

# **Washington State Ferries 2040 Long Range Plan**

## **Technical and Policy Advisory Group**

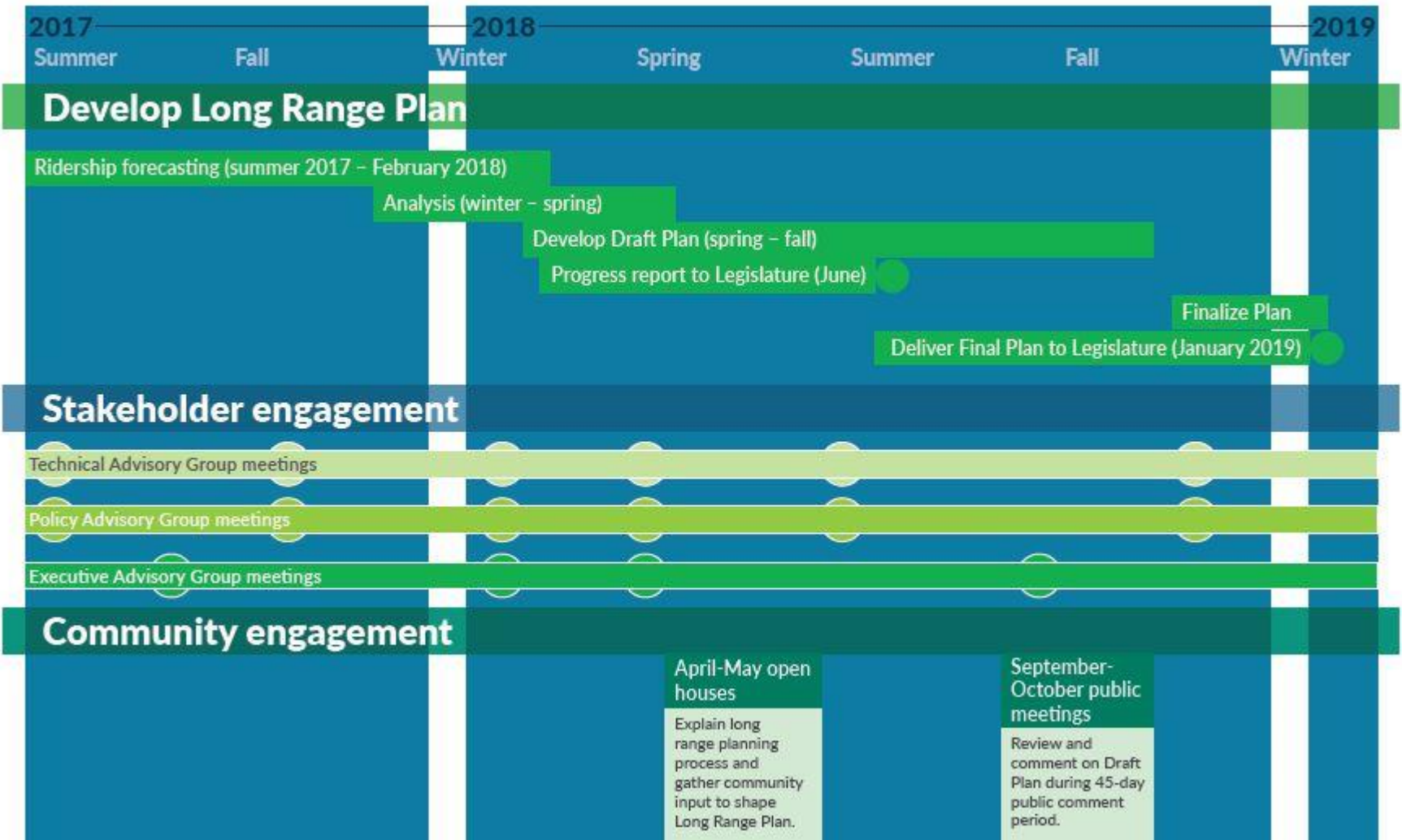
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# Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Status update
- Community engagement recap
- Lunch break
- What will we add to the Plan?
- How will we modify the Plan?
  - Reliable service
  - Customer experience
  - Manage growth
  - Sustainability and resilience
  - Implementation and investment
- Next steps

# Timeline



# Draft Plan

## Reliable service

- Replace aging vessels and invest in new vessels to maintain reliable service.
- Preserve and improve terminals to enhance safety and operations.
- Invest in attracting, retaining and strengthening the workforce.

