

Peaks Island Landside Operations Study

Public Meeting

July 16, 2020



Peaks Island Landside Operations Study

Welcome and Meeting Introduction

Gather Your Input and Feedback

- *Tonight's Meeting*
- *Online Survey*
- *Email*

Study Focus: Landside Infrastructure

- *Safety*
- *Comfort*
- *Efficiency*



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Agenda

- Introduction
- Update from Casco Bay Lines
 - **Polling #1**
- Study Goals and Approach
- Study Findings to Date
 - **Public Input Session #1**
- Potential Recommendations
 - **Polling #2 & Public Input Session #2**
- Next Steps

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Casco Bay Lines Update

Phase II Mainland Terminal Expansion

Machigonne II Replacement Vessel



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Polling Session #1



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Study Goals and Approach

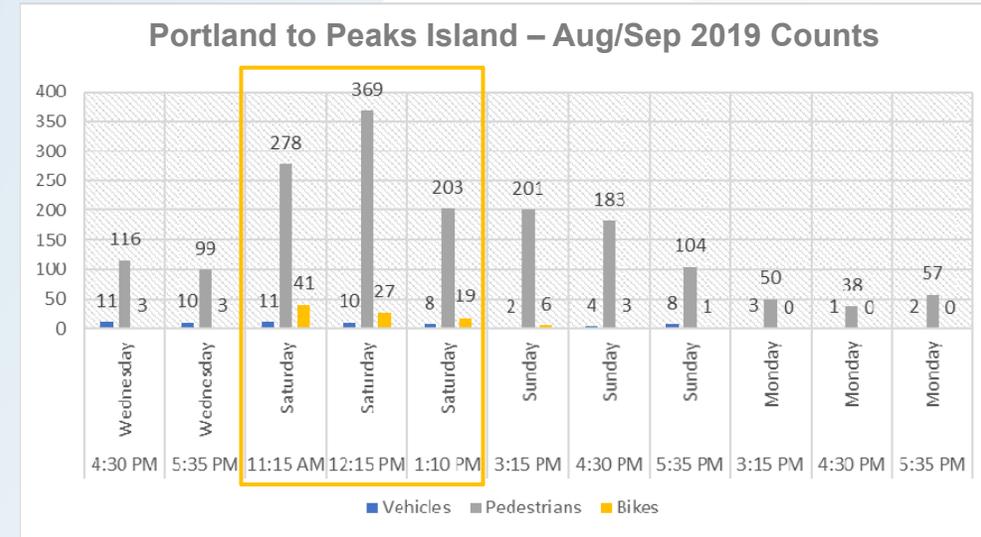
- Evaluate existing conditions, identify key issues
- Review projected future conditions
- Develop recommendations addressing given planning considerations and identified issues



