



# fullspeedahead

## At a Glance

### Ferry Ridership Soars

If you've noticed fewer empty seats and longer lines, you're not imagining things. Since 2012 ridership has increased an amazing 94 percent. San Francisco Bay Ferry now carries more than 2.7 million riders annually. **See story inside.**

### Take Me Out to the Ballgame! AT&T Park Service Resumes

Our popular service to AT&T Park for select SF Giants games resumes on March 26 for the Battle of the Bay game between the SF Giants and the Oakland A's. Fans are encouraged to purchase ferry tickets online in advance as this service frequently sells out. Please note: Return service departs AT&T Park for Vallejo 20 minutes after the last out. Departures to Alameda/Oakland depart AT&T Park 30 minutes after the last out. **For details visit [sanfranciscobayferry.com](http://sanfranciscobayferry.com).**

### Nicholas Josefowitz Joins WETA Board

Nicholas Josefowitz has been appointed to serve as the fifth member of the Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) Board of Directors. Mr. Josefowitz has been a member of the BART Board of Directors since December 2014 and represents San Francisco on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission as the Mayor's appointee. His knowledge of Bay Area transportation systems will serve WETA well as we work to secure new funding and implement our 20-Year Strategic Plan for expanded regional ferry service.

### Regional Measure 3 Goes to Voters

On June 5, voters in the nine Bay Area counties will consider Regional Measure 3 (RM3), a measure that would raise tolls on the seven state-owned bridges to finance a comprehensive package of 35 projects and programs to relieve traffic in bridge corridors. **See story inside.**

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## Ferry Ridership Soars

Ridership on WETA’s San Francisco Bay Ferry has increased by 94 percent since 2012 to more than 2.7 million riders annually. The demand for ferry service has grown across all four service routes:

Route	CY2012	CY2017	% Change
Harbor Bay/SF	192,717	329,623	71%
South San Francisco/ East Bay*	22,701	139,837	516%
Vallejo/SF	610,214	1,017,953	66.8%
Alameda/Oakland/SF	574,934	1,240,241	115.7%
<b>System Total</b>	<b>1,400,566</b>	<b>2,727,654</b>	<b>94.8%</b>

\*Began June 2012

Current peak-period occupancies on WETA services average above 95 percent on most trips, with Vallejo and Harbor Bay services reaching capacity during peak times.

See “Building Tomorrow’s Ferry Systems Today” for details about how WETA is preparing for the regional ferry system of the future.

## Regional Measure 3 Goes to Voters

On June 5, voters in the nine Bay Area counties will consider Regional Measure 3 (RM3), a measure that would raise tolls on the seven state-owned bridges to finance \$4.45 billion in highway and transit improvements. If approved by voters, tolls would increase by \$1 in 2019, \$1 in 2022 and \$1 in 2025.

RM3 would provide WETA with \$300 million for capital projects and up to \$35 million in annual operating expenses. WETA would use RM3 to build new vessels and terminals, enhance service on existing routes, and launch service to planned new locations such as Berkeley, San Francisco’s Mission Bay, Redwood City, and the City of Alameda’s Seaplane Lagoon.

RM3 funding would be a major advance toward realization of WETA’s 20-Year Strategic Plan, which provides a vision for an expanded and comprehensive regional ferry system.



**RM3 ferry projects**

For more information about RM3, visit [mtc.ca.gov](http://mtc.ca.gov).



## State of the Fleet

We are happy to report that the third of four new 400-passenger, 27-knot vessels, the M.V. Argo, is expected to enter service this May. The Argo will join the Hydrus and Cetus, which entered service in May and August 2017 respectively. The M.V. Carina, the fourth and final “Hydrus class” vessel, is expected to enter service this December.

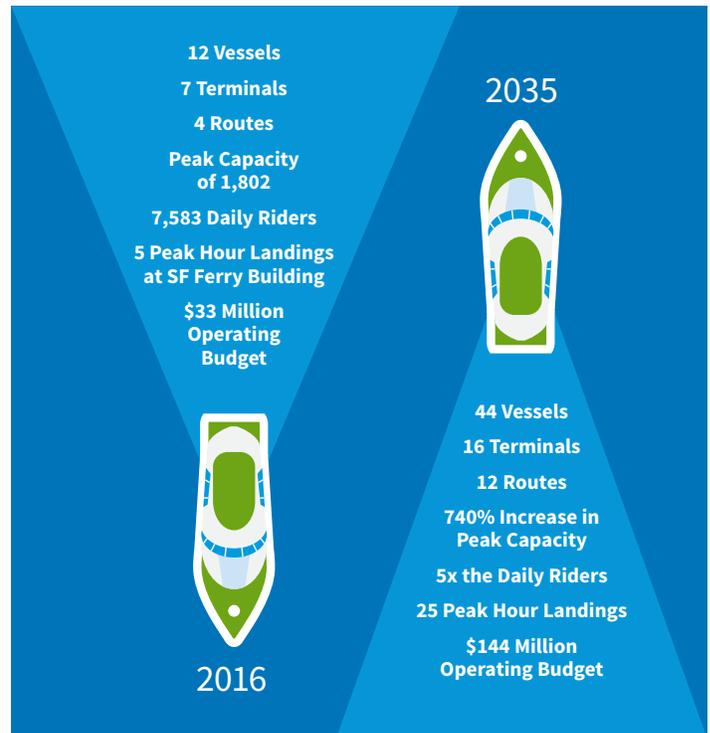
In addition to four Hydrus class vessels, WETA is constructing three new 445-passenger, 34-knot water jet vessels for the Vallejo/North Bay services. The first boat, the M.V. Pyxis, which will replace the retiring M.V. Vallejo, is expected this November. The remaining two vessels are due in July and December 2019 respectively.

