WHEREAS, the Suquamish are known as “people of the clear salt water” in Southern Coast Salish Lushootseed language, taken from the name of the beach in front of the Old Man House on Agate Passage in Kitsap County.

WHEREAS, the ancestral hearthland of the Suquamish People encompasses the north end of Hood Canal and Olympic Peninsula to Indian Island, the Kitsap Peninsula, and both sides of Admiralty Inlet, from Point Partridge on Whidbey Island south to the Tacoma Narrows; and

WHEREAS, geographically, the ancestral region of the Suquamish has remained a cultural and economic hub for thousands of years. On the shores of Agate Pass, the primary village, Old Man House, served as an epicenter for community for two millennia and was the home of Chief Kitsap and Chief Seattle; and

WHEREAS, the Suquamish had their first recorded contact with non-natives in 1792 with the arrival of British explorer Captain George Vancouver. Captain Vancouver traded with the Suquamish and surveyed Suquamish waters. In 1855, Suquamish leaders led by Chief Seattle, signed the Treaty of Point Elliott; and

WHEREAS, the Suquamish have a rich cultural and maritime history in the Salish Sea and virtually all the contemporary Washington State Ferry System routes traverse historically documented Suquamish canoe travel corridors; and

WHEREAS, many well-known Suquamish leaders throughout the Pacific Northwest were friends of early Euroamerican settlers. The name “Suquamish” recognizes these contributions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Washington State Transportation Commission respectfully names the fourth new Olympic Class 144-car ferry, the “Suquamish”.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington State Transportation Commission requests the Department of Transportation to implement this naming designation.

ADOPTED this 16th of March 2016.

WASHINGTON STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

ANNE HALEY, Chair

JOE TORTORELLI, Vice Chair

ROY JENNINGS, Member

HESTER SEREBRIN, Member

JERRY LEE, Member

DEBORAH YOUNG, Member

SHIV BATHRA, Member

ATTEST:

REEMA GRIFFITH, Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Attorney General