

1 Sponsored by: Councilmember Jani Hitchen
2 Requested by: County Executive/Planning and Public Works Dept.

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7 **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-58s**

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10 **An Ordinance of the Pierce County Council Relating to Ferry Fares;**
11 **Amending Chapter 10.38 of the Pierce County Code, "Ferry**
12 **Fares," Adopting a New Ferry Fare Schedule; and Setting an**
13 **Effective Date.**

14
15 **Whereas**, Pierce County provides, through the Planning and Public Works
16 Department (PPW), ferry service between the Town of Steilacoom, Anderson Island,
17 and Ketron Island; and

18
19 **Whereas**, in 2021, the County Council adopted Ordinance No. 2021-102s, as
20 subsequently amended, which created the existing ferry fares; and

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22 **Whereas**, PPW completed a Ferry Financial Study in 2023; and

23
24 **Whereas**, PPW has recommended a fare increase of 3 percent on
25 January 1, 2024, and 5 percent on January 1, 2025, for vehicles and passengers to
26 address inflationary factors in the Ferry Operation; and

27
28 **Whereas**, PPW has recommended the establishment of a \$1.00 per ticket
29 Capital Replacement Surcharge on all tickets sold to establish a vessel replacement
30 fund; and

31
32 **Whereas**, it is in the best interest of the citizens of Pierce County to establish a
33 process for setting and adjusting ferry rates for operating the ferry and maintaining its'
34 facilities; **Now Therefore**,

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36 **BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of Pierce County:**

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38 Section 1. Chapter 10.38 of the Pierce County Code, "Ferry Fares," is hereby
39 amended as shown in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by
40 reference.



1 Section 2. The effective date of this Ordinance shall be January 1, 2024.

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4 PASSED this 14th day of November, 2023.

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6 ATTEST:

PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL
Pierce County, Washington

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10 Denise D. Johnson
11 **Denise D. Johnson**
12 Clerk to the Council

Ryan N. Mello
13 **Ryan N. Mello**
14 Council Chair

Bruce F. Dammeier
15 **Bruce F. Dammeier**
16 Pierce County Executive
17 Approved Vetoed _____, this
18 25th day of November,
19 2023.

20
21
22 Date of Publication of
23 Notice of Public Hearing: October 25, 2023
24
25 Effective Date of Ordinance: January 1, 2024
26

Chapter 10.38

FERRY FARES

Section:

10.38.010 Passenger and Vehicle Fares.

10.38.020 Capital Replacement Surcharge.

10.38.010 Passenger and Vehicle Fares.

A. All fares are round trip and collected outbound at Steilacoom, and become effective January 1, 2022-2024. Existing commuter Single use tickets are valid until expiration date indicated on each ticket. Refunds for unused single-use tickets will be issued up to 10 calendar days after the printed expiration date indicated on each ticket shall be per the written policy of the Planning and Public Works Department.

	2022-4(9)	2023-5(9)
B. Walk-On or Passenger:		
Adults (ages 18-19 and over)	\$ 5.92-7.50	\$ 6.21-7.75
Youth (ages 6 through 18) (1)	\$ 2.93	\$ 3.08
Children (under age 6)	FREE	FREE
Youth and Children (age 18 and under) (1)	FREE	FREE
Senior or Disabled Citizens (2)	\$ 2.93-4.00	\$ 3.08-4.25
Value Pass (5 round trips) (3)	\$ 23.67-26.50	\$ 24.83-27.75

C. Vehicle (including driver) (65)(76)(10):

	2022-4(9)		2023-5(9)	
	Non-Peak (4)	Peak (54)	Non-Peak (4)	Peak (54)
Up to and including 22'	\$ 19.93 22.50	\$ 26.24 30.75	\$ 20.90 23.75	\$ 28.86 32.25
Up to and including 22' – Senior or disabled driver (2)	\$ 16.56 19.00	\$ 21.78 25.75	\$ 17.37 20.00	\$ 23.96 27.00
Up to and including 22' – Value Pass (5 round trips) (3)	\$ 79.71 87.25	\$ 79.71 87.25	\$ 83.62 91.50	\$ 83.62 91.50
Over 22' to under 30'	\$ 40.51 44.75	\$ 53.35 61.50	\$ 42.49 47.00	\$ 58.69 64.50
30' to under 40'	\$ 64.51 70.75	\$ 84.92 97.25	\$ 67.67 74.25	\$ 93.41 102.00
40' to under 50'	\$ 86.17 94.00	\$ 113.47 129.50	\$ 90.40 98.75	\$124.81 136.00
50' to under 60'	\$ 107.68 117.25	\$ 141.79 161.75	\$ 112.95 123.00	\$155.97 169.75

