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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 20, 2017

Lummi Island Ferry to Return to Service

The Lummi Island Ferry, the Whatcom Chief, is scheduled to return to service on Sunday, September 24, 2017 at approximately 7:00 p.m. **This scheduled return to service date is contingent upon successful completion of the remaining shipyard repairs and sea trials.**

On Sunday, September 24, 2017 the contracted passenger-only ferry will run from 7:00 a.m. until it makes its last run at 10:10 a.m. The last run from Lummi Island will be 10:00 a.m. The last run from Gooseberry Point will be 10:10 a.m. **All ferry service will then stop** while the dock modifications and floats required for the contracted passenger-only ferry are dismantled and removed. **We anticipate the first run with the Whatcom Chief to be the 7:00 p.m. run on Sunday, September 24, 2017.** The closure time was selected due to the optimal tidal conditions needed to remove the floats, and the expected return of the Whatcom Chief from the shipyard. Extra time is scheduled for the switchover due to the complex float and gangway configuration needed at Gooseberry Point this year. **The ferry docks will be unavailable for use during the switchover.**

The passenger shuttle van service will make all of its scheduled runs through Monday, September 25, 2017. **There will be no shuttle van service on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 and thereafter.**

All cars need to be removed from the supplemental dry dock parking areas on Gooseberry Point and Lummi Island by the end of the day on Tuesday, September 26, 2017. Any vehicles left in the supplemental dry dock parking areas after Tuesday, September 26, 2017 will be towed at the owner's expense. **No exceptions.**

Supplemental parking area at Gooseberry Point: If your vehicle is parked in the parking area adjacent to the ferry queuing lanes (entrance and exit lanes to the ferry), your vehicle may be non-accessible during the switchover. If you believe you will need your vehicle during the switchover, you may wish to relocate the vehicle outside of the work zone.

The Public Works Department would like to thank everyone for their cooperation and patience during the annual dry dock.

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