

Fares Overview

- Each ferry route is unique, even within a “travel shed”.
- Fare policy needs to balance conflicting priorities for each route.
 - The problem of course is that those priorities conflict with “simple”

Three options were considered by the FAC-Tariff committee. There were two issues on the table:

- Vehicles fares versus Walk-on/passenger fares:
 - Most riders make the vehicle/walk-on choice for other reasons than fares.
 - The goal has been to increase the ratio, but the target ratio has never been established.
 - The fixed capital-surcharge is regressive, but that is separate from fare policy.
- Timing of increase, either October each year or Oct/May with no increase the following year.
 - Relatively small benefit doesn't offset confusion and burden of 2x increases in a year.

Some further thoughts:

- Ferries is clearly struggling to provide the needed service.
- A capital funding program is desperately needed to maintain the fleet.
- “Occasional” riders (i.e. visitors) are less price-sensitive, yet largely drive peak demand.