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on Woods Hole Road.
PLEASE ask your BUS drivers
to slow down from the Quissett
lights to Woods Hole.
40 MPH
NOT 50
Thank You.
Doug Amon
8 Quissett Avenue
Woods Hole

Sent from my iPhone
Greetings,
We have noticed so much noise with large trucks going to and from SA terminal in Woods Hole. We live along Woods Hole Rd, set back from the road. When we are in our yard, driveway or garden, or we are outside on our deck, the noise from the trucks is so loud we have to stop our conversations to let them go by so we can be heard. Lately, there has also been more jake-breaking than ever, not sure why that change. We are very concerned with the additional freight traveling these roads and the noise and wear and tear they bring. We urge you to please consider alternate routes for getting freight to the island.

Thank you.
Ron & Carissa April
Woods Hole, MA
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Please cut back the number of early morning trips that are the cause of noise and clog the main road with huge trucks that have no business being in little Woods Hole. This kind of cargo should leave from New Bedford or another similar port that is more appropriate for freight.

I am part of a family who is a property owner in Woods Hole, as my parents were before.

Jane Evelyn Atwood
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As property owners in Woods Hole for thirty years—one of us a lifetime summer resident—we're adding our voices to the chorus of protest against the use of our village as a freight corridor. These trucks are noisy, dangerous, and unwelcome, and there is absolutely no need for them to pass through here. The proper departure point for freight to the Vineyard is not our small village, but a city (with ferry service also in place) that accommodates such traffic routinely, such as—yes—New Bedford.

Respectfully,
B J Atwood-Fukuda and Koichi Fukuda
Woods Hole
WARNING: This email originated from outside of The Steamship Authority. Please use CAUTION when clicking links, opening attachments, or providing information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

As a resident of Falmouth, living just off Woods Hole Road, I urge you to delay using Woods Hole Road for large trucks for early morning runs. We can hear the traffic on Woods Hole Road already (we are on Sippewissett Rd) and this traffic will wake us up before 5 am every morning.

Thanks,
Bob Bennett,
Sippewissett Road
Falmouth, MA

Thanks, Bob
I am a Falmouth property owner in the village of Woods Hole writing to express my dismay about the ever increasing damage being done to our village by excessive traffic due to ferry transport. I am particularly concerned about the large-truck, freight traffic in the very early morning which could be handled from other ports such as New Bedford.

Please stop the escalation! There is simply too much noisy traffic along our narrow village access road. Take into consideration the context of the neighborhood. You are destroying the quiet Cape Code essence.

Thank you,

Ed Brakeman
33 Fay Road
Woods Hole
I am opposing the proposed schedule. I have lived off Woods Hole Road for 40 years and have never seen such traffic, now I hear the blast of the horns too! Bring your freight and any cars coming from the Mid-Atlantic north and west through New Bedford. My private road is destroyed by people cutting through to get off the Cape from the boats, they are speeding up and down Woods Hole Road, and now with GPS Quissett Ave-Sippewissett and to W. Falmouth.

Where are the discount tickets or free tickets for Falmouth tax payers on this route?

Roberta Brooks
Steve Sayers

From: Becky Conners – Sands of Time <[redacted]>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 3:36 PM
To: schedules
Subject: Woods Hole Early morning freight

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Hello - I am the General Manager of the Sands of Time (549 Woods Hole Road) and live at 540 Woods Hole Road (from April to November). I wanted to thank you for taking the time to listen to our feedback on the zoom meeting earlier this week.

I am writing today to reiterate my concerns with the proposal of an early morning freight boat. The noise generated by the trucks rushing to make the boat at the early hour is very disruptive to both residences and hotel businesses on Woods Hole Road.

I respectfully request that the Steamship Authority not run a 5:30AM freight schedule from Woods Hole terminal.

