

# Whatcom County Ferry Fare Review 2015

## Overarching Goals

Consistent level of Service  
Stability of Fares  
Prudent Planning

### Input:

LIFAC  
Community  
Public Works  
Executive's Office

Considerations and  
Goals

Economic relief for regular users  
Sustainable multi-year pricing  
Elimination of surcharge from Fare Sheet  
Slowing fund growth to match expenses  
Defining a dynamic fund balance goal  
Ability to absorb low ridership or ferry outage

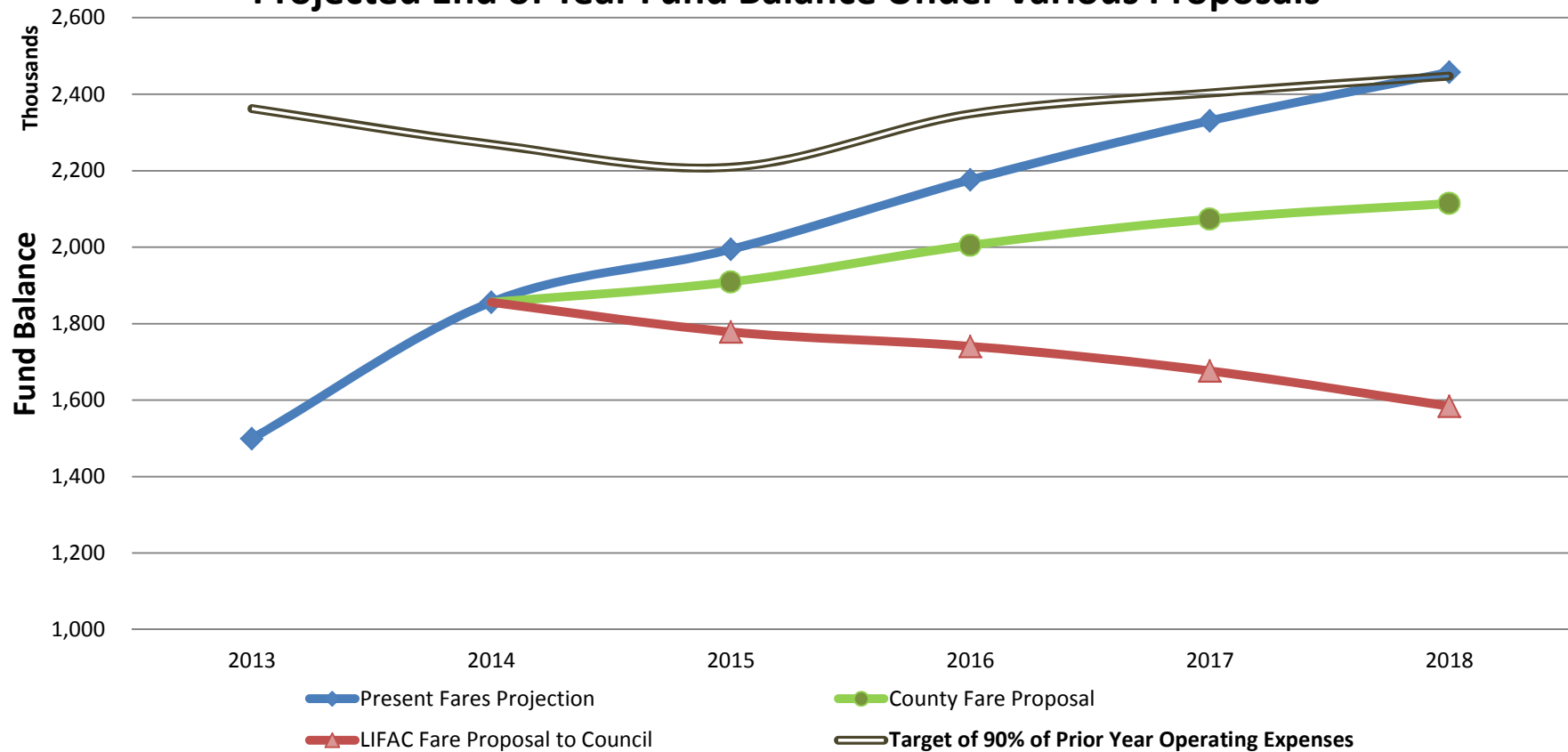
### Economic Relief Provided

- Targeted to Islanders by implementing relief at multi-ride pass levels only
- 24% reduction in total fare cost (new price \$3.50 per ride) for the *25-ride Passengers and Pedestrians* pass
- 11% reduction (new price \$8.40 per ride) for the *25-ride Vehicle w/Driver* pass
- 58% of overall trips will see a reduction in fares totaling nearly \$100K. This savings stays with multi-ride users

