WSDOT Ferries Division: 2019/20 Ferry Fare Development Process

Stephanie Cirkovich, Director of Community Services and Planning
January 23, 2019
WSF Fare Development: Presentation Outline

- Overview of fare-setting (tariff cycle) process
- Community engagement
- Timeline of 2019/20 fare-setting cycle
- Tariff guiding principles and objectives
- Next steps
- Q&A
Ferry Fare Development Process

Roles and responsibilities

• The Transportation Commission adopts fares through a rulemaking process; fares are effective for approximately one year (RCW 47.60.315)

• WSF conducts a review of its fares and develops a fare proposal for submittal to the WSTC for their consideration (RCW 47.60.290)

• WSF develops fare proposals with input from ferry users, by review of the affected FACs, and data gathered from FROG surveys (RCW 47.60.290)
Ferry Fare Development: Community Engagement

Current FAC-T Membership (per most recent charter):
- Ferry Advisory Committee chairs or their designees (approximately 12)
- Transit (Sound Transit representative)
- Economic development (vacant)
- Freight/commercial (vacant)
- Active transportation / bike & ped (vacant)
- Tourism (vacant)
- WSDOT Finance (ex-officio)
- WSTC (ex-officio)

Proposed Additional Membership to FAC-T:
- Second transit representative
- Special needs ridership (ADA, human services)
- Regional transportation planners (2)
# Fare Review Process Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Current Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ferries Team/WSF Staff Meetings</td>
<td>October and December 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSTC Presentation</td>
<td>January 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Begin FAC-T Meetings</td>
<td>February 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legislature’s Fare Revenue Budget Adopted, CR 101 Filed</td>
<td>April 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Public Outreach on Draft Fare Proposal</strong></td>
<td><strong>May 2019</strong></td>
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<td>Fare Proposal to WSTC</td>
<td>June 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>CR102 Filing Window</td>
<td>June 14 – July 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commission Public Hearing</td>
<td>August 6, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>CR103 Filing</td>
<td>NLT 8/30/19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fares Take Effect</td>
<td>Oct 1, 2019</td>
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Overarching Policies, Objectives

Standing policies related to tariff-setting:

- Charge vehicles based on space occupied
- Encourage modal shift by treating passenger and vehicle fares differently
- Differentiate fares by route based on distance and travel sheds
- Offer frequent rider discounts
- Generate fare revenue
Overarching Policies, Objectives

Policies to guide future fare-setting:

- Investments in ferry system’s reliability, longevity
- Improving the customer experience
- Managing growth through transportation demand strategies
- Ensuring a sustainable, resilient ferry system
WSTC Guidance for 2019/20

Issues suggested by Commission Ferries Team

• Capital surcharge fee adjustment (raise capital revenue for WSF)
• Simplify and streamline fare structure
• Reservation cancellation fee adjustment (reduce no-shows)
• Assess Sidney fares to ensure market balance
Reliability: Capital Surcharge

2040 Long Range Plan requires a large capital lift

• Directed by legislature in 2011 session
• Currently $.25 / fare, regardless of fare type or route
• Potential for additional investments in capital program
Customer Experience: Simplified Fares

