

**From:** MyFairpoint.  
**Sent:** Monday, March 23, 2026 12:08 PM  
**To:** Joe Donovan <[JoeD@cascobaylines.com](mailto:JoeD@cascobaylines.com)>  
**Subject:** Down Bay Ferry

Joe I would like to add my support for reinstating this boat for it is necessary for the people of long Island and the other islands to have the midmorning boat (10:05) back to town as it makes for a long gap between the other boats and on the other end (intown) it forces one to be even longer getting back to the Islands. I hope this helps, Also Id like to ask will the 1:00 down bay boat from Portland be put back on with the spring schedule as this boat is sorely missed because without it we are stuck intown for another 2 hours before the 3:15 boat and this is hard. Brad

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**From:** Patti Papkee <  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 17, 2026 10:34 AM  
**To:** Joe Donovan <[JoeD@cascobaylines.com](mailto:JoeD@cascobaylines.com)>  
**Cc:** [comments@cascobaylines.com](mailto:comments@cascobaylines.com) <[comments@cascobaylines.com](mailto:comments@cascobaylines.com)>; Benjamin Dinsmore <[BenD@cascobaylines.com](mailto:BenD@cascobaylines.com)>; Jennifer Lavanture <[JenniferL@cascobaylines.com](mailto:JenniferL@cascobaylines.com)>; Jean Hoffman <[JeanH@cascobaylines.com](mailto:JeanH@cascobaylines.com)>  
**Subject:** Down the Bay Run on weekends

Dear Members of the Casco Bay Lines Board of Directors,

I am writing as a Long Island resident to strongly urge you to reinstate the mid-morning weekend ferry service that was eliminated with the removal of the 8:00 a.m. Down Bay run.

For those of us on Long Island, that schedule made a full, functional Saturday possible. The morning hours are the most practical time to take care of errands on the island itself. With the former 10:05 a.m. departure to Portland, we could complete those local tasks and still get into town in time for appointments, shopping, and other necessities—allowing for a full and productive day.

Without that option, the day becomes constrained and far less workable. We are now forced to choose between handling essential errands on the island or going into town early enough to accomplish anything there. The current schedule no longer allows residents to reasonably do both.

It also creates practical challenges for everyday activities. Attending get-togethers or events in town that begin in the early afternoon now requires arriving hours too early, often resulting in a three-hour wait with no reasonable way to use that time productively.

Likewise, grocery shopping becomes difficult to manage—you cannot shop that early in the morning and send food down on the boat without risking spoilage, especially for perishable items.

While I understand the need to manage costs, the relatively modest savings must be weighed against the tangible effect on the residents who rely on this service every weekend. Ferry service is not simply a convenience for island communities—it is essential infrastructure that directly affects our ability to manage our homes, schedules, and responsibilities.

I also ask the Board's At-Large Representatives, Jen Lavanture and Jean Hoffman, to give particular consideration to the needs of Long Island, Chebeague, and Cliff residents. While this change may not directly affect Peaks Island, your role is to represent all island communities, and this issue has had a clear and disproportionate impact on those of us who have lost this critical mid-morning access.

I respectfully ask that you act to reinstate this service prior to the peak season. Restoring the mid-morning weekend run would make a meaningful and immediate difference in the lives of many island residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Patti Papkee,

Long Island Year Round Resident

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**From:** Katie Norton <

**Sent:** Saturday, March 14, 2026 3:12 PM

**To:** Jennifer Lavanture <[JenniferL@casco baylines.com](mailto:JenniferL@casco baylines.com)>; [jennifierl@casco baylines.com](mailto:jennifierl@casco baylines.com)  
<[jennifierl@casco baylines.com](mailto:jennifierl@casco baylines.com)>; Joe Donovan <[JoeD@casco baylines.com](mailto:JoeD@casco baylines.com)>; Jean Hoffman  
<[JeanH@casco baylines.com](mailto:JeanH@casco baylines.com)>

**Subject:** 10:05 departing Long Island

Good afternoon,

I'm writing to ask that you reinstate the weekend 8am ferry that becomes the 1005 off Long Island. If you have to save the money, please consider taking away some weekday runs, rather than weekend. It's a major inconvenience to only have an 840 and a noon departing and we often end up having to stay in town much longer than our errands or other activities alone require.

