



# Washington State Transportation Commission

## Current Fare Policies

A **Small Vehicle** is defined as a vehicle that is under 14' in length.

A **Standard Vehicle** is defined as a vehicle that is between 14' and 22' in length.

**Peak Season** is effective from May 1st through September 30th.

\*The fare increase goes into effect on October 1, 2017. Current peak season fares will remain in effect through the 2017 peak season.

**Multi-ride cards** cover 10 round-trips for all routes except those in and to the San Juan Islands. Islands auto multi-ride cards cover 5 round-trips while passenger and motorcycle multi-ride cards cover 10 round-trips. Trips must be used within 90 days of purchase.

**Monthly Pass** prices are based on the equivalent cost of 16 round-trips using passenger multi-ride cards, plus a \$1.00 handling fee at retail outlets.

## Passenger Fares

Full Fare
Senior/Disabled
Youth Fare 6-18

## Vehicle Fares

Small Vehicle: Auto & Driver
Small Vehicle: Senior/Disabled
Standard Vehicle: Auto & Driver
Standard Vehicle: Senior/Disabled
Motorcycle & Driver/Stowage

## Peak Season Vehicle Fares

Small Vehicle: Auto & Driver
Small Vehicle: Senior/Disabled
Standard Vehicle: Auto & Driver
Standard Vehicle: Senior/Disabled
Motorcycle & Driver/Stowage

## Multi-Ride Cards & Passes

Small Vehicle Multi-Ride
Standard Vehicle Multi-Ride
Motorcycle Multi-Ride
Passenger Multi-Ride
Passenger Monthly Pass

## Capital Surcharge

Listed fares include the following capital surcharges:

Single Passenger Fares
Single Vehicle & Motorcycle Fares
Vehicle Multi-Ride Cards
Motorcycle Multi-Ride Cards
Passenger Multi-Ride Cards
Passenger Monthly Passes

Seattle BREMERTON			
Seattle BAINBRIDGE ISLAND			
Edmonds KINGSTON			
Passenger fares round-trip			
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$ 8.20	\$ 8.40	\$ 8.55	
\$ 4.10	\$ 4.20	\$ 4.25	
\$ 4.10	\$ 4.20	\$ 4.25	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$ 11.50	\$ 11.80	\$ 12.05	
\$ 9.45	\$ 9.70	\$ 9.90	
\$ 14.60	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.35	
\$ 12.55	\$ 12.90	\$ 13.20	
\$ 6.35	\$ 6.45	\$ 6.60	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017*	2018	
\$ 14.30	\$ 14.70	\$ 15.00	
\$ 12.25	\$ 12.60	\$ 12.85	
\$ 18.20	\$ 18.70	\$ 19.15	
\$ 16.15	\$ 16.60	\$ 17.00	
\$ 7.90	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.20	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$185.00	\$189.80	\$193.80	
\$234.60	\$241.00	\$246.60	
\$102.60	\$104.20	\$106.60	
\$ 66.10	\$ 67.70	\$ 68.90	
\$105.80	\$108.35	\$110.25	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	
\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	

The fares listed in this brochure include a **Capital Surcharge** of 25 cents per fare. The surcharge is required by law and is dedicated to funding WSF vessel replacement. Specific capital surcharge rates are listed at the bottom of the page and will not be changed as part of this proposal.

Fauntleroy SOUTHWORTH			
Passenger fares round-trip			
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$ 6.35	\$ 6.55	\$ 6.65	
\$ 3.15	\$ 3.25	\$ 3.30	
\$ 3.15	\$ 3.25	\$ 3.30	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$ 8.90	\$ 9.15	\$ 9.35	
\$ 7.30	\$ 7.50	\$ 7.65	
\$ 11.30	\$ 11.60	\$ 11.90	
\$ 9.70	\$ 9.95	\$ 10.20	
\$ 4.90	\$ 5.05	\$ 5.15	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017*	2018	
\$ 11.05	\$ 11.40	\$ 11.65	
\$ 9.45	\$ 9.75	\$ 9.95	
\$ 14.05	\$ 14.45	\$ 14.80	
\$ 12.45	\$ 12.80	\$ 13.10	
\$ 6.05	\$ 6.25	\$ 6.40	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$143.40	\$147.40	\$150.60	
\$181.80	\$186.60	\$191.40	
\$ 79.40	\$ 81.80	\$ 83.40	
\$ 51.30	\$ 52.90	\$ 53.70	
\$ 82.10	\$ 84.65	\$ 85.95	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	
\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	

