

## Hawaii Superferry halts service in wake of court ruling

Hawaii Superferry has halted operation of its Hawaii inter-island service, following a Hawaii State Supreme Court ruling that declared a law that allowed it to operate during an environmental review was unconstitutional.

The court said that the law was improper because it was specially created for Superferry.

In a statement, Hawaii Superferry president & CEO Tom Fargo said the company was "hugely disappointed with the Supreme Court's decision that Act 2 is unconstitutional." He also said that the company would now have to find other employment for its high-speed ferry *Alakai*. The *Alakai* will join a second Hawaii Superferry vessel at Austal USA in Mobile, Ala., for future deployment.

## Ferry is link in British Columbia's green transport plan

A central component of any city's green policy should be public transportation. Making a ferry service attractive to commuters and tourists alike is simple: make it reliable, convenient and inexpensive.

That's the thinking behind the investment in a third SeaBus ferry for Metro Vancouver. Back in May 2008, TransLink, the South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority, signed a C\$20 million contract with Victoria Shipyards Co. Ltd., part of the Washington

BMT Fleet Technology designed the new SeaBus



Marine Group, to construct a 395-passenger aluminum catamaran.

At the time of the contract signing, Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon said, "The SeaBus is a smart and efficient mode of public transit for an ocean region like Metro Vancouver. This new SeaBus will help reduce traffic and greenhouse gas

emissions, which is a key goal of the provincial government's C\$14-billion Transit Plan."

This fall, the ferry, the *Burrard Pacific Breeze* will join the TransLink fleet, which will allow the retrofit of the service's two other SeaBus ferries.

A third SeaBus will translate into more frequent service, allowing an additional 800 people per hour to cross the harbor in each direction.

All three vessels will be sailing across Burrard Inlet by early 2010.

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