

KING COUNTY FERRY DISTRICT

MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release



Mariner Moose ride on Water Taxi ends another season for the record book

Ridership continues to grow on the popular route

WHAT: The Mariner Moose will be honored as the 182,000th passenger to ride the Water Taxi across Elliott Bay this season. The Water Taxi is a popular transportation alternative for sports fans, shoppers, walkers and, of course, commuters.

Representatives of the news media are invited to a briefing about the King County Ferry District Elliott Bay Water Taxi's record breaking season. Ridership in 2008 increased approximately 13% from 2007. Over the past three seasons, ridership has increased approximately 70%.

WHEN: 11 a.m., Friday, October 31, 2008

11:10 a.m. Mariner Moose arrives via Water Taxi at Pier 55
11:15 a.m. Program begins
11:30 a.m. Program concludes/Elliott Bay Water Taxi departs to West Seattle

WHERE: Pier 55 - Seattle Waterfront
On the Spirit of Seattle boat, moored at the end of Pier 55

BRIEFING: Representatives from the King County Ferry District Board of Supervisors and transportation/business organizations will provide information about the Elliott Bay Water Taxi service and the King County Ferry District.

BACKGROUND: Ridership on the Elliott Bay Water Taxi has grown dramatically over the past 10 years, culminating in the highest ridership yet in 2008. The passenger ferry service has proven valuable for commuters, providing a transportation alternative to congested roadways, especially during construction or emergencies. The service is also popular for special events – Mariners games – and with tourists, providing economic development benefits to connecting communities.

2008 is the first year the Elliott Bay Water Taxi has been funded by the Ferry District, created to provide transportation options through passenger ferry service. Money that previously funded passenger ferry service is being used for expanded bus service.

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