

JAN 12 2015

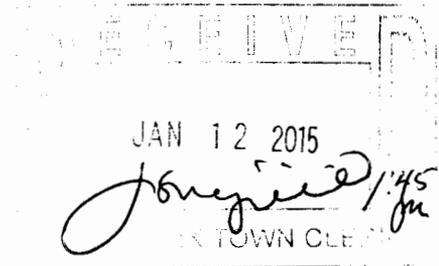
Dear Martha's Vineyard/Nantucket Steamship Authority Board,

We are pleased to present you with this petition affirming this statement:

"Repeal or Suspend the January 1st, 2015 Rate increases. "

Attached is a list of individuals who have added their names to this petition, as well as additional comments written by the petition signers themselves.

Sincerely,
SSA petition



"Mr. Hanover said he hates rates increases, but they are part of the larger management picture. The notion, he said, that the boatline can lower rates based on a recent drop in oil prices fails to take into account the potential volatility of the market and the fact that the boatline buys most of its fuel in the summer months." (MV Times January 8th 2015)

Isn't it time Islanders and Island officials ask what the larger management picture is and how many more rate increases are ahead?

At a Port Council Meeting on January 6th 2015 the hedge managers that run the fuel oil hedging program informed Steamship Authority Management that recent fuel hedging has put a ceiling in place of \$2.50 per gallon thus protecting them from any upward price exposure. They also said further hedging at this time was not recommended because lower prices were likely.

In a telephone conversation with The Times Tuesday, Mr. Hanover said any unexpected surpluses would help lower borrowing costs and be reinvested in the boatline. And he noted, "This is the first rate increase in four years."(MV Times January 8th 2015) Not true. In the past year the SSA raised rates on vehicles over 20ft. They raised parking rates as well as parking rates for permit holders, which was a direct hit on Islanders including college students.

"In a telephone conversation late Tuesday, Mr. Hanover said he was not surprised that the petition had attracted thousands of signatures. He said asking people if they want lower SSA rates is akin to asking people if they want lower taxes or lower electric rates — it is pointless and misleading, he said."
(MV Times January 8th 2015)

Nobody has asked the SSA to lower rates. The request was to not raise rates in light of recent developments in the oil markets that in their words is creating a windfall.

After reviewing minutes and reading quotes from Steamship Authority management it can be concluded that the Authority is trying to aggressively retire debt at any cost in order to make room to borrow monies for larger capital projects on the table that have begun to be funded or will go out for funding. This will bring them close to the \$100 million dollar funding cap. It will not leave room for other contingencies and thus we, the rate payers, will be the funding source of last resort in the form of future rate increases. The proposed \$62 million dollar Woods Hole expansion project has been negotiated with the residents of Woods Hole in numerous meetings but has yet to be presented at a public hearing to the stakeholders on the Vineyard. We pay the rates that will ultimately service this expenditure.

I leave you with this petition with the hope that our Island elected officials will begin the public process by contacting the management of the Steamship Authority and request relief of the recent rate increases and require a public forum for Islander input.

Todd Rebello, Oak Bluffs

774 563 8149

Raise the prices for the tourists!!!! Also you should discount hybrids.

Carolina Cooney
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568
Jan 11, 2015

Jemima James
West Tisbury, MA 02575
Jan 11, 2015

Terry Riley
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
Jan 11, 2015

Alissa Purda
Edgartown, MA 02539
Jan 11, 2015

Jesse L Iskra
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
Jan 11, 2015

Rebecca Tattersall
Vineyard Haven, MA 02539
Jan 11, 2015

Adriana S Begley
Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567
Jan 11, 2015

Brenda perry
edgartown, MA 02539
Jan 11, 2015

While I no longer live on the island, I grew up there. It becomes increasingly difficult to go home with increased rates. Please keep the island accessible to those of us who love it and call it home.

Annelies Spykman
Keene, NH 03431
Jan 11, 2015

Amanda Filley
New York, NY 10011
Jan 11, 2015

James L Young
North Falmouth, MA 02556
Jan 11, 2015

Barbara Conlon
South Dartmouth, MA 02748
Jan 1, 2015

Julie Gaffey
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
Jan 1, 2015

Meredith Goldthwait
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
Jan 1, 2015

Cathy Parker
Oak bluffs, MA 02557
Jan 1, 2015

It i outrageous that the SSA raises its price when oil is at the lowest level it's been in many, many years with no hike in sight.

jack schimmelman
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568
Dec 31, 2014

Bill Jonnes
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
Dec 31, 2014

Alison Wilson
vineyard Have., MA 02568
Dec 31, 2014

SSA petition
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
Dec 31, 2014