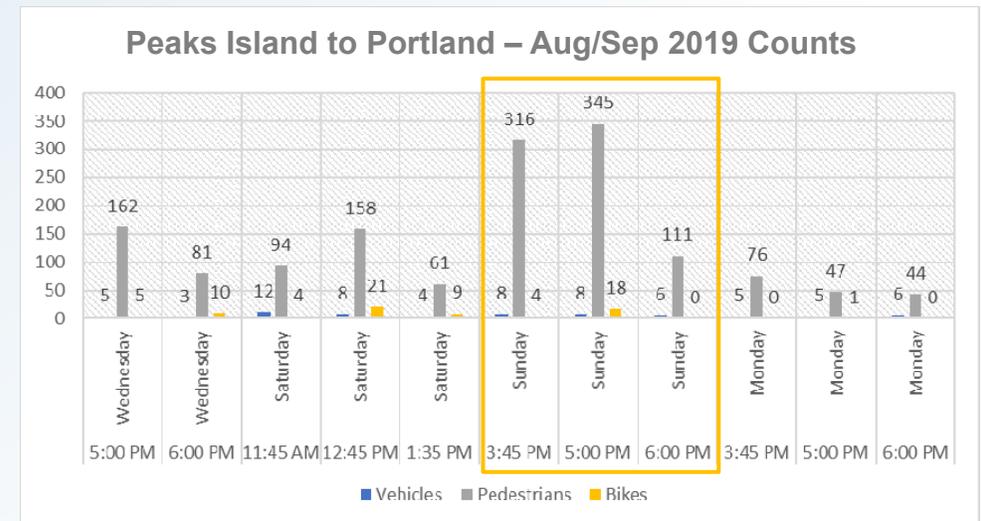
Existing Conditions

Passenger-Vehicle-Bike Levels

- Frequent “capacity” trips on summer weekends
- Few or no “capacity” trips in off-season
- Peak ridership
 - *Portland to Peaks: Saturday midday*
 - *Peaks to Portland: Sunday afternoon*
 - *Tourist/recreational/event travel determines peak ridership*
- Off-season ridership has commuter pattern



Observed Ferry Ridership for Vehicles, Pedestrians and Bicycles

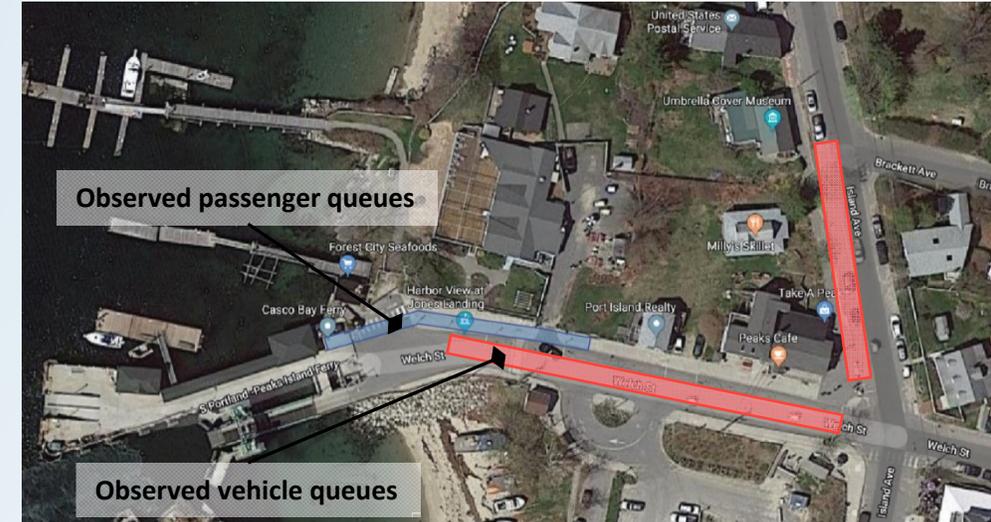


Observed Ferry Ridership for Vehicles, Pedestrians and Bicycles

Existing Conditions

Ridership Levels and Impacts

- High pedestrian and bicycle volumes at peak times
- No shelter or amenities for queued passengers
- Peak vehicle queues often exceed Welch St capacity
- Queues can block Welch St driveways, parking lot access
- Parking lot usually full during summer