Thanks,

Katie Norton, Long Island

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**From:** Mary Caliandro <  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 15, 2026 6:09 PM  
**To:** Joe Donovan <[JoeD@cascobaylines.com](mailto:JoeD@cascobaylines.com)>  
**Subject:** weekend 8 am ferry

Dear Joe, I am writing to you to request that we regain the weekend 8am ferry as soon as possible and keep it even in the off season. I know for a fact it has disrupted mail service on Chebeague and Cliff Islands delaying it by hours. It is also difficult to remember when planning trips uptown that there is no ferry at 10:05 on the weekends. Is the savings really worth the inconvenience the islanders have to deal with? Convenience, especially living on an island, is a big deal. The CBITD is in existence to serve the people of the islands, including all down the bay islands. That alone is a good reason to bring back the 8am ferry and keep it. Thank you for all you do! Mary Caliandro & Chris Mobley on Long Island

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**From:** Karen Boss  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2026 8:48 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Lavanture <[JenniferL@cascobaylines.com](mailto:JenniferL@cascobaylines.com)>; Joe Donovan <[JoeD@cascobaylines.com](mailto:JoeD@cascobaylines.com)>; Jean Hoffman <[JeanH@cascobaylines.com](mailto:JeanH@cascobaylines.com)>; Max Pizey <[maxp@cascobaylines.com](mailto:maxp@cascobaylines.com)>; James Luedke <[jamesl@cascobaylines.com](mailto:jamesl@cascobaylines.com)>; George Higgins <[georgeh@cascobaylines.com](mailto:georgeh@cascobaylines.com)>; Paul Belesca <[PaulB@cascobaylines.com](mailto:PaulB@cascobaylines.com)>; Erik Winchester <[erikw@cascobaylines.com](mailto:erikw@cascobaylines.com)>; Nate Cooper <[NateC@cascobaylines.com](mailto:NateC@cascobaylines.com)>; Dave Crowley <[DaveC@cascobaylines.com](mailto:DaveC@cascobaylines.com)>; Benjamin Dinsmore <[BenD@cascobaylines.com](mailto:BenD@cascobaylines.com)>  
**Subject:** regarding the 8am weekend down bay ferry run

To the members of the Casco Bay Lines Board of Directors:

The elimination of the 8am down bay weekend ferry run resulted in the elimination of Long's 10am town-bound ferry. This has made weekends difficult for citizens here. Arranging schedules to figure out how to make trips to town work on either the 840 or the noon has not been easy.

When this comes up for discussion, I urge board members to strongly consider constituents' opinions about this run. Having that boat back would make things exponentially easier for us.

Thank you very much,  
Karen Boss, Long Island full-time resident

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**From:** Eric Norcross  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2026 9:14 AM

**To:** Jennifer Lavanture <[JenniferL@cascobaylines.com](mailto:JenniferL@cascobaylines.com)>; Jean Hoffman <[JeanH@cascobaylines.com](mailto:JeanH@cascobaylines.com)>  
**Cc:** Joe Donovan <[JoeD@cascobaylines.com](mailto:JoeD@cascobaylines.com)>; Paul Belesca <[PaulB@cascobaylines.com](mailto:PaulB@cascobaylines.com)>; Dave Crowley <[DaveC@cascobaylines.com](mailto:DaveC@cascobaylines.com)>; Max Pizey <[maxp@cascobaylines.com](mailto:maxp@cascobaylines.com)>; James Luedke <[jamesl@cascobaylines.com](mailto:jamesl@cascobaylines.com)>; George Higgins <[georgeh@cascobaylines.com](mailto:georgeh@cascobaylines.com)>; Erik Winchester <[erikw@cascobaylines.com](mailto:erikw@cascobaylines.com)>; Nate Cooper <[NateC@cascobaylines.com](mailto:NateC@cascobaylines.com)>; William Geary <[william.geary@maine.gov](mailto:william.geary@maine.gov)>; Mike Murray <[mism@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:mism@portlandmaine.gov)>  
**Subject:** CBL Scheduling Comment for the Board

Dear Members of the Casco Bay Island Transit District Board,

I am writing as a lifelong island native and current island resident to respectfully ask the Board to revisit the decision to remove the 8:00 AM ferry from the weekend schedule. I would especially like to address the representatives serving Chebeague Island (Paul Belesca), Long Island (Joe Donovan), Cliff Island (Dave Crowley), and the Islands-at-Large representatives (Jennifer Lavanture and Jean Hoffman), as this change has had a significant impact on those of us living down-the-bay.