All my best,
Becky Conners, Innkeeper

*Sands of Time*

Inn and Harbor House
549 Woods Hole Road
Woods Hole, MA 02543
Dear Members of the Board of the Authority,

I live year-round in the Woods Hole house my father rented a room in during the summer of 1938, that my parents purchased in 1954, and where I spent most of my childhood. I have fond memories of the arrival of the ferries, the dock where my younger brother often sat, fishing. That the Authority was a state created monopoly with little regard for the quality of life its operations affect, well, that was lost on me as a child. No longer.

I am writing today to object to the proposed 5:30 AM freight trip from Woods Hole to Martha’s Vineyard. There is no study establishing the necessity of this early trip. There is no announced environmental impact study to establish the impact of the freight traffic in the early morning, and in general, on the entire stretch of road from the highway to the piers. In fact, there seems to be no planning at all.

We live in a time when those who exercise power while dismissing those they were intended to serve are being held accountable. A time when the financial underpinnings of the Authority - growth and development at any cost - may expose the Authority to the political process in all the affected towns as the Authority turns to towns to bail them out. The Steamship Authority will, inevitably, have fewer allies among the people - and, the politicians.

Kate Nace Day
5 Bowditch Road
Woods Hole MA
To whom it may concern:

At a recent Public Hearing (6/11/20) Woods Hole and Falmouth residents, expecting to hear the traffic impact report of SSA’s promised Transportation Task Force, learned instead that no task force exists, and were presented with another highhanded proposal, this time for increased summer freight, car, and ferry traffic through the Woods Hole terminal in the summer of 2021.

As yearly research visitors since 1966, homeowners since 1979, and residents since 2011 of this picturesque village of world-wide scientific renown, we support the hearing’s decision to request that SSA postpone approval of their frightening freight schedule for 2021 and seriously revisit the New Bedford or other possibilities.

P & M De Weer
Steve Sayers

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:50 PM
To: schedules
Subject: Steamship Authority traffic issues on Woods Hole Rd.

WARNING: This email originated from outside of The Steamship Authority. Please use CAUTION when clicking links, opening attachments, or providing information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I’m sending this to highlight what happens at our house in the early morning as the trucks travel down Woods Hole Road on their way to the ferry at Woods Hole. Our house is on the corner of Woods Hole Road & Ransom Road. The early morning truck traffic wakes us up every morning with the trucks downshifting through their gears to come to a stop at the traffic signal at Oyster Pond Road & Woods Hole Road. In addition to the noise the whole house vibrates when they apply their air brakes. We’ve had issues with nail pops and cracking tile grout due to the constant vibrations.

We totally understand the need for trucks supplying March’s Vineyard but are still puzzled why these trucks cannot use the ferries out of the commercial port at New Bedford. In addition to the noise we also contend with litter, and the slaughter of the abundant wildlife that live in our area and move around in the early morning. Not a day goes by that some dead animal does not turn up on the read.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns.

---

1
Sent from my iPad
June 24, 2020

Woods Hole, Martha’s Vineyard and
Nantucket Steamship Authority Board
PO Box 284
Woods Hole, MA 02543
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Reduction in Ferry Service to the Island of Martha’s Vineyard

Honorable Members of the Board:

The Board of Selectmen of Edgartown were very distressed to hear, particularly now, that the Steamship Authority is considering stopping the 5:30 am freight boat to Martha’s Vineyard. This boat is vital to the Vineyard and the Town of Edgartown. Just nine months ago a public hearing was held on this same topic and the Island Towns were very clear in their position; the 5:30 am ferry is crucial to the logistics of the Island.

This essential service facilitates everything from medical appointments to connecting flights from Logan Airport. It would be unfeasible to expect the delivery of food and other supplies to occur mid-morning when Edgartown’s antiquated roads are filled with traffic and pedestrians. During this trying time we need to set conditions for the success of commercial enterprises and the Island’s majority, rather than implement haphazard changes that would only benefit a small minority of Falmouth residents. In the next several weeks the Island’s population will swell to over 100,000 people. The second and third order effects of this surge can only be negated by a steady stream of supplies flowing from the mainland. An interruption of service in any fashion would ultimately be extremely detrimental to this cycle.

