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WETA Awards \$13 Million Contract for New High-Speed Ferry

Vessel will aid San Francisco Bay Ferry expansion efforts

SAN FRANCISCO – The **San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA)** Board of Directors today awarded a \$13 million contract to Mavrik Marine Inc. to build a new high-speed ferry to enhance the **San Francisco Bay Ferry** service.

The vessel, expected to be in service by 2020, will be the eighth added to WETA's fleet since 2017. Three new 400-passenger ferries have entered San Francisco Bay Ferry service since April 2017, with one more on track for early 2019. Three new high-speed 445-passenger ferries are also under construction, with the first expected to begin service in early 2019.

The contract awarded today calls for **a new 300-passenger high-speed ferry**. This vessel will be used to aid WETA's efforts to expand San Francisco Bay Ferry service to new terminals and to support existing and enhanced service on existing routes. The ferry, which will also have capacity for at least 35 bicycles, will be a versatile addition to the fleet as service expands to the city of Richmond in January 2019 as well the Mission Bay neighborhood of San Francisco and Seaplane Lagoon in Alameda within a few years. WETA also plans to increase service frequency on existing routes serving Vallejo, the East Bay and South San Francisco.

"We're aggressively expanding San Francisco Bay Ferry service, and we need additional vessels to meet the high demand," said **Nina Rannells**, WETA's executive director. "This new vessel will play a key role in our fleet, complementing higher-capacity boats while being versatile enough to serve every terminal in the WETA system. It also boosts our emergency response capabilities by adding capacity."

New vessels are a critical piece of WETA's 20-year strategic plan, which outlines a vision for expanded and enhanced ferry service. The plan calls for a ferry system that will operate 12 services at 16 terminals with 44 vessels by 2035. As of today, San Francisco Bay Ferry operates six services at nine terminals with 14 vessels.

The new vessel's design, construction and delivery will be funded through a combination of State Proposition 1B grant funds and Regional Measure 1 bridge toll revenues. Mavrik Marine Inc. is based in La Conner, Wash. The contract was awarded to Mavrik Marine as the result of a competitive process. This is the first vessel that Mavrik Marine will build for WETA.



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About WETA/SF Bay Ferry

WETA is a regional public transit agency tasked with operating and expanding ferry service on the San Francisco Bay and with coordinating the water transit response to regional emergencies. San Francisco Bay Ferry, a service of WETA, operates ferry routes connecting the San Francisco Ferry Building and Pier 41/Fisherman's Wharf, South San Francisco, Alameda Main Street, Harbor Bay, Oakland, Vallejo and Mare Island, along with seasonal service to AT&T Park.