For many island residents, the early morning weekend ferry was more than just a convenient departure—it was an essential connection to the mainland, and to each other. Its removal has made it far more difficult for islanders to get to early work shifts, medical appointments, youth activities, and other commitments that require being on the mainland in the morning. Beyond that, those of us with family spread across different islands have found it harder to connect without it. For those of us who live farther out in the bay, the effect is especially pronounced. What may have appeared to be a relatively small operational adjustment has translated into real disruptions in the day-to-day lives of island residents.

I understand that CBITD must carefully manage its finances and look for ways to operate efficiently. However, the modest savings achieved by eliminating this run do not justify the outsized impact the decision has had on the communities the District was created to serve. By the District's own estimates, the savings from removing this ferry do not even amount to the annual wages of a first-year retail worker—hardly a meaningful financial remedy when weighed against the loss of a vital transportation link for multiple island communities. The mandate of CBITD is, first and foremost, to provide reliable transportation that meets the needs of island residents. Over the past months, many islanders have spoken publicly about how the removal of this ferry has negatively affected them. When a change so clearly runs counter to the expressed needs of the community, it deserves reconsideration.

If the District is seeking ways to control costs, there are certainly other avenues worth exploring that do not directly reduce essential service. For example, the Board could consider revisiting the timing or scope of certain capital improvement projects, evaluating staffing schedules and operational efficiencies, or identifying other cost-saving measures that would allow service levels to remain intact while still supporting the District's financial

stability. Maintaining critical transportation options for islanders should remain the priority.

The weekend 8:00 AM ferry provided a vital link that allowed island residents to fully participate in work, education, healthcare, and community life on the mainland. Permanently restoring this run would go a long way towards reaffirming CBITD's commitment to the people it was established to serve.

I appreciate the work that each of you does on behalf of the island communities, and I respectfully urge the Board to reconsider this decision and restore the 8:00 AM weekend ferry.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,  
Eric Norcross  
553 South Road  
Chebeague Island, ME 04017

Jaqueline Trask 3/30/26

Please reinstate the DownBay Sat. 8AM to Chebeague on April 18 to support earlier US Mail delivery. Thank you. Jackie Doughty Trask . I am a year round resident of Chebeague.

Hi,

After hearing CBL is considering running the 8am down the bay, I am writing to encourage adding it back to the schedule. This may help with the mail and deliveries of freight.

We appreciate the important service you provide!

Thank you,  
Sandra and John Birkett  
Chebeague

Greetings,

Please start the 8 AM to Chebeague Island run on April 18 to support earlier mail delivery.

Thank you,

Lynne Priest  
Chebeague Island

3/29/26

Please reinstate the 8 AM departure from Portland which would also reinstate the 10:15 departure from GDI. This is an extremely popular ferry for islanders.

3/29/26

Michael Makee

Please start the 8 AM run on April 18 to support earlier mail delivery.

Thank you,

Mike

Dear CBL,

As a year-round Chebeaguer, a mother with commuter-ages kids, my family members and neighbors would like to support the 8am run.

Please start the 8 AM run on April 18 - we support earlier mail delivery, better commute options and overall accessibility for our island.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

The Neumanns

Erika Gabrielsen Neumann  
erikagneumann@gmail.com  
She/her

Chebeague Island, ME 04017

3/29/26

To whom it may concern

We are owners of a home at Diamond Cove and would like to express our concern over the cancellation of the 8AM weekend run of the down bay ferry from Portland, which greatly disrupts the transportation options of folks on our island. Please reconsider when you meet on Tuesday evening.

Thank you  
Adam and Erica Goldfarb  
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Please start the 8AM run to the islands on April 18 to support earlier mail delivery to Chebeague.  
Thank you.