Port Townsend COUPEVILLE			
All fares one-way			
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$3.30	\$ 3.40	\$ 3.45	
\$ 1.65	\$ 1.70	\$ 1.70	
\$ 1.65	\$ 1.70	\$ 1.70	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$ 8.90	\$ 9.15	\$ 9.35	
\$ 7.30	\$ 7.50	\$ 7.65	
\$ 11.30	\$ 11.60	\$ 11.90	
\$ 9.70	\$ 9.95	\$ 10.20	
\$ 4.90	\$ 5.05	\$ 5.15	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017*	2018	
\$ 11.05	\$ 11.40	\$ 11.65	
\$ 9.45	\$ 9.75	\$ 9.95	
\$ 14.05	\$ 14.45	\$ 14.80	
\$ 12.45	\$ 12.80	\$ 13.10	
\$ 6.05	\$ 6.25	\$ 6.40	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$143.40	\$147.40	\$150.60	
\$181.80	\$186.60	\$191.40	
\$ 79.40	\$ 81.80	\$ 83.40	
\$ 53.80	\$ 55.40	\$ 56.20	
\$ 86.10	\$ 88.65	\$ 89.95	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	
\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	
\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	

Fauntleroy VASHON			
Southworth VASHON			
Pt. Defiance TAHLEOUAH			
All fares round-trip			
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$ 5.30	\$ 5.45	\$ 5.55	
\$ 2.65	\$ 2.70	\$ 2.75	
\$ 2.65	\$ 2.70	\$ 2.75	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$14.60	\$15.05	\$15.40	
\$11.95	\$12.30	\$12.60	
\$18.60	\$19.15	\$19.60	
\$15.95	\$16.40	\$16.80	
\$ 8.00	\$ 8.20	\$ 8.40	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017*	2018	
\$18.20	\$18.75	\$19.20	
\$15.55	\$16.00	\$16.40	
\$23.20	\$23.90	\$24.45	
\$20.55	\$21.15	\$21.65	
\$ 9.95	\$10.20	\$10.45	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$117.30	\$120.90	\$123.70	
\$149.30	\$153.70	\$157.30	
\$ 64.50	\$ 66.10	\$ 67.70	
\$ 42.90	\$ 44.10	\$ 44.90	
\$ 68.65	\$ 70.60	\$ 71.85	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	

Mukilteo CLINTON			
Passenger fares round-trip			
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$ 4.90	\$ 5.05	\$ 5.15	
\$ 2.45	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.55	
\$ 2.45	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.55	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$ 6.85	\$ 7.05	\$ 7.20	
\$5.60	\$ 5.75	\$ 5.90	
\$ 8.70	\$ 8.95	\$ 9.15	
\$7.45	\$ 7.65	\$ 7.85	
\$ 3.85	\$ 3.95	\$ 4.00	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017*	2018	
\$ 8.50	\$ 8.75	\$ 8.95	
\$ 7.25	\$ 7.45	\$ 7.65	
\$10.80	\$11.15	\$11.40	
\$ 9.55	\$ 9.85	\$10.10	
\$ 4.75	\$ 4.90	\$ 4.95	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$110.60	\$113.80	\$116.20	
\$140.20	\$144.20	\$147.40	
\$ 62.60	\$ 64.20	\$ 65.00	
\$ 39.70	\$ 40.90	\$ 41.70	
\$ 63.55	\$ 65.45	\$ 66.75	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	
\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	