Furthermore, we are totally dependent on the Steamship Authority for all the goods and services that we need for survival. Instead of seeking to impose additional problems for our island community, you should be asking at every meeting what you can do to support your primary constituents. The Steamship Authority is, as you have undoubtedly heard many times, the Island’s lifeline. We are strongly opposed to any action that will interfere with that lifeline such as cancelling our 5:30 freight boat. Please stop considering this action and turn your attention to how you can better serve Martha’s Vineyard.

Sincerely,

James Hagerty
Town Administrator
For the Edgartown Board of Selectmen
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Dear SSA representatives,

I was disappointed to miss the public hearing on Thursday, though I wrote a letter of concern about current schedule expansions, and I write today to reiterate my concerns about increased traffic on Woods Hole Rd. While not all heavy traffic is SSA-related, local studies put the percentage over 2/3, and closer to 90% for trucks over 40'. Falmouth and Woods Hole residents should not have to absorb the continual increase in noise, pollution, and risk. I am a Woods Hole property owner and taxpayer, and while your main customer base may be Islanders, we who live along your route deserve greater consideration. Jan Elliott Glendon Rd. Woods Hole
Steve Sayers

From:  
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 3:40 PM  
To: schedules  
Subject: June 11 hearing

WARNING: This email originated from outside of The Steamship Authority. Please use CAUTION when clicking links, opening attachments, or providing information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am submitting written testimony with regard to SSA’s June 11 public hearing.

I advocate for moving at least some non time-sensitive freight to New Bedford, rather than expanding trips from Woods Hole further back into the wee hours. I understand the obvious necessity of bringing goods to the Vineyard, but a boat service starting daily @ 5:30 (with large trucks arriving before 5am) is unacceptably disruptive to residents in its path.

Also, now is not the time to add freight trips, with boat traffic significantly down due to the coronavirus and likely to stay that way for some time.

Jan Elliott  
Glendon Rd., WH

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WARNING: This email originated from outside of The Steamship Authority. Please use CAUTION when clicking links, opening attachments, or providing information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I remain concerned about early morning truck traffic in Woods Hole and along Woods Hole Road, especially due to safety issues, and ask for reconsideration of the 5:30AM freight ferry.

And, just to reassure Commissioner Todd, I am a Falmouth resident.

Best,

Gerry Fine
WARNING: This email originated from outside of The Steamship Authority. Please use CAUTION when clicking links, opening attachments, or providing information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Steamship Authority Board of Governors,

I ask that you not ignore our concern. We have personally worked trying to alleviate these problems for thirty years and have never gotten anywhere. So we write again asking to please hear our concerns. Years ago, former Falmouth Fire Chief Peck showed a film of a gas tanker flipping over into a Virginia neighborhood similar to the Falmouth/Woods Hole neighborhoods the tankers drive through very early in the morning. All the houses in the neighborhood caught fire; a tragedy that our community would like to avoid. Our hands are tied without your acknowledgment of this problem. Please, no more ignoring this reality.

Children stand by the edge of these roads waiting for their school buses. It’s dangerous and you know it and it is your responsibility to change things.

Sincerely,
Ted and Meg Fitzelle

🌼
Dear Steamship Authority,

I am a Woods Hole resident and although I live on the other side of the village, I too can hear truck traffic on occasion. What I hear most often is trucks using compression braking as they come down the hill just before the ferry terminal. I've often wondered why the town doesn't make it a violation for trucks to use Jake brakes. I've traveled from coast to coast and many towns and communities have signs warning truckers that compression braking is a violation of the law. Why doesn't the Town of Falmouth do the same? Also, posting a police officer at the bottom of the hill for a week and issuing citations to truckers who use Jake brakes would soon eliminate a good portion of the noise that is the cause of many complaints. Seems a good first step.