Wanda Buczynski  
Chebeague resident

It would be great to see the 8am boat - to include Chebeague, where I live year round.

Thanks,

Bob Earnest  
Chebeague Island

3/29/26

Man of us on great diamond island would like to see the 8.00 am weekend ferry service reinstated if at all possible

Thank you  
Wayne and Alison

Please start the 8am run to Chebeague on April 18 so we can get our mail delivered earlier and have access to Portland on that boat.

Thank you!  
Krista & Neil Hayward  
Chebeague Island

Greeting,  
I live on Chebeague Island, would you please consider starting your 8am run on April 18th this season - it really helps with earlier mail delivery and it is also beneficial for getting food vendor orders earlier in the day. I manage The Slow Bell Cafe, getting fresh fish from Harbor Fish in the morning would be amazing!!

Thank you for your consideration!

Jami KomLosy  
Sorry, I think I sent this to the wrong email address. If it is your second time reading this, I apologize.

Good Morning,

My name is Peter Frager and I am a resident of Great Diamond Island. I would like to take the time in this email to voice my support for reinstating the 8AM down bay run on Saturday and Sunday. As many of you are probably aware and grateful for, it seems as though we are finally going to make it to spring. With that comes people opening up their homes, doing work and repairs both outdoors and indoors, and an influx of passengers and freight.

I would like to start by saying that I felt the winter schedule the board came up with for the months between November and April worked out well. However, with the increase in freight, especially on the weekends, we should reinstate the 8 am run on Saturday and Sunday starting on April 18.

Last summer, while discussing the change of the winter schedule, I think it was Katie Gildart who had the right idea. That idea was having a Winter A and B schedule, which would allow for the 8am boat (and at the time she presented the idea, the 1 pm inter bay run as well) should go away when the cruise ships ended at the end of October, and come back in April as the weather got warmer and there is an increase in passengers and freight. I think it was a great idea, and one the board should consider.

I appreciate your time and consideration on these matters, and as always, thank you for your time serving on the Board of Directors.

Very Respectfully,

Peter Frager  
Great Diamond Island - Diamond Cove

3/28/26

Good afternoon,

I recently viewed a post that indicates the option of the 8 a.m. Saturday boat either April 18 or May 21. I was against the time change (after I found out it changed that day of delivery, no notification sent here or the other islands) to begin with, but April 18 should be when you change the time back to 8 a.m.

Regards,

Tim

Timothy Opalenik  
Chebeague Island Postmaster

24 Niblic Circle  
Chebeague Island, ME 04017

Hello,

Please start the 8 AM run on April 18 to support earlier mail delivery!!!

Thank you,  
Hutch Hurwitz

To whom it may concern,  
I understand that CBL cancelled the weekend run for the 8 am down bay ferry from Portland - which also resulted in the removal of the 10:15 am up bay ferry leaving GDI. This greatly impacts those of us who live on Diamond Cove as we already only have a limited number of times to get into town. And the current schedule lasts until May.

Can you please add my note of concern to the agenda Tuesday for your Board meeting?

Thanks,  
Jody Comins (she/her)

Please restore this service. I am 79 years old and this ferry is a critical component of continuing to live year-round on the island.

Sent from my iPhone  
D. Bruce La Pierre  
Professor of Law Emeritus  
Washington University  
One Brookings Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri 63130

3/28/26

As a Chebeague resident I greatly support CBL to "Please start the 8 AM run on April 18 to support earlier mail delivery." as well as for other reasons. Thank you for your consideration into this.

Bill Calthorpe

Kindly reinstate the weekend 8 am ferry down bay to further In town choices.

Brian McAndrew 39 Meadow Avenue, Great Diamond island d.

3/28/26

Good morning,

Having the 8 am boat to Chebeague on April 18th would be appreciated. Thank you for considering this date.

Have a great day

Please start the 8 AM run on April 18 to support earlier mail delivery.

Beth Putnam

To the Board of Directors,

I'm writing to ask for the 8:00am weekend run to be reinstated this spring and the shoulder season

Mary Ann McAndrew

39 Meadow Ave

Great Diamond Island