

## New Summer Ferry Schedule - Effective May 1, 2018

In March the Board President put forward three possible scenarios concerning ferry staffing going forward. Two of the scenarios were either do nothing or hire a third crew. The third scenario was outsourcing. During the last crew meeting the Island Manager talked to the crew about how they thought we could manage the work load and still comply with the Coast Guard 12 hour work rule. They have proposed a fourth option that would require a change in our shuttle policy and staffing.

Posted on the website homepage is the new summer ferry schedule change proposed by the ferry crew and adopted by the Board at the April 14th Board meeting.. Their approach is twofold. The idea is to avoid hiring an extra crew; the current crew will get a lunch/supper break and avoid hitting the 12-hour rule.

The first change is to the ferry schedule for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The basic change on Friday is that there will be no ferry operations after the 5:00 PM run until the 6:30 PM run. **This includes shuttle runs.** (Currently there are no schedule runs at this time but shuttles take up this timeslot so **no shuttling will occur between 5:00 and 6:30 PM.**) Last summer the crew started at 2:30 PM and ran past the 9:00 PM run with no break. This change allows for a mandatory break for the crew. The Saturday and Sunday changes include removing the 2:30/3:00 run and sliding it into the vacant 05:30/06:00 slot and running the ferry straight starting at 3:30 PM until 08:00 PM or the last car. This gives them their break and does not violate the 12-hour rule.

The second part of their idea is to assign a second deckhand on Friday and Saturday during the high summer season. One deckhand would stay on the mainland side and deal with the collection of money and paperwork. The other deckhand would remain on the ferry for loading and offloading of vehicles and passengers. This would allow the ferry to do an immediate turn without having to wait for the deckhand to handle the paperwork. This will increase the number of shuttle runs per hour resulting in faster moving traffic. This is the same process that is currently used for the three holidays during the summer.

The new ferry schedule is effective May 1, 2018 and will run through the busy summer months. A copy of the new schedule is posted on the website below this summary.

(scroll down)