

Appendix C – Washington State Ferries

4. Existing Conditions (provided by Washington State Ferries)

EXISTING CONDITIONS

(The following information has been provided by Washington State Ferries)

Holding Lanes

The existing holding lane configuration of the facility can accommodate approximately 210 vehicles. The holding area consists of 16 lanes with 10 foot widths and varying lengths. This configuration prevents the Washington State Ferries (WSF) from loading more than one vessel at a time. WSF has proposed extending seven holding lanes under a near term dock improvement project to add approximately 90 more vehicles for a total of 300 vehicles.

Local Access

Vehicular access to the Eagle Harbor Maintenance Facility and Eagle Harbor Condominiums is provided along a two lane roadway just north of the toll booths. This roadway provides sufficient access between the developments, Olympic Drive and Winslow Way.

Marine Facilities

Currently, there are two slips for the Seattle/Bainbridge Island route. The existing slip configuration is sufficient for the two vessel operation, however, mechanical failures and slip maintenance results in schedule delays. The headway between vessel operations varies from 40 to 55 minutes.

Transit and Terminal Facilities

The existing transit center north of the ferry terminal building serves 10 buses for approximately 300 to 350 passengers per vessel. The estimated capacity of the transit center is 600 to 700 passengers per sailing with 20 large bus equivalents, assuming the removal of the building in the center of the property. The transit facility is not fully accessible to handicapped individuals and is not within a 90 second walk to the vessels. The buses must cross exiting ferry traffic to enter the transit center which contributes to frequent 4-5 minute total delays in the transit schedules. Transit must also compete with pedestrians at numerous locations on the site.

The vessel passengers do not fully utilize the existing terminal building. The location of the current building is not within the circulation path of many of the passengers who enter the facility via transit, vehicle, or walking. Passengers tend to circulate near the pedestrian walkways in closer proximity to the vessels prior to loading. The building lacks sufficient capacity for the passenger loads and does not meet the design requirements of the American Disabilities Act (ADA). Most importantly, the terminal building does not contribute to mode separation and efficiency of operations.

Site Circulation

The existing site circulation network is insufficient for bicyclists, pedestrians, transit, and vehicles. There are no exclusive bicycle lanes, defined pedestrian routes, or dedicated transit lanes around the facility. This leads to frequent conflicts between the different modes of transportation and major delays for vehicular and transit traffic.

The intersection of Winslow Way and Olympic Drive/SR-305 serves traffic entering and exiting the ferry terminal, Eagle Harbor Maintenance Yard, and the Eagle Harbor Condominiums. This signalized intersection provides control for pedestrians, bicyclists, and a variety of vehicle types.