

WATER EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WETA WELCOMES 100,000TH RICHMOND FERRY PASSENGER *Customer Demand for SF Bay Ferry's East Bay Service Exceeds Expectations*

Richmond, CA, July 25, 2019 – The San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) today welcomed its 100,000th passenger aboard the Richmond ferry. The service, which launched in January, has garnered tremendous public support and ridership has exceeded projections.

“Richmond ferry service has been a resounding success, and that’s a testament to the partnership WETA has built with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority and the City of Richmond,” said Nina Rannells, WETA’s executive director. “Together, we identified Richmond as the right community for Contra Costa’s first public ferry terminal and developed a sustainable funding stream to make it happen. It looks like we all got it right.”

WETA’s newest ferry service runs between Ford Point in Richmond and the San Francisco Ferry Building, providing riders with an alternative commute option to the traffic-plagued I-80 corridor. The service is funded through a combination of passenger fares and Contra Costa County’s Measure J transportation sales tax.

A recent survey conducted by WETA found that the majority of passengers using the service live in Richmond. Although today marks a celebratory milestone for ridership, seats and parking are still available for commuters who are interested in taking the ferry.

The success of the Richmond ferry has prompted WETA to launch weekend service on a trial basis. From August 3 through November 3, WETA will offer five round-trips on weekends between Richmond and San Francisco. For more information, visit the San Francisco Bay Ferry website at www.sanfranciscobayferry.com.

ABOUT WETA

WETA was established by the state legislature to operate an integrated regional ferry service, expand ferry service on the Bay, and coordinate the water transit response to a regional emergency. Under the San Francisco Bay Ferry brand, WETA operates daily passenger ferry service to the cities of Alameda, Oakland, San Francisco, Richmond, Vallejo, and South San Francisco.

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