “in the works” for some time. Why?

A: It takes time to budget, fund, and design and bid projects. This project is subject to the same procedural requirements as any other construction project in Skagit County. After years of planning, we are nearing the construction phase for the repairs.

Q: Will the construction work impact ferry service?

A: The Contractors will be doing most of the work at night when the ferry is not operating. However, some services may be impacted like the ability to do after-hours emergency runs. There may be impacts during regular service as well. We do not know this for sure yet as it is too early to plan all the details of the construction phase. We will keep service impacts to a minimum and send out plenty of advance notice.

Q: How do I stay connected regarding these projects?

A: We will post updates on our ferry email list subscribers. To sign up for ferry updates visit skagitcounty.net/forms/listsubscriptions. Select – Guemes Island Ferry Information.