## Customer experience

- Provide better trip planning information.
- Reduce customer wait times.
- Enhance multimodal connections and accessibility.

## Manage growth

- Increase walk-on ridership.
- Spread out demand and maximize WSP's existing assets.

## Sustainability and resilience

- Green the fleet and reduce our environmental footprint.
- Plan for emergencies and climate change to sustain reliable service through 2040.

# Implementation and Investment Planning

- Near term (0-2 years)—stabilizing the system.
- Medium term (3-7 years)—building the infrastructure.
- Long term (8-20 years)—responding to growth.



# Getting the word out



**70** posters displayed at terminals and aboard ferries



**1,932** unique project website views

**69**  
tweets



**167,163**  
total impressions

**14**  
emails



sent to  
listserv  
subscribers

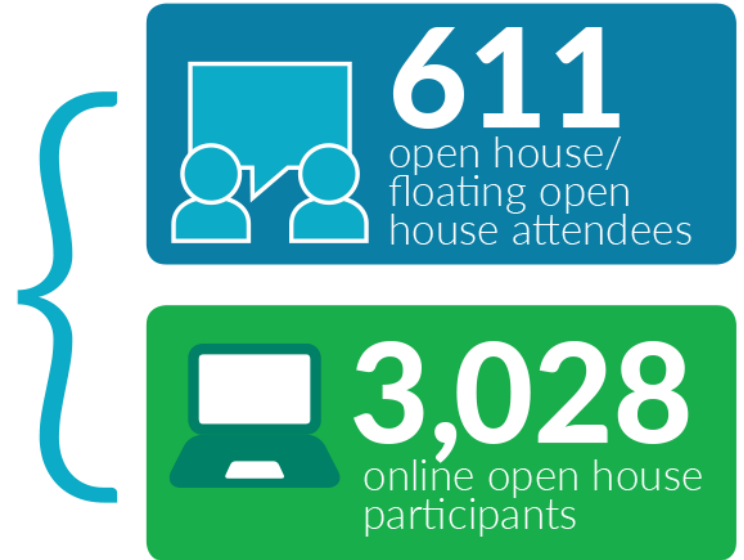


**1** press release sent to statewide media



**30** news articles

# Fall community engagement



# What we heard

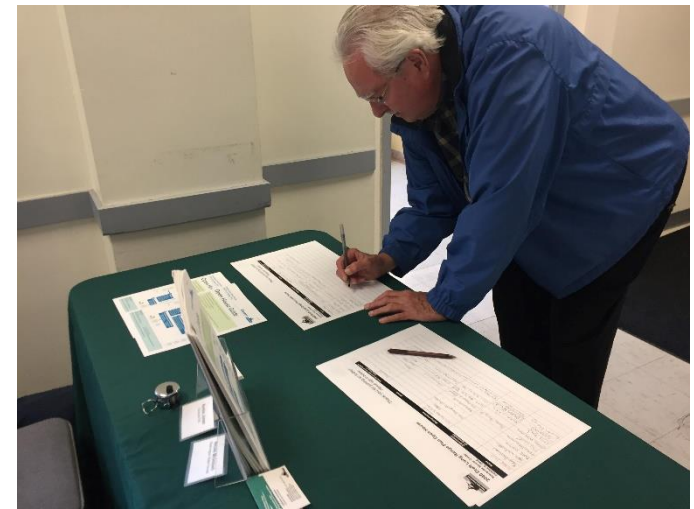
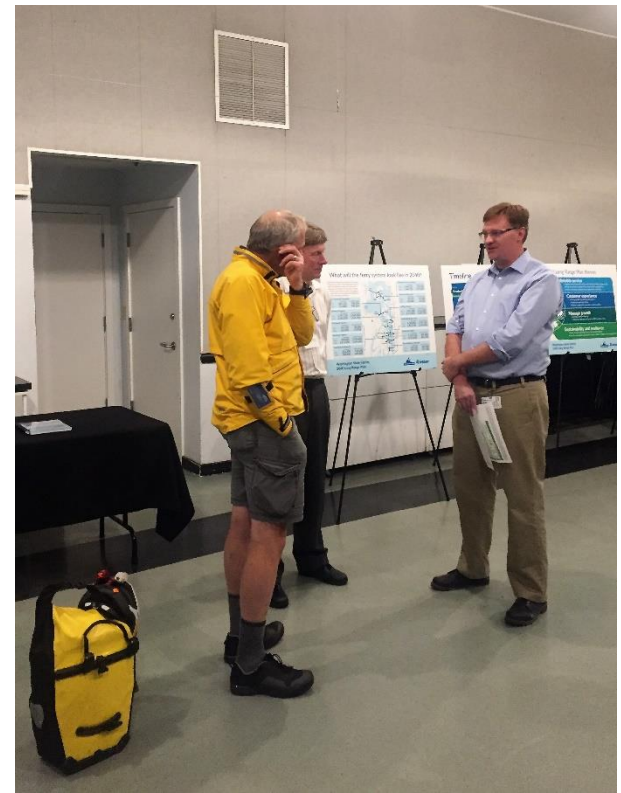
- Support prioritizing reliable service through **building new vessels**.
  - Replace aging vessels soon.
  - Add service relief vessels.
  - Prioritize vessel maintenance.
- Enhance **technology** to improve operational efficiencies and accessibility.
  - Upgrade ticketing, fare collection, and reservation systems to improve loading processes.
  - Improve customer information and travel alerts.
  - Improve terminal and ferry amenities like wi-fi and seating.





