

WSDOT Ferries Division 2013/2014 Tariff Hearing

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**Washington State Transportation Commission
July 30, 2013**

Presentation Overview

- Review of Process and Timeline
- Fare Proposal Summary
- WSF Recommended Minor Alterations
- Next Steps

Tariff Process and Timeline

- November/December 2012: WSF community meetings soliciting tariff review topics and issues.
- February – May 2013: Six meetings of the Ferry Advisory Committee on Tariffs (FAC-T) to review, analyze, and make recommendations on tariff setting issues.
- April 2013: Legislature established fare revenue target for the 13-15 biennium.
- May 22, 2013: WSF presents tariff recommendations to the Commission.
- Early/mid July 2013: Public comment period for Commission fare proposal.
- July 30, 2013: Commission holds adoption hearing on tariff proposal.

Overview of Tariff Proposal

Elements w/o Significant Revenue Impacts

WAC Language Revisions

- School Groups: Require 72-hour advance notice
- Freight-only Charge: Reinststitute fare category
- Disabled Passengers w/Attendants: Adjust multiride rule to ensure equal fares
- Promotional Fares: Allow multi-organization promotions
- Reservations: Allow No-show fees in-lieu of deposits

Under 14' Vehicle Fare Category

- Change calculation methodology to remove driver portion before scaling
- Change fare to 70% of standard vehicle fare

Motorcycle Oversize Surcharge

- Eliminate the Motorcycle Oversize Surcharge
- 3-wheel vehicles under 8'0" in length pay motorcycle fare
- 3-wheel vehicles 8'0" and longer pay appropriate length-based fare

Elements with Positive Revenue Impacts

Anacortes-Sidney

- Consolidate oversize vehicle fares into one category; eliminate promotional half-fare
- Increase oversize vehicle fares by 5.1% in 2013 and 2.5% in 2014.
- Increase other vehicle and passenger fares by 4.1% in 2013 and 2.5% in 2014

Elements with Negative Revenue Impacts

Youth Discount

- Change the youth discount from 20% to 50%

San Juan Islands-Sidney (2014 only)

- Eliminate one-way fares between Friday Harbor and Sidney
- Institute a new, distance-based roundtrip fare that is lower than the current roundtrip cost

Systemwide Proposal Elements

- The fare proposal package must generate \$328 million in biennial operating revenue, per legislative budget
- WSF is proposing a two-year fare proposal, with fare changes in 2013 and 2014
- WSF is proposing differential increases in vehicle and passenger fares to begin increasing the ratio of the vehicle/driver fare to the passenger fare

Proposed General Fare Increase

On October 1, 2013:

- Increase vehicle fares by 3.0%
- Increase passenger fares by 2.0%

On May 1, 2014:

- Increase vehicle fares by 2.5%
- Increase passenger fares by 2.0%

WSF Recommendations for Minor Adjustments to Proposal

Based on review of public comments and further internal review:

- Align new 50% off “youth fare” with 50% off “senior/disabled fare” – different rounding assumptions in proposal resulted in a slight variance.
- Keep one way fare options on the San Juan Islands to Sidney route. These one way fares were to have been eliminated with the new round trip rates proposed for that route. WSF is evaluating whether the new round trip rates can apply to oversized vehicles.
- Add “and adults” to language about school groups and notification.
- Minor downward adjustments on charter rates to reflect updated cost information.

2013 Tariff Cycle – Next Steps

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- July 29th – Commission hearing on proposal
- NLT August 30, 2013: file CR 103 with final amended tariff
- October 1, 2013: New tariff in effect

Questions?

For more information on the 2013/2014 Tariff Proposal,
please contact:

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