

## CASE STUDY

# Colman Dock

Seattle, Washington

**HISTORY**

The Washington State Ferry System transports vehicle and passenger traffic throughout the Puget Sound and San Juan Islands. As a part of the Washington State Department of Transportation, Washington State Ferries move tens of millions of travelers throughout the region, each year, running ten routes, serving twenty ferry terminals.

Colman Dock is a critical hub extending into Elliott Bay on the Seattle waterfront. It is an important, high-use facility central to the Washington State Ferry System. Colman Dock, also known as Pier 52, has a long and storied history in the Seattle area. Originally built by Scottish engineer, James Colman, in 1882, it met its demise in 1889, along with most of the city, in the Great Seattle Fire. The dock was quickly rebuilt, but continued a tumultuous history, with freighter accidents, rivaling shipping companies, and a gangplank collapse in 1912, that killed a woman and child.

**PROBLEM**

Time has taken its toll on the Colman Dock once again. Aging timber piles that currently support the pier are in need of replacement. The facility, as it stands today, is seismically vulnerable and there are increased safety concerns arising from the convergence of vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrian traffic that all utilize the dock.

The need to rebuild and modernize the facility to meet the growing needs of the region and address today's seismic standards culminated in the SR 529 Seattle Multimodal Terminal at Colman Dock.

The Washington State Department of Transportation awarded the CMGC project to Hoffman Pacific LLC, a joint venture between Hoffman Construction and Pacific Pile & Marine,

