# Virtual Public Meeting:

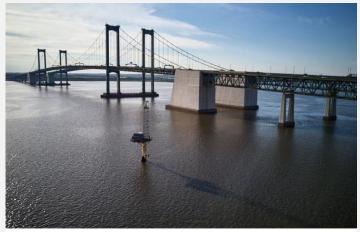
# 2024 CMLF Fare Proposal

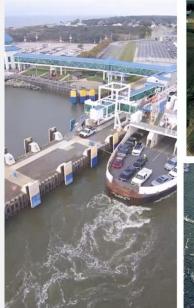
**CONNECTIONS THAT MOVE YOU** 

6 DEC 2023

### **DRBA STAFF ON THE CALL TODAY**

- Heath Gehrke, Director of Ferry Operations
- Jennifer Shivers, Asst. Director of Ferry Operations
- Terry Anstead, Customer Service Manager









# THE DRBA IN BRIEF

- Delaware Memorial Bridge
- Cape May-Lewes Ferry
- New Castle Airport, Delaware Air Park, the Civil Air Terminal, Millville Airport, Cape May Airport
- Supported solely by tolls/fares/fees; no tax dollars
- Every \$1 invested in the CMLF returns about \$20 to the local economies!

CONNECTIONS THAT MOVE YOU



# **CMLF FISCAL OUTLOOK**

- Ferry generates ~\$14M in revenues to support ~\$25M in expense or ~60% farebox recovery
- In general, the rates updated every other year – in part to address rising costs
- Board-approved changes effective 1 APR

#### **Goals of fare changes:**

- Improve farebox recovery
- Decrease costs for families over time
- Incentivize multiple trips *CONNECTIONS THAT MOVE YOU*

#### **Summary of Increases**

- Vehicles <25' +\$1 in season only
- \$2 increase for vehicles from 25' 44' in season
- \$3 increase for vehicles 45' and over
- Discounted rates increase similarly
- +\$2 for shuttle fares

NOTE: No increase to "Return-trip" fares

- Increases revenue to cover additional costs
- Begins to balance price per foot



#### **Other Increases**

- Increased no-show fee from \$10 to \$26
- \$2 handling fee for "show and go" (non-reserved)
- <u>Optional</u> \$5 Priority Boarding Fee
  - Disincentivizes no-shows
  - Incentivizes prebooking
  - Allows guest to pay more to be boarded where they will board and disembark first

#### Decreases

- Child rate (6 13) decreases \$1 in both directions (currently \$4 one way and \$7 round trip)
- Loyalty Rewards Program allows members to earn points to redeem for future travel.
- In addition, Loyalty Rewards members receive a free passenger (or driver) trip for every 10<sup>th</sup> trip
- 30% decrease off published fares for vehicles traveling on commercial accounts
  - Reduces cost of travel for families
  - Rewards members who join
  - Incentivizes commercial vehicle travel

# **Loyalty Rewards Program**

- Create an online account
- Book online
- When you travel, earn points
- Redeem points for travel: 50 points = \$1
  - I.e. \$29 fare requires 1,450 points. (Can be redeemed for partial fares.)
- Points expire after 24 consecutive months of no activity
- Other rules may apply



### Thank you!

The Ferry only exists because of you, our guests. We thank you for your patronage!

- We are happy to try to answer your questions and to listen to your ideas.
- If you think of questions or ideas later, you can always send them to <u>customerservice@drba.net</u>
- The fare proposal and comments/ questions/answers will be posted at <u>www.CMLF.com/2024fareproposal</u>