Potential Future Conditions and Impacts

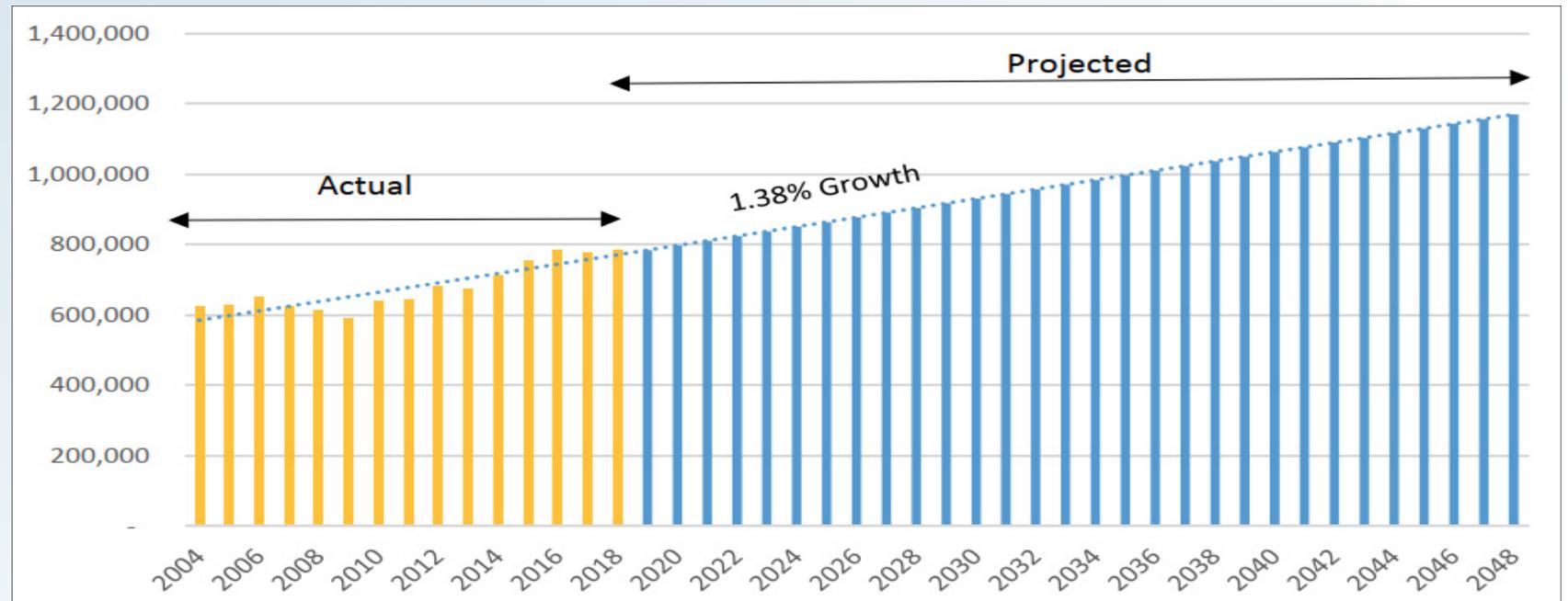
Growth Trends

— Passenger Growth Trends

- *Summer Season: 2 – 3 % annual increase*
- *Off Season: 1 % annual increase*

— Vehicle Growth Trends

- *~2 % annual increase in vehicle demand*
- *Highest growth rate in off-season (reflects commuter travel patterns)*



