

## = Washington State Route 339 =

State Route 339 ( SR 339 ) was a 8 @. @ 5 @-@ nautical @-@ mile @-@ long ( 9 @. @ 8 mi ; 15 @. @ 7 km ) ferry route designated as a state highway in the U.S. state of Washington . It connected Vashon Island 's Vashon Heights ferry terminal to downtown Seattle 's Pier 50 , via a passenger @-@ only ferry , the MV Skagit . The ferry was financed by the King County Ferry District ( KCFD ) and tolls collected at Pier 50 . Despite being part of the KCFD , the ferry was operated by Washington State Ferries ( WSF ) . SR 339 was one of only four ferry routes providing access to and from Vashon Island , and had the lowest annual average ridership of the four routes . The state of Washington took over the operation of the ferry route in 1951 , and designated it SR 339 in 1994 . The ferry was discontinued in 2006 and was replaced by a King County Water Taxi route .

## = = Route description = =

The entire route of SR 339 was in Puget Sound and was served by the MV Skagit . The passenger @-@ only ferry started out from the Vashon Heights ferry terminal on Vashon Island and headed in a northerly direction , passing Blake Island State Park on the west . It briefly sailed into Kitsap County before the route turned east and passed the Alki Point Light and Alki Point before entering Elliott Bay , and docking at WSF 's Pier 50 , just south of Colman Dock , where the rest of the WSF operated ferries dock in Seattle .

Traveling at a top speed of 25 knots ( 29 mph ) , the MV Skagit made the crossing in about 35 minutes . There were three crossings each direction Monday ? Friday , and no service on Saturday or Sunday .

Vashon Island is only connected to the rest of the region via three different WSF ferries departing from the Vashon dock , the other route departing from the Tahlequah dock on the south end of the island . SR 339 was the only passenger @-@ only ferry that served the island ; the other three ferries are auto ferries .

## = = History = =

Ferries have provided transportation to and from Vashon Island since the days of the Seattle Mosquito Fleet , but the state government took over the operation of the Vashon Island ferry on June 1 , 1951 . The MV Skagit was built in 1989 , and the ferry began service on the Seattle ? Vashon Island route on April 23 , 1990 . The route was designated as a state highway , along with the rest of the state ferry system , in 1994 . In 2003 the average daily ridership was 827 passengers per day , based on a five @-@ day week , compared to 1 @, @ 015 passengers on average when the route operated on a six @-@ day schedule in 1999 . This number has decreased in 2004 , with an average of 529 passengers per day traveling on the ferry . The passenger @-@ only service between Vashon Island and Seattle ended in 2006 . WSF operated and maintained the MV Skagit , but by July 2009 the KCFD was to assume all responsibilities of the operation . The route no longer received state funding , and King County was to be responsible for all costs of the route to be funded by property taxes . The MV Skagit was sold in 2011 to a ferry operator in Tanzania , where it connected Zanzibar to the mainland until it sank on July 18 , 2012 .

The Seattle ? Vashon Island run was transferred to the King County Ferry District in 2007 , now operated as a King County Water Taxi route .

## = = Tolls = =

Tolls were collected on trips departing Pier 50 ; return trips to Seattle were not charged . The adult toll was \$ 8 @. @ 70 , with bicycles assessed an additional \$ 1 @. @ 00 toll . Wave2Go is a prepaid toll system which allowed commuters to purchase either 10 ride cards or monthly passes .

## = = Major intersections = =

The entire route was located in Puget Sound , King County .