From:	Owen Davis
To:	Public Comment; Sharoan Cohen
Subject:	CBL Wednesday Car Ferry
Date:	Monday, May 22, 2023 8:52:43 AM

Hello,

I am writing as a Peaks Island resident to strongly urge Casco Bay Lines not to discontinue the Wednesday reduced rate ticket program. We understand that there will be some aspects of living on an island which are more expensive, but it is critically important to residents who are not wealthy that there be some options which mitigate that cost. Without this, folks like me will be pushed away from viewing Peaks as a viable home community, and instead as an inaccessible luxury vacation getaway only.
We have been told that this is apparently the only option to "make Wednesdays safer" at the terminal. I don't want to be rude, but this is absurd. Anyone who commutes daily, and frequently uses the ferry on weekends as well can see that weekends are far more chaotic and dangerous, yet I hear no suggestion that something must be done about that. If the true goal were to increase organization and safety on Wednesdays and not simply to eliminate the program, there would be much more direct ways to achieve that, such as a reservation system, limiting cheap tickets to island residents, or imposing restrictions on what type of vehicles were eligible.
Since these and other options have been ignored, we are forced into that conclusion that the goal is simply to get rid of the assistance to islanders, and make more money the easiest way possible. For those on the board who do not want that, please represent us by opposing this move.

Thank you,
Owen Davis

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