



Ferry Notice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 3, 2025

Jenn Rogers, Communications Manager, Skagit County

jrogers@co.skagit.wa.us · 360-416-1309

Guemes Ferry Weekend Update

Resolution Signed Calling for Public Hearing

The County Commissioners signed a [resolution](#) this week to call for a public hearing on Tuesday, October 21st, from 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. The public hearing is being called to consider public comment on two proposed resolutions:

- [Proposed resolution adopting the 2026 ferry fare schedule.](#)
 - If adopted, this resolution would increase fares by 30% to meet a 55% farebox recovery target in 2026. More information can be found in the [2025 Ferry Fare Revenue Target Report](#).
 - The proposal intends to amend the revenue target methodology to establish the 5-year average O&M expenditures projection using the past two years' actual expenditures, the current year's adopted budget, as of June 30, and the next two years' projected expenditures using cost escalation factors.
 - Miscellaneous fare categories are proposed to reflect the 2026 cost per run or cost per hour, as appropriate, based on the 2026 preliminary budget, as of June 30, 2025.
- [Proposed resolution to provide a method to convert paper punch cards sold during COVID without expiration.](#)
 - If adopted, this resolution would permit those still in possession of a paper punch card sold during COVID without an expiration date to convert the remaining rides to an equivalent number of trips in the electronic ticketing system.
 - Conversion of non-expiry COVID cards will not begin until after the resolution is approved by the Board of County Commissioners.
 - A request to convert non-expiry COVID cards will be processed by appointment only at the Anacortes ticket office, Monday through Thursday, between 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 - More information on how to convert non-expiry COVID cards will be shared after adoption of the resolution.

These two proposed resolutions are scheduled to be considered for adoption on November 10th at 1:00 p.m.

The proposals may be approved, modified, or rejected by the Skagit Board of County Commissioners. Interested citizens may attend the public hearing on October 21st in-person in the Commissioners' Hearing Room at 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, or via Zoom at the link on the Commissioners' webpage. Written comments may be submitted to ferrycomments@co.skagit.wa.us. The subject line shall read, "Ferry 2026 Fare Proposal" and the body of the email should contain the comments rather than sending them as an attachment. Comments can also be mailed to 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, WA 98273 ATTN: Ferry 2026 Fare Proposal.

For more information on the fare schedule and budget process, please visit the ferry [webpage](#).

Temporary Ferry Technical Advisory Group

The deadline for applications to the Guemes Ferry Technical Advisory Group (TAG) has passed and we received thirteen completed applications for the TAG. The County Commissioners are reviewing the applications and more information on next steps will be shared soon.

To read more about the organization, meeting schedule, and expectations for the TAG, please visit our [website](#). If you have questions about the TAG, please reach out to ferrycomments@co.skagit.wa.us.

Non-Peak Tickets Now for Sale on Mobile App and Website

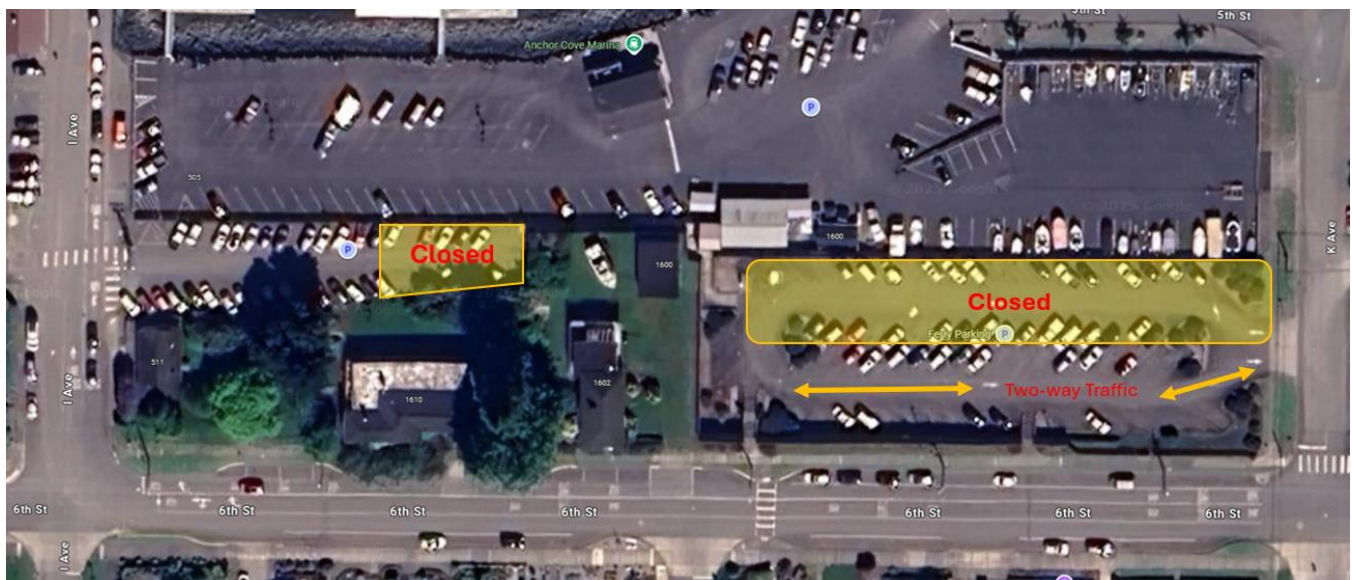
Non-peak tickets are now available for purchase on our **mobile app and website**. Non-peak tickets purchased before the peak season started this year can be used again starting October 1st. Unused peak season tickets may also be used during the non-peak season.

Please remember, **all tickets purchased in 2025 will expire on December 31, 2025.**

October Parking Lot Closures

Staff will be conducting storm water systems maintenance in both Anacortes parking lots on October 14th, which means we will have some partial lot closures from 8:30 p.m. on October 13th through 6:00 a.m. on October 16th.

Please refer to the map below to see which areas of the two Anacortes parking lots will be closed for maintenance. You can also see in the photo to the right what the maintenance will look like in progress.



Upcoming Maintenance Items

There will be no second 11:15 a.m. run next week Tuesday through Thursday. The ferry's Chief Engineer will be performing preventative maintenance on the vessel and bridges.

UPDATED - Anacortes Ferry Phone Line is Still Down

The phone line to the Anacortes ferry office is still down and will remain out of service for a while longer. The ferry division is working with the Central Services department to replace the old phone system in the Anacortes ferry office. Skagit County will be starting a process to replace all phones at the County in early 2026, and to save costs in 2025, the ferry division will not be replacing the ferry office phones until the new phones systems are replaced as part of the county-wide upgrade project.

In the meantime, please call 360-416-1466 (**UPDATED**), and leave a voicemail if you cannot reach a staff member. Someone will get back to you by the end of the next business day (Monday - Friday). Another preferable option is to email us at ferrycomments@co.skagit.wa.us.
