



About WETA

Ferries have a long history in the Bay Area of helping to increase regional mobility and providing vital transportation support in the event of a natural or manmade disaster. Effective, January 1, 2008, state law SB 976 dissolved the San Francisco Bay Area Water Transit Authority (WTA), and replaced it with the San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA).

This new regional agency is responsible for consolidating City of Alameda and City of Vallejo ferry services under WETA and operating public ferry services in the Bay Area; planning new service routes; and coordinating the ferry transportation response to emergencies or disasters affecting the Bay Area transportation system.

As WETA assumes the operation of the City of Alameda and City of Vallejo ferry services, it will provide dedicated, focused management of the system, initiate a long-term capital improvement program, and access additional revenue sources such as Regional Measure 2 funds and Proposition 1B funds to support these systems.

In addition, WETA will work to incrementally expand its network of regional ferry services and work in partnership with the cities of Alameda and Vallejo to: ensure continued transit access and connectivity for our patrons; coordinate ferry transit services with local development and emergency response plans; and enhance public awareness of ferry services.



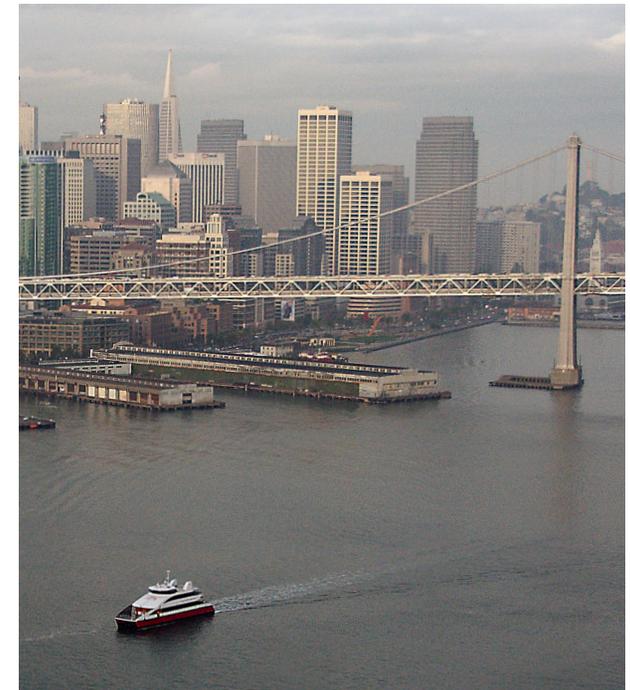
WETA is required to create and adopt the Transition Plan and the Emergency Water Transportation System Management Plan by July 1, 2009 and to take public input prior to adopting the plans.

WETA invites the public to any of three Public Hearings/Special Board Meetings to provide oral input on the Draft Transition Plan and the Draft Emergency Water Transportation System Management Plan. More information may be found at www.watertransit.org

Public Comment Period: April 2-May 18, 2009

The hearings will be accessible to persons with disabilities. If special translation, signing services or other special accommodations are needed, please contact Shirley Douglas at (415) 364-3191 at least 48 hours before the meeting.

Questions may be directed to:
Shirley Douglas, WETA Manager of Community and Government Relations
415-364-3191 (office); 415-321-0874 (cell)
E-Mail: douglas@watertransit.org www.watertransit.org



WETA invites the public to any of three Public Hearings/Special Board Meetings to provide oral input on the Draft Transition Plan and Draft Emergency Water Transportation System Management Plan.

Drafts of both plans can be downloaded beginning April 2 at www.watertransit.org

Transition Plan

The Transition Plan will guide the consolidation of the Vallejo, Alameda/Oakland and Harbor Bay ferries under WETA. The Golden Gate Ferry service will continue to be operated by the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District.

The Plan also includes the following financially constrained elements:

- A five-year Operating Plan describing existing services and planned service expansions including South San Francisco and Berkeley ferry service; and
- A five-year Capital Improvement Program identifying all assets required to maintain, sustain and expand the system as planned.

It is anticipated that during the 5-year Transition Plan period WETA will begin designing new terminals for future use, locating and building maintenance and operations facilities, purchasing a new fleet of modern vessels and continuing to plan activities associated with further expanding regional ferry services beyond the five year period.

WETA:

Committed to building a comprehensive and sustainable ferry transportation network in the San Francisco Bay that serves everyday travel and emergency response needs.

How will these changes affect me?

WETA is committed to ensuring continuity in the programs, services and activities of existing ferry services. You will likely not notice changes to your daily ferry ride as current Vallejo, Alameda/Oakland and Harbor Bay Ferry Services seamlessly transition to WETA by January 2010.



Emergency Water Transportation System Management Plan

WETA is mandated to develop an Emergency Water Transportation System Management Plan (EWTSMP), for the San Francisco Bay Area.

The EWTSMP will complement and reinforce other transportation emergency plans that will enable the Bay Area to restore mobility after a regional disaster. The Plan will set a framework for coordination of response and recovery efforts using passenger ferries. The Plan will provide a detailed definition of WETA's roles and responsibilities for incident planning, response and recovery, and restoration of normal operations.

Comments on the Draft plans will be accepted in writing at the public hearings and by mail and via e-mail during the public comment period from April 2 through the close of business on May 18, 2009. Written comments should be sent to Plan Comments, WETA, Pier 9, Suite 111, The Embarcadero, San Francisco, CA 94111. The public is also invited to provide comments via e-mail to contactus@watertransit.org.

Public Hearings/ Special WETA Board Meetings

SAN FRANCISCO: Wednesday, April 15 Noon
BCDC Offices
50 California Street, Suite 2600
San Francisco

VALLEJO: Wednesday, April 15 6:30pm
Vallejo City Hall
555 Santa Clara Street

ALAMEDA: Thursday, April 16 7:30pm
Alameda City Hall
2263 Santa Clara Avenue