Consistent Level of Service	Stability of Fares	Prudent Planning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed plan continues the current level of service while reducing revenue.</li> <li>• Maintains a fund balance to cover an emergency vessel and other ferry needs in the event of a longer term service outage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revenue and expenses have been projected through 2018 with a balance of 75% of the prior year's operating expenses maintained without over-collecting.</li> <li>• Proposal maintains the 55% fare box recovery target outlined in the Ferry Fund creation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A target fund balance should rise and fall with inflation. Marking it against prior year's expenses identifies a target that remains relevant year after year.</li> <li>• 90% is where we started, but 75% is maintainable while still achieving our stated goals.</li> </ul>

## Ferry Fund Balance

### Projected End of Year Fund Balance Under Various Proposals



**Projection Assumptions:**

- Ridership statistics from 2014 are used and projected with a slight increase in 2016 due to fare reduction.
- Ferry Deficit Revenue is projected to follow historic 2 year trends of a high year followed by a low year.
- Wages are as budgeted for 2015-2016 and calculated using 5.0% and 2.5% growth 2017 and 2018.
- Benefits are as budgeted for 2015-2016 and calculated using 3.0% and 3.0% growth 2017 and 2018.
- Non labor are as budgeted for 2015-2016 and calculated using 2.0% per year for 2017 and 2018.
- Ferry dock and boat lease are excluded from growth projections.

## Summary of Change Between 6/1/2015 Pricing and Proposal

Fare Class (does not include "free" ticket classes)	round trips/ ticket	2014 tickets sold
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### Passenger / Pedestrian

<b>Passenger/Pedestrian Single Ride</b>	1	27,478	
<b>Passenger/Pedestrian Multiride</b>	25	1,112	Lowered
Needs Based Multiride (25->10)	10	167	Lowered
Post- HS full time student multiride	25	12	

### Vehicle / Driver

Bicycle w/Rider	1	369	
Motorcycle w/Driver	1	212	
Motorcycle w/Driver Multiride	25	18	Lowered
<b>Vehicle &lt; 8k W/Driver Cash</b>	1	30,432	
Vehicle < 8k W/Driver Multiride	10	642	
<b>Vehicle &lt; 8k W/Driver Multiride</b>	25	2,350	Lowered
Needs Based Vehicle W/Driver	10	463	Lowered
Vehicle/Driver - small truck < 20,000	1	584	
Vehicle - small truck Multiride	10	42	Increased
Vehicle/Driver - med truck < 36,000	1	151	Increased
Vehicle - med truck Multiride	10	34	Increased
Vehicle/Driver - large truck < 50,000	1	70	Increased
Vehicle - large truck Multiride	10	19	Increased

### Trailer

Trailer < 16 feet	1	466	Increased
Trailer 16-30 feet	1	224	Increased
Trailer > 30 feet	1	17	Increased

<b>Special Trips after boat shut-down</b>	1	1	Increased
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6/1/15 Pricing	County Proposal	Ticket/Punch Card Difference	Expected Rider Savings (Increase)
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\$7	\$7	\$0	\$0
\$115	\$88	(\$27)	\$30,000
\$37	\$28	(\$9)	\$1,500
\$66	\$66	\$0	\$0

\$7	\$7	\$0	\$0
\$8	\$8	\$0	\$0
\$155	\$140	(\$15)	\$300
\$13	\$13	\$0	\$0
\$102	\$102	\$0	\$0
\$235	\$210	(\$25)	\$58,800
\$66	\$52	(\$14)	\$6,500
\$32	\$32	\$0	\$0
\$237	\$272	\$35	(\$1,500)
\$68	\$75	\$7	(\$1,100)
\$524	\$638	\$114	(\$3,900)
\$133	\$145	\$12	(\$800)
\$1,070	\$1,233	\$163	(\$3,100)

\$18	\$20	\$2	(\$900)
\$34	\$38	\$4	(\$900)
\$63	\$70	\$7	(\$100)

\$578	\$600	\$22	\$0
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Savings	97,100
Increases	(12,300)
Total	84,800