

TO: Casco Bay Lines Board of Directors

FROM: Ben Dinsmore, GM

DATE: Sept 1, 2026

RE: Winter Sailing Schedule

Dear Board,

For each of the last two years, the Board has acted to run the winter schedule through the Thursday before Memorial Day. Both actions were taken as part of the broader effort to reduce operating costs and narrow the deficit.

Despite two votes on the matter at last week's board meeting, no dates have been adopted for the 2026/2027 winter sailing schedule.

In my view as both GM and parliamentarian, the operative default is the last date the Board approved, which has the spring schedule starting on Friday before Memorial Day. Given the late arrival of Memorial Day in 2027 (May 31st), my intention is to start the spring schedule the second Friday preceding Memorial Day. Absent further action, staff will build the 2026/2027 schedule on that basis.

Attached you will find an updated slide deck showing the increased cost of the alternate spring schedule start day (the Friday before Patriot's Day). The slide deck also includes an estimate of the additional passenger and specialty cruise revenue that would be gained over that period. The total estimated net cost of ending the winter schedule early is ~\$25,600.

Recommendation

I recommend the Board adopt a standing rule fixing both ends of the winter schedule.

A standing rule gives all stakeholders a calendar they can plan against and helps bring certainty to future board votes regarding the winter schedule.

Any Board remains free to depart from a standing rule in a given year by majority vote.

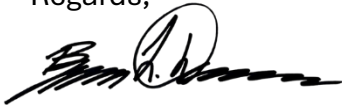
Recommended motion

Moved, that the Casco Bay Island Transit District winter sailing schedule shall commence annually on the Tuesday following Columbus Day, also observed as Indigenous Peoples' Day, and shall remain in effect through the Thursday preceding Memorial Day, provided that in any year in which Memorial Day falls after May 25, the winter schedule shall instead remain in effect through the second Thursday preceding Memorial Day; and further, that the spring sailing schedule shall commence on the Friday immediately following the last day of the winter schedule; and further, that these dates shall govern unless the Board, by majority vote, adopts different dates for a given year.

Effect for 2027. Winter schedule from Tuesday, October 13, 2026 through Thursday, May 20, 2027. Spring schedule begins Friday, May 21, 2027.

Effect going forward. The winter schedule will always end on a Thursday between May 15 and May 21, and the spring schedule will always begin on the Friday that follows.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Dinsmore", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ben Dinsmore, GM