

4/12/2026

Hi

It seems to me to make sense that residents (who use the ferry like everyone else uses a highway) should pay less than the general public just looking for an outing. Isn't there some way to offer residents a discounted rate? Or a discount as a "frequent flyer"?

Just a thought.

CS Haas

Hello,

I would like to register my disapproval of the fare increase to \$17 for travel to Peaks. A highlight of my summer for years has been a family trip to Peaks. My family has generational ties so this is a very special way to stay connected. This fare increase will make me think twice about coming now with friends and family. It would be unfortunate if the island becomes less accessible to everyone except the very rich. I hope you will consider leaving ticket prices as they are. Thank you.

My best,

Zoop Afrisss

Hi

I would like to register my disapproval for the fare increase. I have been coming to Peaks Island with family for decades. The fare increase would make me think twice about going to the island.

Thank you

Wendy Gatsiounis

Hello

Seasonal property owner here.

1. What has changed to justify increase in fares since last increase? At that time it was proposed that subsidies etc would diminish. Has that happened? Looks like deficit is moving in right direction.
2. I am concerned that Peaks Island community is becoming inaccessible to more folks. Could there be a passenger cheap rate day or days? Not only for visitors, family and friend but residents doc visits, errands etc.
3. self serving, but as a seasonal resident that buys a seasonal pass, can I not have access to a family and friends rate?

Lynn Wilcox

To whom it may concern,

I am a Portland resident, and have lived in Maine my whole life. I have watched as the prices of everything have gone up, making it harder and harder as a young person to enjoy the state I live in as a local. If the prices of the Casco bay tickets are raised to \$17, it would essentially make it a gated community, and only accessible to rich tourists. Raising the tickets to \$14 has already made peaks island less accessible to most young working class locals, so please don't raise it even further. We love peaks island, we love visiting, but that won't be possible anymore with an increased ticket price.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and considering our request. I speak for myself, but I know I speak for many with the words of this email.

Thank you,

Montana van Duijn

Dear Casco Bay Lines,

My family has owned a Peaks Island seasonal cottage for three generations now. Despite Peaks becoming "fancier" in recent years, there are a many, many families of modest means (we are a family of teachers) who own or rent summer homes there, and who who host their extended families and friends all summer long, as we do. This fare rate will make visiting the island unaffordable our family and friends, a luxury only people of means can afford. It was enough for CBL to raise the rates last year, to do so again is simply unconscionable.

Besides discouraging or preventing visitors, this rate hike will negatively impact the businesses on the island, which contribute a great deal to the community and which depend on the summer visitors to exist. Despite the fact some year-round folks want to discourage “tourists,” the fact is the island has always been a summer community and always will be (many homes, like ours, do not have access to year-round water). Let’s not make Peaks a place only the rich can enjoy.

Sincerely,

Nina Markov

Hi there,

As a business owner and multigenerational islander, I am writing to oppose the fare increase in the strongest possible terms. I did not say anything during the first fare increase because it felt (pardon the pun) fair to raise the ticket prices after so many years of not doing so. Raising the prices again feels beyond the pale. My family will think twice before visiting now -- but most of all, my friends who live in Portland are much less likely to come to the island for an impromptu summer cook-out or morning swim.

If Peaks is part of the City of Portland, it is the City's responsibility to make sure that the neighborhood is accessible to all residents of the city. A 15 minute bus ride costs \$2. There is no justifiable reason why a ferry ride should cost almost \$20. It essentially makes Peaks a gated community, and our history as a haven iconoclasts and artists will suffer because of it.

I know that the committee is working hard in the best interests of the island, and I appreciate you taking the time to read my comment.

Thank you,

Natasha Markov-Riss

Baba's Cafe

79 Island Ave, Peaks Island Maine.

Dear CBITD Board members,

I am writing to oppose the proposed \$3 increase to single ticket fares. Following a 100% increase two years ago, this change creates a significant financial barrier for those who do not use long-term passes, including college students, hourly workers, and local organizations like my team of 35 preschool teachers to come to the island for our monthly "Better Together" events. It's simply economically discriminatory to limit access on a public transportation to charge private sector rates based on white collar income and what the market might bear.

The proposed 12-ticket family pass is exclusionary as it is only available to annual pass holders. Furthermore, the \$17 single fare vs. the \$2 effective rate for annual pass holders fails the standard of "reasonable cross-subsidization."

I also question the legality of requiring that existing tickets with 60-day expiration periods be exchanged for higher fares.

These changes, along with vehicle fare hikes, undermine the accessibility of Peaks Island and the preservation of community which relies on infrequent summer travelers.

I urge the Board to reconsider these rates to better represent all islanders and visitors. Additionally, I ask why the benefits afforded to annual pass holders are not extended to Residential Pass holders, who are the only group charged a fee to acquire a pass.

Sincerely,

Sharoan

12 Merriam Street

Peaks Island, ME 04108

April 12, 2026

To the CBL Board,

When I made a conscious decision to move to Peaks Island, I knew that the price of a ticket was going to rise. What service costs don't rise? I also knew that my family and friends would have to buy tickets, and those tickets would no doubt rise in cost, as well. How can a company stay afloat (no pun intended) by keeping their services at the same price year after year?

By moving to an island, I knew that I would not get as many visitors as I did on the mainland, and that had to do with both needing to buy a ticket and needing to plan on taking a ferry. But again, that is a decision I made, not one that was forced upon me. I don't get a discount on plane or bus tickets when I go to visit my children in the places they live. I just don't understand why people think they should get a discount on transportation because they chose at some point, or are still choosing, to live on an island.

For too long, there was much abuse of Commuter Books – with tickets being given to friends, family, and even students of residents, and this resulted in lost revenue for CBL. I am thankful that despite the years of abuse, CBL is offering us the opportunity to purchase 12 tickets for us to use for friends and families.

In a similar vein, I am really pleased to see bigger vehicles being charged more than smaller vehicles. I do not want to subsidize people who have bought (often unnecessarily) large Suburbans or pick-up trucks. Again, the size of a vehicle is a conscious choice which comes with financial implications.

I live on a very tight budget, but I plan accordingly, make sacrifices, and am grateful for a ferry service that runs as often as it does. I shudder to think what might happen to the frequent ferry service should CBL need to save money by cutting service to Peaks.

I was hesitant to voice my opinions as I expect backlash from some members of the Peaks community. However, I could not live on Peaks were it not for CBL and I understand their need to be financially sound.

Kind regards,

Eliot Grady

Hello Casco Bay Lines,

My name is Justin, and I am a graduate student at USM in Portland. Several of my good friends live on Peaks Island, and raising the ticket prices for the ferry would affect all of us. I hope you will consider this, and how it will affect the summer economy, before making any changes.

Best wishes,

Justin Wendler

667 Congress St.

Apartment 604

Portland, ME

04101