# What we heard

- Many participants supported **multimodal transportation** through transit connections and improved amenities.
  - Build partnerships to improve transit connections.
  - Improve terminal and onboard amenities for walk-on passengers and bicyclists.
- Most participants commented on providing system **capacity enhancements** to meet growing ridership demands.
  - Implement capacity improvements beyond what is proposed in the Plan.
  - Support terminal improvements like overhead loading and improved queuing.



# What we heard

- Define new **metrics** and implementing **strategies** to manage growth.
  - Expand vehicle reservations.
  - Adjust pricing and prioritize local residents.
  - Support adding “vehicle wait time” as a performance metric.
- Focus on designing **resilient** and **environmentally friendly** vessels and terminal areas.
  - Prepare for emergencies.
  - Support for hybrid-electric vessels and noise reduction.
  - Make terminals and surrounding spaces more environmentally friendly.



# Who we heard from

## The following agencies and organizations provided feedback:

- Ferry Advisory Committees (FAC)
  - Bainbridge Island FAC
  - Clinton FAC
  - FAC Executive Council
  - Kingston FAC
  - Mukilteo FAC
  - San Juan County FAC
- City of Port Townsend
- City of Tacoma
- Community Transit
- Greater Kingston Chamber of Commerce
- Island County Board of Commissioners
- Jefferson County/Port Townsend FAC
- Jefferson County Commission
- King County Water Taxi
- Kingston Citizens Advisory Council
- Kitsap Economic Development Alliance
- Kitsap County Department of Public Works
- Kitsap Transit
- Management of Mobility Division, WSDOT
- Pierce Transit
- San Juan County Council
- San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau
- Save Our Marsh
- Seattle Department of Transportation
- Sound Transit



# Questions?

# Modifications to the final Plan

- Add strategies based on feedback from advisory groups and organizations:
  - Revise performance metrics.
  - Pursue partnerships with mobility on-demand services.
  - Re-examine scheduling as a tool for enhancing on-time performance.
  - Re-examine opportunities to enhance shipyard availability to support rapid building of vessels.



# Modifications to the final Plan

- Add focus areas based on public input and community engagement:
  - Explore parking opportunities at and near terminals.
  - Coordination with transit agencies that provide passenger-only service.
  - Additional considerations beyond the constraints of this Plan.
  - Consider the impact to service in the absence of long-range investment.