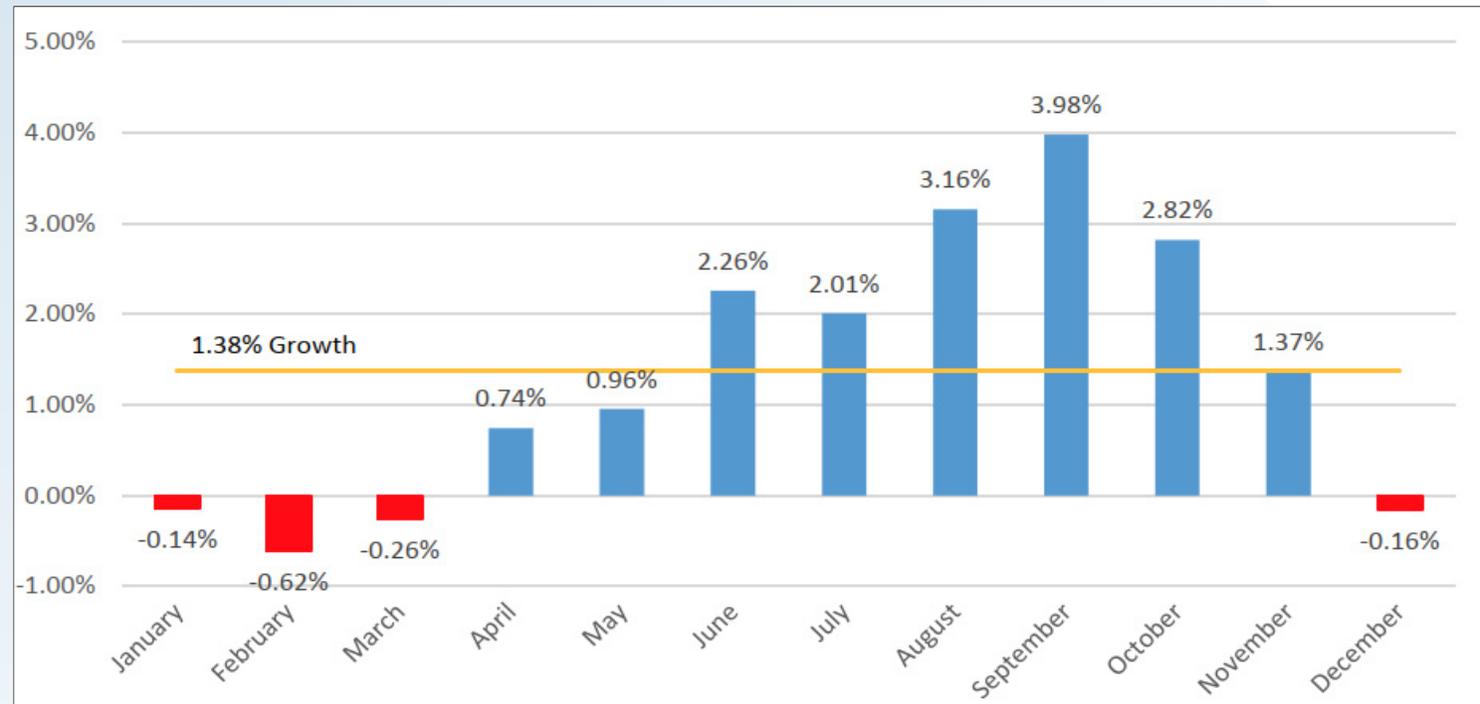
Peaks Island Ferry Passengers, Actual and Projected – CBITD New Peaks Island Vessel Study



Potential Future Conditions and Impacts

Increase in 'Capacity Trips'

- 8.5% annual increase from 2004 – 2018
- Increased from 15 in 2004 to 73 in 2018
- Highest proportion during summer months
- In 2018, 84% occurred during July and August



Peaks Island Ferry Passenger Growth Rate by Month (2004 – 2018) – CBITD New Peaks Island Vessel Study



Potential Future Conditions and Impacts

Planning Considerations

- Existing (Machigonne II)
 - 399 *passengers*
 - 12 *vehicles*
 - *Freight, bicycle storage*
- Approved new vessel
 - 499 *passengers outbound to Peaks*
 - 599 *passengers inbound to mainland*
 - 15 *vehicles*
 - *Additional freight, bicycle storage*
- No changes to schedule



Potential Impacts of Ridership Growth

Potential Future Conditions and Impacts

- Longer passenger and vehicle queues
- Increased time to load and unload
- Peak period “carry-over” queues
- Constrained space, limited amenities for queued passengers
- Conflicts among roadway users
- Increased demand for island-side parking
- Concerns of island residents about access to ferry, ability to conduct needed activities



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**Public Input Session #1:
Feedback on Existing &
Future Conditions**



Study Recommendation Options

Types of Recommendations

- Infrastructure improvements
- Demand management strategies
- Operational measures



