

= Washington State Route 409 =

State Route 409 (SR 409) is a short Washington state highway in Wahkiakum County . The highway runs north from the Wahkiakum County Ferry on Puget Island to SR 4 in the county seat of Cathlamet over a distance of 3 @. @ 84 miles (6 @. @ 18 km) . The route connects Westport , Oregon , which is served by the county ferry , and Cathlamet . The highway was referred to as Secondary State Highway 12F (SSH 12F) from 1943 until 1964 .

SR 409 crosses the Cathlamet Channel on the Julia Butler Hansen Bridge , completed in August 1939 . The bridge is named after former U.S. representative Julia Butler Hansen , who served from 1960 until 1974 representing the third congressional district including Wahkiakum County .

= = Route description = =

SR 409 goes on a 3 @. @ 84 miles (6 @. @ 18 km) route north from the northern ferry dock of the Wahkiakum County Ferry on Puget Island , to SR 4 , also referred to as the Ocean Beach Highway , in the county seat of Cathlamet . The route connects Westport , Oregon , which is served by the county ferry , and Cathlamet . The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) found in 2007 that , on average , more than 2 @, @ 800 motorists utilize the road daily south of the northern terminus in Cathlamet , making the highway the second busiest state route in the county , after SR 4 at Boege Road , which more than 4 @, @ 100 motorists utilize daily .

SR 409 originates at the ferry dock on Puget Island which serves as the northern end of the Wahkiakum County Ferry . From the dock , the road travels north past the island 's interior , before turning northwest to parallel the Cathlamet Channel . After intersecting Little Island Road , the highway immediately turns onto the Julia Butler Hansen Bridge spanning over the Cathlamet Channel . Once SR 409 exits off the bridge in Cathlamet , it becomes Front Street . Later , after intersecting River Street and Columbia Street , the highway becomes Main Street , the designation used from the intersection point to SR 4 .

= = = Ferry = = =

The year @- @ round Wahkiakum County Ferry , designated Wahkiakum , runs from Westport , Oregon to the southern terminus of SR 409 at Puget Island . The ferry connects SR 409 to a road that connects to U.S. Route 30 , which runs 477 @. @ 02 miles (767 @. @ 69 km) across Oregon ; Wahkiakum County began running the ferry in 1962 , on a route from Westport to Puget Island . The ferry travels more than eighteen trips per day , and runs from 5 : 00 am to 10 : 15 pm and holds up to nine vehicles . The ferry costs 50 ¢ for foot passengers , \$ 1 for bicycles , \$ 2 for motorcycles , and \$ 3 for passenger cars and other vehicles under 20 feet (6 @. @ 1 m) . Vehicles over 20 feet (6 @. @ 1 m) cannot travel on the ferry ; motorhomes , large trucks and trailers are allowed on the ferry for a fare determined by length . Frequent Traveler Tickets can be purchased for \$ 40 (22 trips) and \$ 75 (44 trips) for vehicles under 20 feet (6 @. @ 1 m) . The first ferry launched in June 1925 , when Walter Coates bought two ferries and began to operate them on two different routes , including the current one and a route from Puget Island to Cathlamet . The county later replaced the Puget Island ? Cathlamet route with the Puget Island ? Cathlamet Bridge in 1939 .

= = History = =

= = = Bridge (1925 ? 1939) = = =

In June 1925 , Walter Coates began a ferry service across the Cathlamet Channel , from Puget Island to Cathlamet . The original ferry was later replaced by the Cathlamet , which could load cars . In 1932 , Coates sold the ferry service , fearing that the newly completed Ocean Beach Highway , soon to be SR 4 , would press drivers to the competing Astoria ? Megler Ferry . In 1939 , the year

the Julia Butler Hansen Bridge opened , ferry service ceased on the Puget Island ? Cathlamet run .

The Julia Butler Hansen Bridge , which currently carries the route of SR 409 , which will be designated in 1964 , from Puget Island to Cathlamet , opened in August 1939 . The bridge , initially named the Puget Island ? Cathlamet Bridge , was later renamed to honor Julia Butler Hansen , who served in the Washington House of Representatives from 1939 until 1960 , and U.S. representative for the third congressional district from 1960 until 1974 .

Lacey V. Murrow , R. W. Finke and Clark H. Eldridge designed the bridge , which spanned 2 @, @ 433 feet (742 m) and consisted of four steel spans when first constructed . Steel comprises the majority of the truss bridge 's structure . President Franklin D. Roosevelt commenced the five @-@ day celebration of the bridge 's opening with a ribbon cutting , remotely controlled from the White House via telegraph .

= = = Designation (1943 ? present) = = =

After a reconstruction of the Primary and Secondary Highways in 1943 , the road that later became SR 409 was established as Secondary State Highway 12F (SSH 12F) . SSH 12F became SR 409 in 1964 during the 1964 highway renumbering , in which the WSDOT replaced the previous system of Primary and Secondary Highways with a new system called State Routes , which is still in use today .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire highway is in Wahkiakum County .