60' to under 70'	\$ 129.18 140.50	\$ 170.12 193.75	\$ 135.51 147.50	\$187.13 203.50
70' to under 80'	\$ 158.34 164.00	\$ 208.51 237.25	\$ 166.10 172.25	\$229.36 249.00
80' to under 90' (87)	\$ 187.44 194.00	\$ 246.84 280.75	\$ 196.63 203.75	\$271.52 294.75
90' and greater (87)	\$ 221.71 229.25	\$ 291.94 331.75	\$ 232.57 240.75	\$321.13 348.25
Motorcycle/Stowage (includes driver) (9-8)	\$ 10.81 12.25	\$ 14.25 17.25	\$ 11.34 12.75	\$ 15.67 18.00
Motorcycle/Stowage – Senior or disabled driver (2)	\$ 8.96 10.25	\$ 11.83 14.50	\$ 9.40 10.75	\$ 13.01 15.25
Motorcycle Value Pass (5 round trips) (3)	\$ 43.11 45.50	\$ 43.11 47.50	\$ 45.23 47.75	\$ 45.23 50.00

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2 D. Bicycle.

3 Same as walk-on fare. One bicycle per passenger.

4 E. County and School Operations.

- 5 (1) The Planning and Public Works Department Director may specify staff that are
6 authorized to ride the ferry at no cost fare while conducting official County business.
7 (2) The Steilacoom School District shall be authorized three round trip vehicle trips each
8 school day at a no cost fare. The no cost fare shall be for official district business
9 limited to: transporting students, school lunches, school books, and other school
10 supplies to and from Anderson Island.

11 EF. Footnotes to Tables. This subsection pertains to the parenthetical numbers in the
12 subsections A. and B. above.

- 13 (1) ~~Fares for Youth and Children (ages 6- 18 and under) may be required to show proof~~
14 ~~of age with valid photo identification~~ are reimbursed by the Washington State 2023-
15 2025 Transportation Budget and will remain free to riders as long as the state
16 continues to subsidize these fares. Riders in this fare class still require a ticket to
17 board the ferry and may be required to show proof of age with valid photo
18 identification.
19 (2) Senior citizens, age 65 or older, must show proof of age with valid photo
20 identification or present a Regional Reduced Fare permit. Disabled passengers must
21 present valid disability identification. Valid disability requires one of the following:
22 a. A Regional Reduced Fare permit;
23 b. A regional ADA Paratransit card; or
24 c. A Medicare card.
25 (3) Value Pass tickets are valid for 40 days from the date of purchase; after 40 days the
26 tickets are invalid unless an extension is authorized per the written policy of the
27 Planning and Public Works Department. Value Pass tickets may be used by only one
28 person per vehicle per trip. Tickets may not be used for other vehicles or persons
29 waiting to board the ferry. No refunds will be given for unused tickets.
30

- 1 (4) Peak season rates are in effect from the Friday before Memorial Day weekend
2 through Labor Day weekend of each year. Non-Peak season rates are in effect the
3 remainder of the year. The Planning and Public Works Department will publish
4 actual calendar dates each year to correspond to the holiday schedule.
- 5 ~~(5) Peak season rates are in effect from the Friday before Memorial Day weekend
6 through Labor Day of each year. The Planning and Public Works Department will
7 publish actual calendar dates each year to correspond to the holiday schedule.~~
- 8 (65) Vehicle length is measured from furthest protruding item at the front and/or top of
9 the vehicle to the furthest protruding item at the rear and/or top of the vehicle and/or
10 trailer. Logging trucks, whether loaded or unloaded, will be charged in the 50' to
11 under 60' category.
- 12 ~~(76) Any vehicle with a total width exceeding 8-1/2 feet, measured from furthest
13 protruding item at each side of the vehicle, shall be charged twice the normal rate.~~
- 14 (87) Vehicles 80 feet or longer or over 8-1/2 feet in width must schedule their departure
15 time in advance.
- 16 (98) Large carry-on items including kayaks, canoes, and other items of comparable size,
17 which are typically stowed on the vehicle deck of the vessel, shall be charged at the
18 motorcycle rate. This rate includes the fare for the walk-on passenger carrying the
19 item to be stowed.
- 20 (9) Passenger and vehicle fares include a \$1.00 per ticket capital replacement surcharge.
- 21 ~~(10) The Steilacoom School District shall be authorized two round trip vehicle trips each
22 school day at a no cost fare. The no cost fare shall be limited to one vehicle having a
23 maximum length of 22 feet and its driver for the limited purpose of transporting
24 school lunches, school books, and other school supplies to Anderson Island, and one
25 school bus and its driver. Vehicle and bus passengers shall be required to pay full
26 fare.~~

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28 **10.38.020 Capital Replacement Surcharge.**

29 Ferry fares set forth in PCC 10.38.010 include a \$1.00 per ticket surcharge for capital
30 replacement purposes. All proceeds from the capital replacement surcharge shall be deposited in
31 a separate account and shall be utilized solely for ferry capital replacement purposes.