

I was ill and unable to attend the commission meeting in Bremerton on Thursday, August 5, 2004. However, I should now like to add my comments on the new Bremerton fast ferry service:

As a commuter:

First rate customer service.

On time departures and arrivals.

Clean boat, friendly crew and galley service.

I am getting home 35 to 40 minutes earlier than I can by taking the state ferry. This is a great thing, as like other commuters, I have a very long day. That 40 minutes is well worth the extra cost.. I shall be taking this boat every evening. As soon as I get my expenses down a bit, I shall take it in the morning too. You can't imagine what a relief it is to finally have this service. The customer service is first rate, something sorely lacking on the state ferries. I especially appreciate the prompt departure and arrival times. Another good thing is the passengers are allowed to board in Seattle, as soon as the boat is vacated from its previous trip. As I have a bad leg and back and standing is difficult, this is another wonderful accommodation the state ferry lacks.

As a homeowner:

I believe that good ferry service is a key component in making Bremerton a desirable place to live. I should like to see my house appreciate, not depreciate and the new ferry will be a major factor in determining which way it will go.

As a citizen of Bremerton:

I moved here eight years ago and quickly learned to love it. I want to see Bremerton develop and be all that it can be. In order to encourage people to come here, for conventions in our new center, to visit, or to live; the City must have a form of quick reliable transportation. The state ferries show very little interest in serving Bremerton. They are cutting service, not increasing it.

In short, we need this service, please grant Mr. Drockert a permanent license to operate.

Thank you,
Diane A. Smart