Anacortes LOPEZ			
All fares round-trip			
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$13.25	\$13.60	\$13.85	
\$ 6.60	\$ 6.80	\$ 6.90	
\$ 6.60	\$ 6.80	\$ 6.90	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$26.55	\$27.25	\$27.90	
\$19.90	\$20.45	\$20.95	
\$33.25	\$34.15	\$35.00	
\$26.60	\$27.35	\$28.05	
\$17.25	\$17.75	\$18.10	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017*	2018	
\$35.75	\$36.70	\$37.60	
\$29.10	\$29.90	\$30.65	
\$44.80	\$46.00	\$47.15	
\$38.15	\$39.20	\$40.20	
\$23.20	\$23.90	\$24.35	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$99.90	\$102.50	\$104.95	
\$125.00	\$128.40	\$131.55	
\$130.00	\$133.75	\$136.40	
\$ 87.00	\$ 89.30	\$ 90.90	
N/A	N/A	N/A	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

Anacortes SHAW & ORCAS			
All fares round-trip			
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$13.25	\$13.60	\$13.85	
\$ 6.60	\$ 6.80	\$ 6.90	
\$ 6.60	\$ 6.80	\$ 6.90	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$31.85	\$32.75	\$33.50	
\$25.20	\$25.95	\$26.55	
\$39.85	\$40.95	\$41.95	
\$33.20	\$34.15	\$35.00	
\$18.60	\$19.10	\$19.50	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017*	2018	
\$42.90	\$44.15	\$45.15	
\$36.25	\$37.35	\$38.20	
\$53.70	\$55.20	\$56.55	
\$47.05	\$48.40	\$49.60	
\$25.00	\$25.70	\$26.25	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$119.75	\$123.15	\$125.95	
\$149.75	\$153.90	\$157.65	
\$140.15	\$143.90	\$146.90	
\$ 87.00	\$ 89.30	\$ 90.90	
N/A	N/A	N/A	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

Anacortes FRIDAY HARBOR			
All fares round-trip			
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$13.25	\$13.60	\$13.85	
\$ 6.60	\$ 6.80	\$ 6.90	
\$ 6.60	\$ 6.80	\$ 6.90	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$37.75	\$38.85	\$39.70	
\$31.10	\$32.05	\$32.75	
\$47.30	\$48.65	\$49.80	
\$40.65	\$41.85	\$42.85	
\$20.10	\$20.65	\$21.05	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017*	2018	
\$50.90	\$52.35	\$53.50	
\$44.25	\$45.55	\$46.55	
\$63.75	\$65.60	\$67.15	
\$57.10	\$58.80	\$60.20	
\$27.05	\$27.80	\$28.35	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$141.90	\$146.00	\$149.20	
\$177.70	\$182.75	\$187.05	
\$151.40	\$155.50	\$158.50	
\$ 87.00	\$ 89.30	\$ 90.90	
N/A	N/A	N/A	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	
\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

Between Lopez, Shaw, Orcas, and FRIDAY HARBOR			
All fares round-trip			
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
N/C	N/C	N/C	
N/C	N/C	N/C	
N/C	N/C	N/C	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017*	2018	
\$15.70	\$16.15	\$16.50	
\$15.70	\$16.15	\$16.50	
\$22.35	\$22.95	\$23.50	
\$22.35	\$22.95	\$23.50	
\$ 6.40	\$ 6.50	\$ 6.65	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017*	2018	
\$19.55	\$20.15	\$20.55	
\$19.55	\$20.15	\$20.55	
\$27.90	\$28.65	\$29.30	
\$27.90	\$28.65	\$29.30	
\$ 7.95	\$ 8.05	\$ 8.25	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
\$63.05	\$64.85	\$66.25	
\$89.65	\$92.05	\$94.25	
N/A	N/A	N/A	
N/A	N/A	N/A	
N/A	N/A	N/A	
PROPOSED			
CURRENT	2017	2018	
N/C	N/C		

# PUBLIC REVIEW

**The public comment period will close at 5:00 pm, Friday, July 21, 2017.**

Public comment will also be taken at the WSTC public hearing on July 26, 2017.

