



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS  
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April 7, 2022

**Memo To:** Luly Massaro  
Commission Clerk

**From** : Patricia Smith *P.S.*  
Rate Analyst

**Subject** : Docket No. 4389 - Jamestown & Newport Ferry Company

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On March 23, 2022, the Jamestown & Newport Ferry Company filed a proposed tariff for the 2022 season. In its filing, the Company provided a complete list of currently approved rates compared with the proposed rates for service beginning May 2022. This is the first proposed rate change since the 2018 season. With the exception of the child rates, most rates are proposed to increase by only a few dollars. In particular, the Young Child – Round Trip (Infant-4) category is proposed to increase from no charge to \$10 and the Child – Round Trip (5-12) category is proposed to increase from \$10 to \$18. The Division spoke to the Company concerning these increases and they informed us that they operated in the red for the last few seasons and looked at ways to increase revenues without significantly increasing the full fare tickets which they were concerned would impact overall ridership. They chose to add the Young Child Fare – Round Trip (Infant-4) and increase the Child Round – Trip Fare (5-12) to align with market rate more closely. Though these fare increases are proportionally larger than the proposed increases in other categories, they still provide a significant discount off the full passenger fare and the Division believes the proposed increase to the child rates is reasonable. The Division likewise finds the totality of the proposed

tariff changes to be reasonable, most especially considering that this is the Company's first rate increase since 2018.

It is important to note that the Company provides a discretionary, non-lifeline service. The Company does not have a captive market that relies on it for transportation between Jamestown and Newport. For this reason, the Division does not believe a formal review or a hearing on the proposed rates is necessary. The Division recommends approval of the rates as filed.