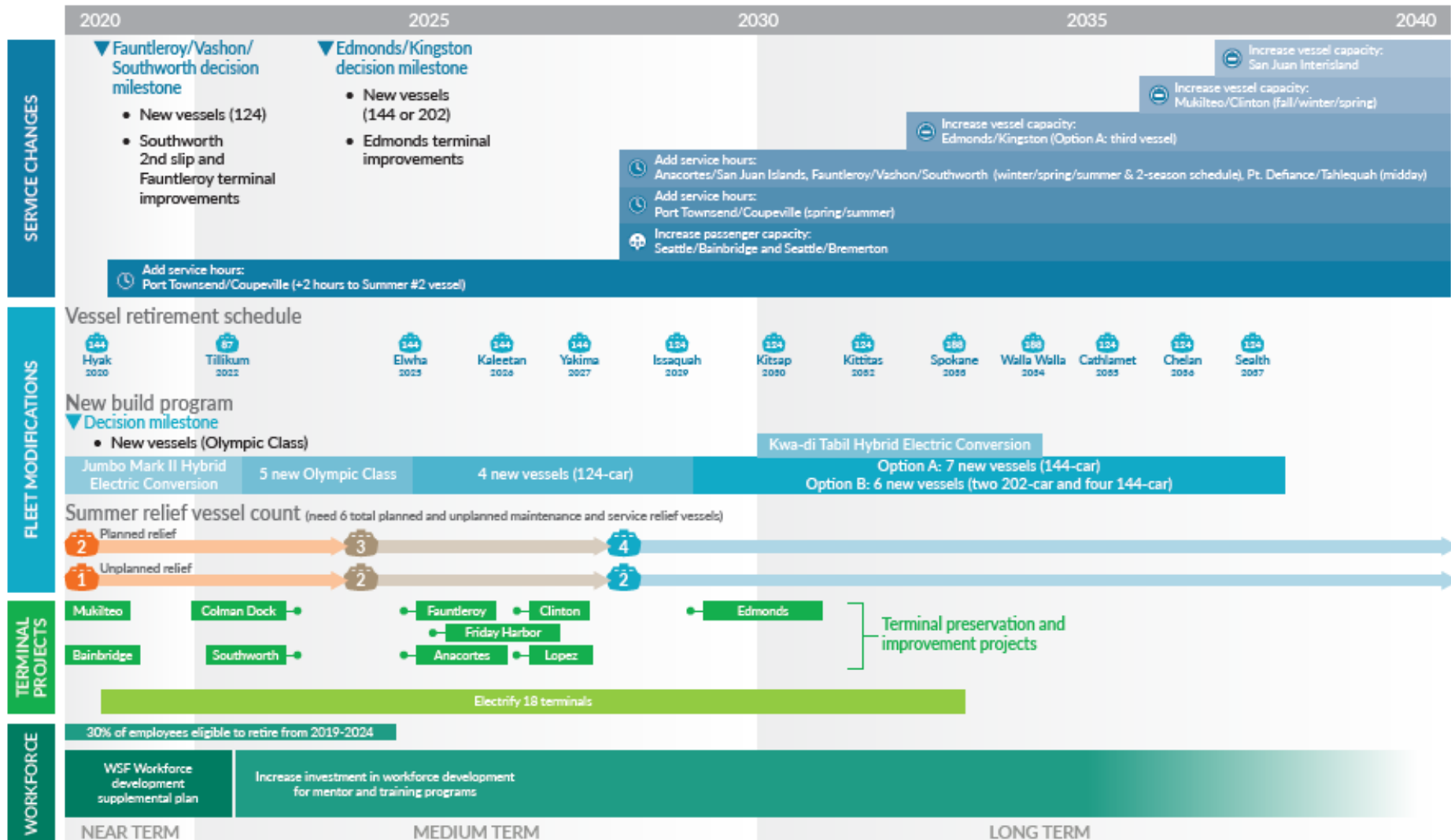


# Modifications to the final Plan

- Clarify information presented in the Draft Plan:
  - Better illustrate the fleet composition and new vessels called for during the planning horizon.
  - Strengthen the discussion of accessibility, particularly with respect to multimodal connections and ADA needs.
  - Expand on strategies to manage growth, including service hour adjustments, freight traffic needs, parking, mode shift, and two-season schedule.
  - Expand on electrification and emergency response planning.
  - Identify and prioritize future studies and specify key decision milestones.



# Implementation timeline





# Next steps

**Thank you!**