## Public Meetings

No action will be taken at these meetings.

Thur. July 6 6pm - 8pm **Bainbridge Island**  
Waterfront Park Community Center  
Huney Hall Room  
370 Brien Drive, SE

Mon. July 10 6pm - 8pm **Friday Harbor**  
San Juan County Council  
SJC Legislative Hearing Room  
55 Second Street

Tues. July 11 6pm - 8pm **Whidbey Island/Freeland**  
Telecom Customer Experience Center  
Community Media Conference Center  
1651 Main Street

Mon. July 17 6pm - 8pm **Vashon Island**  
Vashon High School  
9600 SW 204th Street

## Public Hearing

Action will be taken at this meeting.

Wed. July 26 10am - 12pm **Seattle**  
Puget Sound Regional Council  
Council Chambers  
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500

## Introduction

The Washington State Transportation Commission (Commission) sets fares and fare policies for Washington State Ferries (WSF). WSF is required to provide the Commission with a fare proposal for consideration and, prior to enacting fare changes, the Commission must consider input from affected ferry users by public hearing and by review from Ferry Advisory Committees (FACs).

Consistent with this direction, the Commission's 2017 proposal is based on WSF's recommendations and input from the Ferry Advisory Committee-Tariff (FAC-T) and market segment interests. The FAC-T is an advisory committee consisting of members of the FAC Executive Council or their designees.

It is the Commission's responsibility to ensure that updated ferry fares raise the amount of operating and maintenance funding that is required by the Legislature's Budget. The revenue target for the 2017-19 biennium is \$381.3 million, which does not include revenue from the capital surcharge, as these funds support WSF's capital program.

The proposed fare changes generate the required revenue through a mix of policies, some of which reduce revenue and others which increase revenue. A key feature of this proposal is to continue the process of widening the price differential between vehicle and passenger fares, which began in 2013.

This proposal has been developed to strike a balance between the required revenue amount, ridership and revenue forecasts, and policy objectives. This proposal achieves the following goals:

- Consistent with policy guidance in the Washington Transportation Plan (WTP) 2035, continues the implementation of near-term pricing strategies.
- Maintains the Tariff Route Equity relationship among routes.
- Eliminates the bump in oversize vehicle fares added in 2011, returning to the historic space-based pricing relationships in use since 1991.
- Cleans up and clarifies several minor, but operationally important issues in the WAC.

The 2017 fare proposal reflects the Commission's preferred fare policy updates. The proposal includes a few structural changes, which are summarized below. Current and proposed fares for major fare categories are summarized in the table on the reverse side of this brochure. For complete fare information, please visit [www.wstc.wa.gov](http://www.wstc.wa.gov)

## 1. General Fare Increase Proposal

The general fare increase applies to all fares in the system, though other proposal elements will impact proposed fare changes for some customers. The general fare increase is the primary tool available to meet the Legislature's adopted revenue target.

This is a two-year fare proposal that is based on the following:

**On October 1, 2017:**

- **Raise passenger fares 2.5%; and,**
- **Raise vehicle fares 2.9%.**

**On October 1, 2018:**

- **Raise passenger fares 2.1%; and,**
- **Raise vehicle fares 2.5%.**

Due to rounding and the application of Tariff Route Equity to maintain a consistent fare relationship among routes, not all fare categories will experience a percentage change equal to the applicable general fare increase.

The Commission's policy is to round fares to the nearest nickel – this means that some fares are rounded up and others are rounded down.

## 2. Vehicle-Passenger Price Differential

Widening the differential between vehicle and passenger fares is a key pricing strategy identified in the Commission's WTP 2035 and the WSF/ WSTC Joint Recommendations on Operational and Pricing Strategies.

