



SUMMER 2019 *FULL SPEED AHEAD*

PYXIS AND SCHEDULE CHANGE RELIEVE VALLEJO COMMUTE LOADS

Vallejo ferry commuters are all too familiar with the perils of popularity.

Ferry ridership has boomed in recent years, putting a strain on our fleet and passengers during peak commute times. At certain departure times in the morning and evening commutes, there has regularly been a chance that passengers would get left behind. This growing demand led WETA to develop a program to expand our fleet, including a push to build bigger boats to meet the growing demand for services. This push resulted in initiation of a project to construct three 445-passenger ferries — the biggest boats in our fleet to date — several years ago.

The first of these 445-passenger ferries, Pyxis, was placed into Vallejo service on March 1. Two more identical ferries, Vela and Lyra, are due within the next nine months.

Pyxis immediately relieved the Vallejo commute crunch on the runs to which it was assigned — usually the 7:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. departures. This was followed by a schedule tweak in late April that moved the 5:15 p.m. San Francisco departure to 5 p.m., helping to balance the evening demand. As a result, there hasn't been an evening leave-behind due to capacity issues on the Vallejo route since the end of April.

The arrival of Vela later this summer will further address crowding issues, especially around the 7 a.m. Vallejo departure. We anticipate that ridership will continue to climb over time and have plans to further invest in expanding capacity and service frequency while remaining the most comfortable, relaxing commute in the Bay Area.

WEEKEND FERRY SERVICE IS COMING TO RICHMOND

Richmond residents have been asking for weekend ferry service from the new terminal at Ford Point since before the first vessel landed. We have good news: summer weekend ferry service between Richmond and San Francisco will launch on August 3!



The WETA Board of Directors has authorized a trial run of summer Richmond weekend service through November 3. Staff will use information from the pilot program this summer to assess the ridership and consider opportunities for continuing the summer service in future years.

We will offer five departures in each direction on Saturdays

and Sunday in the months of August, September, October and the first weekend of November.

To San Francisco

Depart Richmond	Arrive San Francisco
9:30 AM	10:05 AM
11:00	11:35
12:30 PM	1:05 PM
4:50	5:25
6:45	7:20

To Richmond

Depart San Francisco	Arrive Richmond
10:15 AM	10:50 AM
11:45	12:20 PM
4:00 PM	4:35
6:00	6:35
8:20	8:55





All service will operate between the Richmond and downtown San Francisco Ferry Building terminals.

There is free parking at the Richmond Ferry Terminal and great bicycle and pedestrian access via the Bay Trail. More information on the service can be found at sfbf.mobi/richmond.

PERALTA IS AS GOOD AS NEW AFTER REFURBISHMENT

Ferries don't have mid-life crises: they have mid-life refurbishments. Peralta, a 331-passenger ferry built in 2002, went through its mid-life refurbishment last year and has been a workhorse vessel on our Harbor Bay and Alameda/Oakland routes since.

What exactly does a mid-life refurbishment entail for a ferry? Here's what the team at Marine Group Boat Works in San Diego did for the Peralta under close supervision by WETA:

-  Renovation of the passenger cabins, bathrooms and galley
-  Updates and upgrades to navigation electronics, control systems and steering system
-  Replacement of stern hull sections
-  A fresh coat of paint and coatings

This is all in addition to normal engine replacement and scheduled maintenance and repairs.

In 2000, Alameda County voters approved Measure B, the half-cent transportation sales tax. In 2014, Measure BB was passed by voters authorizing the collection of an additional half-cent transportation sales tax. Measure B/BB funds have provided essential funding for WETA ferry services that serve Alameda County



residents including the Alameda/Oakland, Harbor Bay and South San Francisco routes.

This year, \$400,000 of Measure B funding went toward the Peralta refurbishment project and \$13,500 of Measure BB funding went toward the Scorpio quarter-life refurbishment project. This funding is integral to the growing San Francisco Bay Ferry system. More information on Measures B and BB is available at www.alamedactc.org.

CHASE CENTER SERVICE PLANNED FROM ALAMEDA, OAKLAND

WETA is working with the Port of San Francisco to establish a temporary terminal in Mission Bay to support new special event ferry service to Golden State Warriors games at Chase Center beginning in October 2019.

If all goes well, Alameda and Oakland fans will be able to ride San Francisco Bay Ferry across to the Warriors' new home at Chase Center in the Mission Bay neighborhood of San Francisco. Tickets are not yet on sale, but additional

information and a link to sign up for email updates are available at sfbf.mobi/chase-center-ferry-warriors.

WETA is working with the Port of S.F. on a permanent new ferry landing in the Mission Bay

neighborhood as well that would support new regularly scheduled and special event services. That project is in the final permitting phases and will take approximately two years to construct.