



# SKAGIT COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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## **2011 GUEMES ISLAND FERRY FARE PROPOSAL OVERVIEW**

Skagit County Public Works is recommending a fare increase and other modifications to the Guemes Island Ferry fare structure in order to meet the 2011 fare revenue target. Public Works staff has met with the Guemes Island Ferry Committee multiple times for the purposes of discussing changes to the fare schedule. The proposed fare schedule for consideration is recommended by the Public Works Department, and is the result of input received from Public Works staff, the Guemes Island Ferry Committee, and from citizens who attended the 2010 Public Forums.

There is a need to adjust fares to meet the fare revenue target for 2011. The proposed changes are as follows: 1) change the language of “winter” and “summer” fares to “non-peak” and “peak” fares; 2) increase the vehicle (under 20’) and driver fares by \$1.00 per category; 3) increase motorcycle fares by \$1.00 per category; 4) increase the passenger and passenger with bicycle fares by \$0.50 per category; 5) increase the oversize vehicle fares by \$1.00 per category; 6) establish fares for discounted frequent user media accordingly; 7) Adjust the “peak” rate to reflect a \$0.50 difference in senior/disabled/youth passenger categories, a \$1.00 difference in adult passenger categories, a \$2.00 difference in vehicle (under 20’) and driver categories, and a 25% difference, rounded to the nearest dollar, for oversize vehicles per 5’ category; 8) eliminate the 10-trip and 23-trip discounted frequent user media, and replace with 20-Trip discounted punch cards for car and driver and motorcycle categories; 9) set expiration dates for frequent user media; 10) rescind Resolution R20080577, and 11) establish a new Guemes Island ferry fare structure.

On February 16, 2010, the Board of Skagit County Commissioners signed Resolution R20100050 establishing a policy for setting Fare Recovery Requirements for the Guemes Island Ferry. The fare revenue target for 2011 is \$953,905.00. Public Works staff anticipates that over the course of one full year, the new fare structure will meet the revenue requirement as set forth by Resolution R20100050.

A public hearing is required in order to change fares and / or fare structure. A Public Hearing is scheduled for March 15, 2011 at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as possible.

This proposal may be approved, modified, or rejected by the Board of Skagit County Commissioners. Your views for or against this matter are invited by attendance, representation, or letter.

For questions regarding this proposal, please contact Ferry Manager Rachel Beck at (360) 419-7618.