Finally, WETA has begun the process to design and build a new 250-passenger high-speed, shallow draft vessel that will establish a new class of WETA vessels with the versatility to support WETA’s diverse system of services.

## Building Tomorrow’s Ferry System Today

The Bay Area transportation landscape is witnessing unprecedented change due to economic growth, aging infrastructure, and outdated equipment. Ferries are an important part of both the near- and long-term solutions, which is why WETA is planning for a system that seamlessly connects cities in the San Francisco Bay Area.

WETA’s 20-Year Strategic Plan provides a vision for a comprehensive regional ferry system that includes a fleet of 44 vessels, 16 terminals, and 12 service routes at full buildout. During peak periods, departures would be every 15 minutes in the highest demand locations, and with 30-minute frequencies at all other terminals. WETA will continue to work with stakeholders to secure the funding needed to realize this vision.



### The future of ferry service

WETA has already been modernizing and expanding its fleet, investing in infrastructure improvements, and planning for new service:

- Two of four new 400-passenger, 27-knot vessels have already entered service, with the third entering service in May and the fourth in December.
- Three new 445-passenger, 34-knot vessels for the Vallejo/North Bay services are expected in late 2018 and 2019.
- The North Bay Operations and Maintenance Facility in Vallejo opened in 2016, and the Ron Cowan Central Bay Operations and Maintenance Facility in Alameda is scheduled to open in Summer 2018.
- A major expansion of ferry landing facilities at the San Francisco Ferry Building is currently under construction with two gates scheduled to open in November.
- A Richmond ferry terminal is under construction and new service from Richmond to San Francisco is scheduled to start in Fall 2018.

To see the complete 20-year Strategic Plan visit [sanfranciscobayferry.com](http://sanfranciscobayferry.com).

## Alameda County Sales Tax Measure B and BB

Since 2000, the Alameda County voter-approved Measure BB (and its predecessor Measure B) has provided essential funding for WETA ferry services that serve Alameda County residents including the Alameda/Oakland, Harbor Bay and South San Francisco routes. In past years, WETA has used Measure B and Measure BB funds for capital projects. For FY 2017/18, a total of \$947,000 in Measure B and Measure BB funds is anticipated to be used to support the \$5.12 million M.V. Peralta mid-life refurbishment project. Next year, Measure BB funds will be used for the quarter-life refurbishment of the M.V. Scorpio. The M.V. Peralta refurbishment project is a good example of a critical fleet rehabilitation project partially funded by Measure B.

Aluminum ferry vessels have a life expectancy of approximately 25 years with a major refit at the vessel's quarter-life and mid-life. The M.V. Peralta, which was built in 2001, had its mid-life work divided

into two phases in order to minimize the time that the vessel is out of service during the busy summer season. The first phase focused on major machinery overhauls and was completed in 2015. Phase 2, currently underway, includes: renovation of the passenger cabins, bathrooms and galley; exterior paint and coatings; electronics system upgrades; and replacement of both the steering system and a section of the hull. Engineering and design are underway for the interior passenger spaces, wheelhouse dash and main deck bar. Project work is scheduled to be complete by June 2018.

WETA is grateful to Alameda County voters for their continued support for essential transportation improvements throughout Alameda County and for their commitment to robust, reliable and cost-effective ferry service. To learn more about Measures B and BB and the Alameda County Transportation Commission, visit [alamedactc.org](http://alamedactc.org)



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“Full Speed Ahead” is the newsletter of the Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA). WETA’s service, the San Francisco Bay Ferry, operates public transit ferry service connecting the cities of San Francisco, Vallejo, South San Francisco, Alameda, and Oakland. Please send comments or suggestions to [customerservice@sanfranciscobayferry.com](mailto:customerservice@sanfranciscobayferry.com)