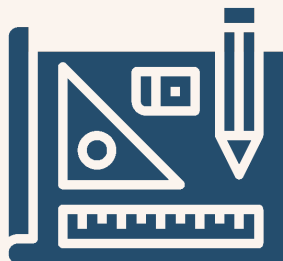


Skagit County Ferry Replacement News

May 2019

Guemes Ferry funding

The total program cost for the new Guemes Ferry is \$19 million. That is a large number, but it includes more than just vessel costs. The figures below break down the specific costs & current funding status for the four separate areas of the ferry replacement project: Design, terminal construction, shoreside charging infrastructure, and vessel construction.



DESIGN

Total cost: \$1.2 million

Secured: \$1.2 million

Still need: \$0

Federal grant for design of terminal, electrical shoreside charging infrastructure, and vessel.



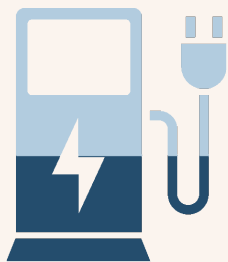
TERMINAL CONSTRUCTION

Total cost: \$1.5 million

Secured: \$0

Still need: \$1.5 million

Includes new aprons for concurrent loading of cars and passengers; reinforced dolphins for larger, heavier vessel.



SHORESIDE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE

Total cost: \$3.8 million

Secured: \$1.5 million

Still need: \$2.3 million

Funds from the State Capital Construction Budget can *only* be used for shoreside work.



VESSEL CONSTRUCTION

Total cost: \$12.5 million

Secured: \$7.5 million

Still need: \$5 million

Funds from County Ferry Capital Improvement Program, reimbursed annually over 20 years.

Plans for 28-car ferry moving ahead

The new Guemes Ferry will carry 28 cars and 150 passengers. The Skagit County Board of Commissioners made the decision Feb. 26 in open session, based on the overall capital cost of construction, as well as projected ridership and growth.

The decision allows Public Works to move forward on the next phase of design for the 28-car vessel, and allows Skagit County to meet its Comprehensive Plan goal of maintaining county ferry services.

Construction of a 28-car vessel and related infrastructure will cost roughly \$2.8 million less than a 32-car vessel and related infrastructure. Once built, the 28-car ferry will save \$60,000 annually in operating costs over the 32-car option.

Find a complete breakdown of capital costs and average annual operating costs: skagitcounty.net/ferrymemo.

Watch the Feb. 26 session with the Board: bit.ly/Guemes28Car.



Washington State clean energy bill signed

by Edith Walden

On May 7, Governor Jay Inslee signed a comprehensive clean energy bill that was passed by the Washington Legislature this session (Senate Bill 5166). The new law requires that by December 31, 2025, the use of coal as a source of electricity in the state be completely phased out. This includes “coal-by-wire” from out of state.

By January 1, 2045, all Washington electric utilities

must provide 100 percent of their retail electricity through renewable resources and ones that do not produce carbon emissions.

Inslee also signed House Bill 1522, which accelerates the electrification of transportation in the state. The legislature approved \$140.5 million in the next biennium for the building of one new electric-hybrid state ferry and the conversion of two existing state ferries to electric-hybrid propulsion.

Consultant hired for operations & maintenance analysis of ferry

The County has hired BERK Consulting, Inc. to undertake an operations and service analysis of the Guemes Island Ferry that considers current and future ferry operations and service.

The study will address staffing, scheduling, ticketing, loading/unloading, and other items for the ferry system. The scope includes developing and evaluating ferry system performance criteria and service-delivery options and alternatives.

BERK, in conjunction with subcontractor KPFF (the consultant working with Whatcom County on plans for replacement of the Lummi Island Ferry), will work primarily with County ferry staff, and seek feedback from the Guemes Island Ferry Committee and island residents for advisory purposes.

The first chance for residents to meet BERK and KPFF will be at a meeting on June 13 (see sidebar for details). The County will also solicit input using the publicinput.com survey platform that residents used in 2017 to share their feedback.

BERK MEET & GREET

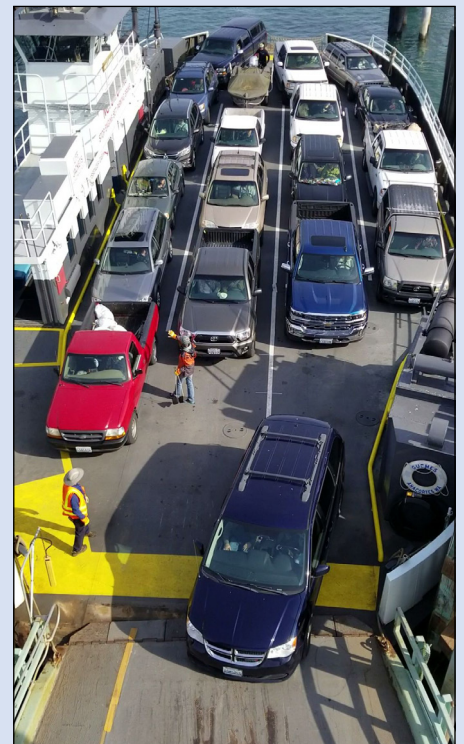
▶ You're invited to a Public Works meeting with BERK & the Guemes Island Ferry Committee at 4 p.m. Thursday, June 13, at the Anacortes Library.

▶ Chat with BERK and KPFF to share feedback about the ferry. This will be your first in-person chance to provide feedback.

COMMISSIONERS HEADED TO GUEMES

▶ The Board of Commissioners head to Guemes Island for a summer community meeting at 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 17, at the Guemes Island Community Center.

▶ This will be your last in-person chance to chat with BERK and KPFF about the ferry.



SIGN UP FOR FERRY NEWS

- ▶ skagitcounty.net/email
- ▶ Enter your name, email address
- ▶ Click “Guemes Island Ferry Info”

\$1.5M in Capital Budget for Guemes

The Washington State Capital Construction Budget, approved by the Legislature on Saturday, April 27, includes \$32,600,000 in funding for clean energy capital projects.

The 2019–21 Capital Budget includes \$1.5 million in funding for the shoreside charging infrastruc-

ture of the new Guemes Ferry.

This is the fourth time in as many years that the Legislature has included a significant level of funding for clean energy projects, signaling a strong commitment by the state to establish its leadership in energy technology.