Study Recommendation Options

Infrastructure

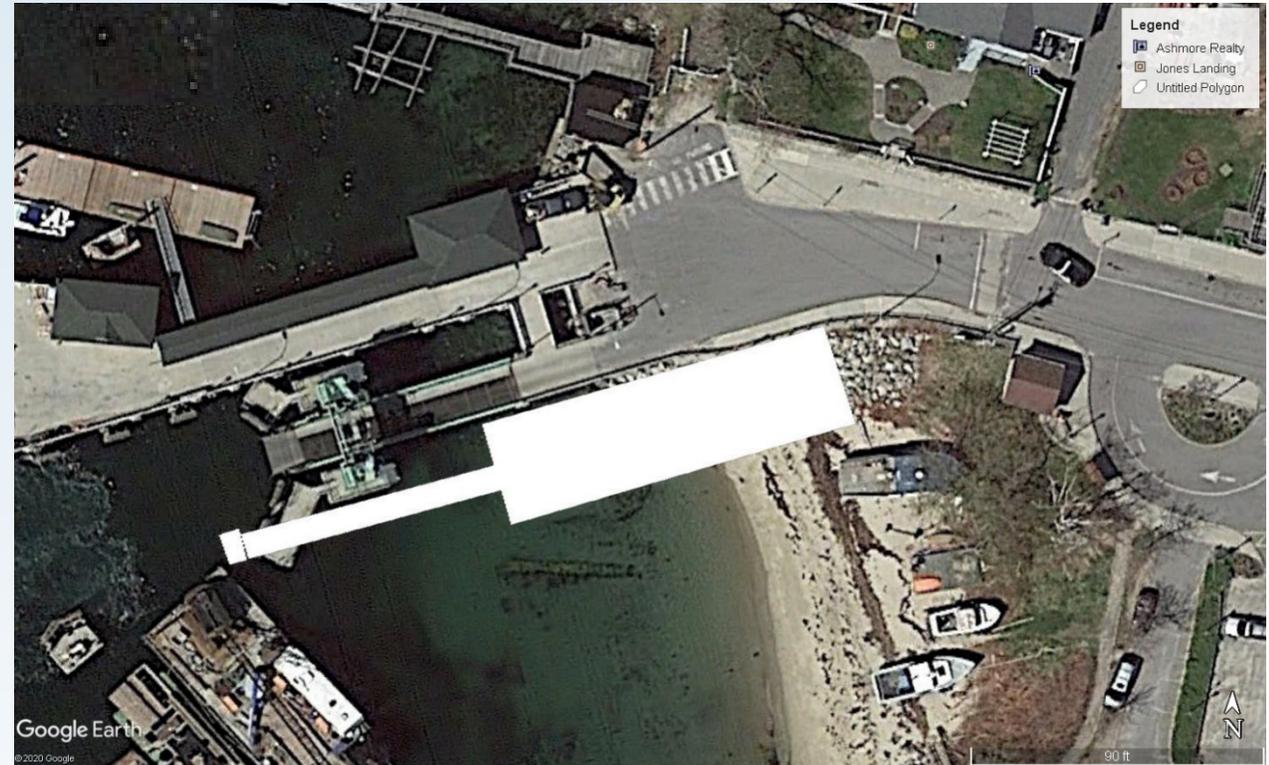
- Welch Street shared street redesign
 - *Raise street to sidewalk level*
 - *Create more roadway space to be used flexibly in a range of conditions*
 - *Supported by traffic calming measures to encourage lower speeds*



Study Recommendation Options

Infrastructure

- New side-loading pier
 - *Provide additional queuing capacity off of Welch Street*
 - *Provide new option for better organizing passenger queues*
 - *Enable faster boarding*



