

# Island Transit

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June 7, 2005

Ms. Carole Washburn  
Executive Secretary  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S Evergreen Park Drive SW  
PO Box 47259  
Olympia WA 98504-7250

RE: DOCKET NO. TS-050443  
FEET WET PARTNERS, "SARATOGA SHUTTLE," Lauver / Solin

Dear Ms. Washburn:

It is with great pleasure that I write to you regarding Island Transit's whole-hearted support for Mike Lauver and John Solin's (aka: "Feet Wet Partners) application to the UTC for their proposed "Saratoga Shuttle" passenger-only ferry service between Whidbey Island (Oak Harbor and Coupeville), Camano Island and Mukilteo!

"Feet Wet's" goal, through this venture, is to design a service that meets the needs of commuters, inter-island travelers and tourists. It would not only be an integral component of the new Oak Harbor Pier and waterfront re-development plan, it would also positively effect the economy of Coupeville, and offer direct access to Island County residents between Camano Island and Coupeville on Whidbey Island (the county seat), which is now a 1.5 hour drive, each way, to access by car. This critical service is LONG over due, and in great demand.

Island Transit currently enjoys a very positive and productive relationship with Mr. Lauver and Mr. Solin in their Whidbey SeaTac Shuttle venture. Their shuttles are welcome at our Harbor Station transfer station in Oak Harbor, where they pick up riders on a daily basis. We are always working together to find new access and time points along our routes to accommodate this much-needed service, striving to strengthen our public-private transportation partnership and offer residents access to all multi-modal transportation locations and options.

If this application is granted, Island Transit will enthusiastically work out schedules and time points with Feet Wet Partners to ensure our buses meet their ferries - to offer the most safe, effective and efficient service possible!

Thank you so much! Should you have any questions or desire additional information, don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Martha M. Rose

Martha M. Rose  
Executive Director  
ISLAND TRANSIT

MMR/sas