- Streamlining fare collection = streamlining operational efficiency
- Allows for new technologies to be implemented (e.g., Good to Go!)
- Discounts for frequent ferry riders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seattle/Bainbridge Island, Seattle/Bremerton, Edmonds/Kingston</th>
<th>Fauntleroy/Vashon, Point Defiance/Tahlequah, Southworth/Vashon</th>
<th>Mukilteo/Clinton</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Passenger</strong> <strong>In vehicle or walk on</strong></td>
<td><strong>Passenger</strong> <strong>In vehicle or walk on</strong></td>
<td><strong>Passenger</strong> <strong>In vehicle or walk on</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Fare</td>
<td>Regular Fare</td>
<td>Regular Fare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$8.50</td>
<td>$5.55</td>
<td>$5.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior/Disability/Medicare Card Fare</td>
<td>Senior/Disability/Medicare Card Fare</td>
<td>Senior/Disability/Medicare Card Fare</td>
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<tr>
<td>$4.25</td>
<td>$2.75</td>
<td>$2.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Fare</td>
<td>Youth Fare</td>
<td>Youth Fare</td>
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<tr>
<td>$4.25</td>
<td>$2.75</td>
<td>$2.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>WaveGo Multi-Ride Card</td>
<td>WaveGo Multi-Ride Card</td>
<td>WaveGo Multi-Ride Card</td>
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<td>$68.50</td>
<td>$44.90</td>
<td>$41.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly Ferry Pass</td>
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<td>$109.60</td>
<td>$71.85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bicycle Surcharge</td>
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<tr>
<td>$1.00</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
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Small Vehicle & Driver (vehicle under 7’4”, including 3-wheeled vehicles over 8’)
- Regular Fare: $12.05 (Peak Season: $13.00)
- Senior/Disability/Medicare Card Fare: $9.95 (Peak Season: $12.81)
- WaveGo Multi-Ride Card: $193.80

Standard Vehicle & Driver (14’ to under 22’)
- Regular Fare: $15.33 (Peak Season: $19.15)
- Senior/Disability/Medicare Card Fare: $13.20 (Peak Season: $17.00)
- WaveGo Multi-Ride Card: $246.60

Motorcycle & Driver, Stowage Fee (e.g., canoe/kayak, vehicles under 8’)
- Regular Fare: $6.60 (Peak Season: $8.20)
- Senior/Disability/Medicare Card Fare: $5.45 (Peak Season: $6.05)
- WaveGo Multi-Ride Card: $106.60

Vehicle Length-Based Fares
- 22’ to under 30’ Under 7’2” High: $22.00 (Peak Season: $28.60)
- 22’ to under 30’ Over 7’2” High: $45.55 (Peak Season: $56.90)
- 30’ to under 40’ Regular Fare: $60.65 (Peak Season: $75.80)
- 40’ to under 50’ Regular Fare: $75.75 (Peak Season: $94.70)
- 50’ to under 60’ Regular Fare: $90.85 (Peak Season: $113.60)
- 60’ to under 70’ Regular Fare: $105.95 (Peak Season: $124.45)
- 70’ to under 80’ Regular Fare: $121.05 (Peak Season: $151.35)

Vehicle Length-Based Fares
- 22’ to under 30’ Under 7’2” High: $29.25 (Peak Season: $36.60)
- 22’ to under 30’ Over 7’2” High: $58.25 (Peak Season: $72.90)
- 30’ to under 40’ Regular Fare: $77.55 (Peak Season: $97.50)
- 40’ to under 50’ Regular Fare: $96.90 (Peak Season: $121.10)
- 50’ to under 60’ Regular Fare: $114.20 (Peak Season: $145.50)
- 60’ to under 70’ Regular Fare: $135.55 (Peak Season: $169.75)
- 70’ to under 80’ Regular Fare: $154.85 (Peak Season: $193.95)

Please refer to the fare collection detail page on the service site.
“Peak Season” is from May 1 through September 30.
Manage Growth: Incentivize Certain Travel Options

- Assess Sidney, B.C. fares to ensure comparability with competitors
- Review the reservations program no-show fee to discourage “reservation squatting”
- Eliminate the bicycle surcharge
- Provide a fare option for riders who are low-income
Next Steps

- February 2019 through June 2019: FAC-T meetings
- Late April: Regular legislative session ends; fare revenue target established
- May 1, 2019: File CR 101 notifying the opening of the tariff WAC sections
- Mid- to late May: WSF/WSTC initial outreach on draft fare proposal
- June: WSDOT/WSF fare proposal to Commission
- June 14 to July 3, 2019: File CR 102 form with Commission fare proposal
- June/July 2019: Public comment period for Commission fare proposal
- August 6, 2019 or later: Commission holds adoption hearing on tariff proposal
- NLT August 30, 2019: File CR 103 with final amended tariff
- October 1, 2019: Adopted fares go into effect
Questions?

For additional information on the 2019/20 Ferry Fare Development Process, please contact:

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