Study Recommendation Options

Infrastructure

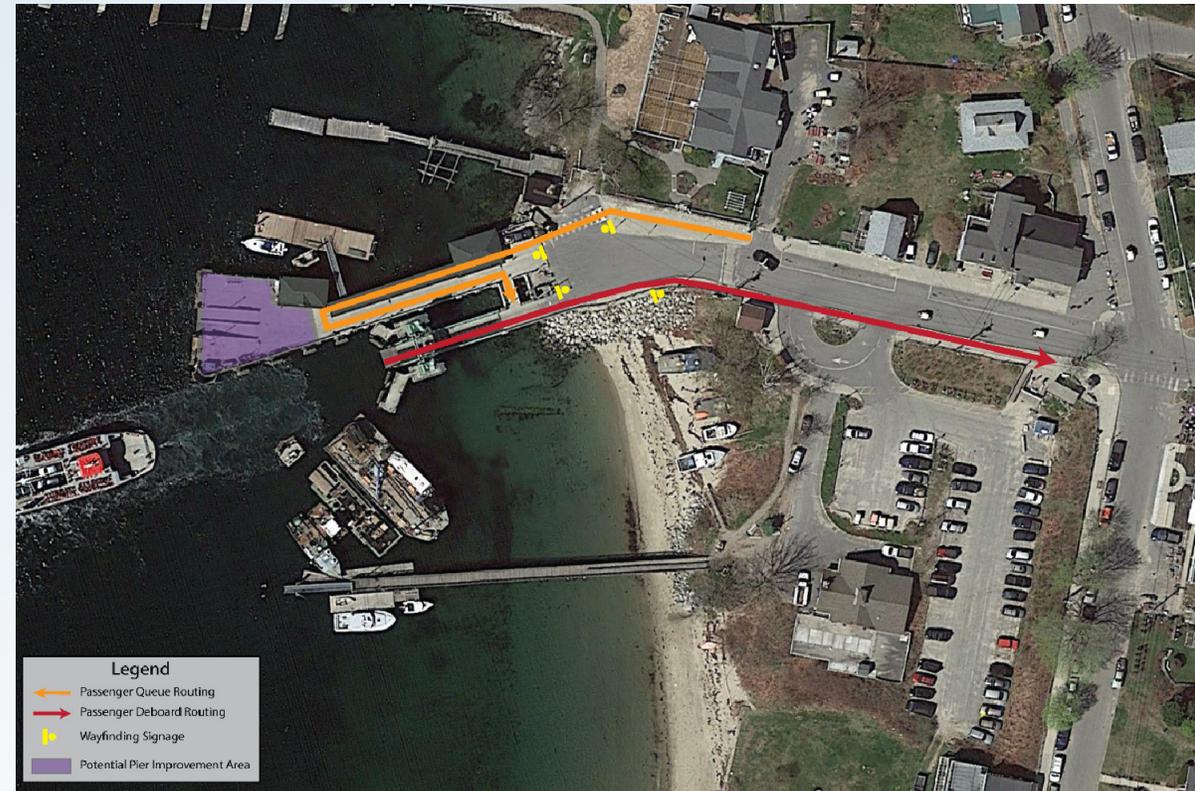
- Passenger amenities
 - *Seating*
 - *Covered waiting areas*
 - *Public restrooms*



Study Recommendation Options

Operations

- Passenger queue management
 - *Way-finding and guide signs, movable barriers, queue management staff during peak periods*
 - *Manage passenger queues and limit impacts*



Study Recommendation Options

Demand Management

- *Real-time information*
 - Ferry arrival/departure, passenger queuing
 - Real-time signs
 - Web-based information, webcams of loading area
- *Vehicle reservation system*



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Polling Session #2



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**Public Input Session #2:
Feedback on
Recommendations
Concepts & Other Input**

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Next Steps

- Additional Public feedback
 - *Study materials on website*
www.portlandmaine.gov/2638/Peaks-Island-Ferry-Landside-Operations-S
 - Survey: www.surveymonkey.com/r/S7WCLSS
 - *Email: bhyman@portlandmaine.gov*
- Input on study recommendations
 - *Infrastructure improvements*
 - *Operational measures*
 - *Demand management strategies*
 - *Other*
- Finalize recommendations & report