# WASHINGTON STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**Policy & Procedure No: 14**
**Effective Date: February 17, 2010**

Carol Moser

**Carol Moser, Chair**

## WSF VESSEL NAMING POLICY & PROCESS

### GENERAL NAMING GUIDELINES

At a minimum, the following guidelines will be used to assess ferry name proposals:

- Names for ferries should carry statewide significance and represent our state's image and culture.
- Specifically, names should represent such things as: state adopted symbols, tribal names, names of bodies of water, geographic locations, cities, counties, relate to nautical heritage, etc.
- Consideration will be given to the consistency with existing WSF fleet names. *(NOTE: All but two current vessels have tribal names: the Rhododendron and the Evergreen State.)*
- Names should have broad familiarity, be easy to pronounce, are non-offensive and meet ethical standards.
- Names with commercial overtones or names honoring or commemorating individuals should be avoided, but will be considered upon very careful review. In these cases, the following guidelines will apply:
    - The individual must be deceased for at least 20 years.
    - They must have enduring fame and have played a significant historical role in the region and/or state.

### NAMING PROCESS

- WSTC will issue a public request for naming proposals well in advance of a planned ferry naming action. At a minimum, the WSTC announcement must:
    - Establish critical dates in the process, including the deadline date to submit proposals and the date when the Commission will take action.
    - State the requirements for submittals, i.e.: name proposals must conform to adopted WSTC guidelines and identify how they conform; provide background and the case for the name; establish widespread public support via letters from local/ regional/ state bodies and officials; require all proposals, along with supporting information, be submitted in both hard copy and electronic form to the WSTC offices.
- Once the deadline for naming proposals has passed, the Commission Ferry Team will review all proposals for compliance with established guidelines to determine eligibility.

- Sponsors of proposals that are found to not be eligible will be notified electronically and in writing.
- Eligible proposals will be shared with the full Commission for their information.
- Eligible proposals will be sent to the FAC Executive Council and WSF for review and input - they must respond within 30 days.
- Concurrent to the FAC and WSF review, information on eligible proposals will also be posted for 30 days on the WSTC web site for public information and input via the "transc" email address or mail.
- If possible, a survey of the eligible names could be taken via the F.R.O.G. panel.
- Upon completion of the above steps, eligible proposals will be advanced to the full Commission, along with all input received and a Ferry Team recommendation on the preferred name.
- Final action taken.

**General Disclaimer**

**The WSTC reserves the right to select a name at anytime, as well as extend, close, shorten and/or reopen the naming process at anytime.**