This policy reflects the lower cost of carrying passengers and encourages more customers to travel as passengers (either as a walk-on or in a vehicle). The specific benefits of this proposal include:

- Recognizing that the vehicle deck is the most valuable and constrained capacity that WSF offers and that value should be recognized in the pricing model;
- Providing another modest shift toward pricing that favors walk-on and HOV customers; and,
- Encouraging more travelers to arrive as passengers given there is ample passenger capacity – a key demand management goal.

This will continue a policy emphasis that began with the general fare increase in 2013 and is designed to very gradually widen the price differential between passenger and vehicle fares.

## 3. Oversize Vehicle Fares

The 2011 Tariff Cycle introduced an extra fare increment for oversize vehicles in addition to fares based on standard space-based pricing policies (CUBE).

The CUBE "bump" increased fares for oversize categories along a curve, with each subsequent 10-foot increment receiving a percentage increase over the base CUBE fare.

There have been concerns that this bump has had a negative impact in ferry communities, particularly for island communities, which get most of their goods and supplies delivered by ferry.

To address these concerns this proposal would phase out the CUBE "bump" over the next two years. This is accomplished by:

- Increasing most oversize fares 0.8% to 2.0%, depending on vehicle size and route, in October 2017; and,
- Not increasing oversize fares in October 2018.

Revenue lost from the elimination of the "bump" is made up in the general fare increase.

## 4. School Group Program

The current School Group Program, which offers discounted travel for school groups, has been in place for over thirty years. Over this time, the use of the program has increased and generated operational challenges. This year, WSF conducted a review that addressed:

- (1) Overall use and operational needs;
- (2) Fare policy, including the structure and level of the school group fee; and,
- (3) How program eligibility is managed in light of a changing educational environment.

As a result of this review, WSF and WSTC propose changes that would:

- Broaden and clarify eligibility requirements in order to explicitly integrate students that are learning in a home schooling environment. This will formalize and standardize operational practices to ensure all students have equal access to the program.
- Raise the fee to \$5 per group, per one-way trip (\$10 per group, per roundtrip), from the current \$1 per group, per one-way trip (\$2 per group, per round trip) in October 2018.

## 5. WAC Clarifications

The 2017 Fare Proposal clarifies several minor, but operationally important, issues in the WAC (Washington Administrative Code). New and/or modified language is proposed that would address the following:

- **Bicycles towing a trailer:** clarifies that the policy is to charge bicycles towing a trailer the stowage (motorcycle/driver) fare.
- **Electric bicycles:** clarifies and makes explicit how vehicles that share characteristics of bicycles and motorcycles are to be classified for the purpose of fare determination.
- **Fire district fares:** removes language related to a pilot program that has ended.
- **Commercial accounts:** adds to the WAC the commercial account frequent user discount policy that is currently offered as a discretionary incentive under the WAC volume discount authority.
- **Wave2Go resale:** makes clear that commercial resale of Wave2Go products is prohibited.
- **Small Vehicle Length:** clarifies and makes explicit the types of documentary proof that will be accepted by ticket sellers if there is a question about a vehicle's eligibility for the small car fare.

Specific WAC language implementing this change can be found on the Commission website: [www.wstc.wa.gov](http://www.wstc.wa.gov)

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Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations may request written materials in alternate formats, sign language interpreters, physical accessibility accommodations, or other reasonable accommodations by contacting Eralee Sawtell at 360.705.7070. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may contact the event sponsor through the Washington Relay Service at 7-1-1.

# NEW FARE PROPOSAL



Washington State  
Transportation Commission

**IMPLEMENTATION DATES**  
**OCTOBER 1, 2017**  
**OCTOBER 1, 2018**

## Ways to Comment

Website: [www.wstc.wa.gov](http://www.wstc.wa.gov)

E-mail: [transc@wstc.wa.gov](mailto:transc@wstc.wa.gov)

Phone: **360.705.7070**

Postal mail: **Fare Proposal**  
**Washington State**  
**Transportation Commission**  
**PO Box 47308**  
**Olympia, WA 98504-7308**

In-person: **Public Meetings**  
**Public Hearing**

**The public comment period will be open until 5:00 pm on Friday, July 21, 2017**