



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS**

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**Memo To:** Luly Massaro  
Commission Clerk

**From** : Patricia Smith  
Rate Analyst

**Date** : May 12, 2022

**Subject** : Docket No. 4621 – SeaStreak, LLC’s Providence to Newport Ferry Service

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On April 18, 2022, SeaStreak, LLC (“SeaStreak”) submitted a letter to the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) announcing that the Rhode Island Department of Transportation and SeaStreak would continue the Providence to Newport Ferry for the 2022 season, which is scheduled to run from June 17, 2022 through October 10, 2022. The filing included the schedule for the upcoming season, along with a request for approval of a one-way fare increase of \$1.00 for adults and \$0.50 for all other fares. Round trip fares are twice the one-way fares; as such, the increase in round trip fares would be \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for the other fares. This is the first proposed fare increase since the 2019 season. The current and proposed are shown in the below table.

Ticket	One Way		Round Trip	
	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed
Adult	\$11.00	\$12.00	\$22.00	\$24.00
Disabled and Medicare Cardholders	\$ 5.50	\$ 6.00	\$11.00	\$12.00
Senior Citizens (65 and over)	\$ 5.50	\$ 6.00	\$11.00	\$12.00
Children (12 and under)	\$ 5.50	\$ 6.00	\$11.00	\$12.00

As the Commission is aware, this ferry service is discretionary and does not constitute lifeline ferry services for an isolated ratepayer population. In similar cases in the past, the Commission determined that a comprehensive rate proceeding was not required, and it exercised its option under Rhode Island General Laws, § 39-3-12 and waived further investigation and public hearings and it approved the rates as filed.

Based on the facts stated above, and the nominal fare increases proposed, the Division finds SeaStreak's proposal to be reasonable and it recommends the Commission approve SeaStreak's rates as filed without need for further investigation or public hearing.