Sincerely,

E M Frye
19 High St
Woods Hole
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Mr. Davis, Mr. Sayers, Mr. Driscoll and to the SSA board
When many are making useful reconsiderations during this extraordinary time and re-inventing approaches that affect their neighbors and the world, you doggedly cling to the practice of alienating a host community, siding not with the villagers and the impacts your clients have on that host village, but with a schedule demonstrated to cause havoc on peoples lives in the village and all along the approach along Woods Hole Road. Your self-imposed scheduling of delivery for the convenience of shippers and their marketplace endusers as an intractable necessity is simply “rude” as one speaker at the June 11th Zoom Meeting pointed out.

Vineyard Sound represents a real gulf of difference between The Vineyard and our little village of Woods Hole over how the SSA deals with the host community. In this time of multiple stresses on Society and Health, Race, on the Earth, and the Oceans, we need organizations like yours to listen, engage in a process of healing and to evolve. Leadership and collaboration needs to demonstrated, not rigidly enforced self-imposed arbitrary and outdated (but grandfathered)schedules.

The supposition that in the necessity of an early boat, there will be no impact to the host community was a bad decision from the getgo, without any clear demonstration (except for the shippers and their clients) of the need. What is so timely that it mandates irritating one community over an other?

As has always been the case, as many community members have noted countless times, our lives are not subject to your capricious needs, or the needs of truckers or even the targeted customers on the Island. But you have made them our problem, not yours. Sympathizers who write in about whining, is at the core of SSA’s adversarial approach and has long treated the village, like an annoyance, a whining wheel, and an impediment to making your and your clients (and their clients) jobs easier. Our consistent protests have long argued that whatever we say will mostly be seen as “squeaky wheel” complaints, hence my previous comments of our perspective "falling on deaf ears". ( See MVTIMES article on ZOOM Call)

Ultimately this is about treating others with kindness and respect and the potential to establish trust based on substantive action. But subjugating one community’s needs over an other is at its core combative, and the opposite of a demonstration that is a necessary act of healing. I appeal to your sense of neighborly conduct, of humanity and conscience and change the scheduling issue.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Goldman
12 Sidney Street
Woods Hole, MA 02543

JON GOLDMAN | intermedia artist
WARNING: This email originated from outside of The Steamship Authority. Please use CAUTION when clicking links, opening attachments, or providing information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

The noise of the many, many, many trucks going down Woods Hole Road are of great negative impact to the quiet enjoyment of our home. Living right near Harbor Hill Road, we hear the Jake Breaking constantly - and it’s most disturbing in the early morning.

Please cancel the 5:30 morning ferry to MV and take responsibility for the Jake breaking - which is a traffic violation.

Thank you,

Nicole Goldman

12 Sidney Street

Woods Hole, MA 02543
I am writing to express my concerns about the traffic, particularly the increasing number of large trucks, that are ruining the quality of life for residents of Woods Hole, especially those who border Woods Hole Road. There is an urgent need to reduce the number of vehicles in total, the number that operate outside normal waking hours, but also the speed and noise of ALL trucks that use the ferry.

I own a house in Woods Hole near the junction of Woods Hole Road and Church Street. It was built in 1923 and so is “non-conforming” with modern setbacks, and was built before the modern road was widened and open to high volume traffic. It is consequently very close to the road and directly exposed to the noise, fumes and disturbance of traffic entering the port, more than most others. Our chief complaint is that drivers show no restraint at entering a heavily populated area, they disobey speed limits, they belch black fumes and emit horrendous noises (brakes and gears especially) even in the wee hours when others are asleep. Our front bedroom is unusable, especially in summer when the traffic is highest and windows are open. My other major concern is the inherent danger to pedestrians and homes from the sheer speed and mass of trucks entering and leaving the port. As they ascend Woods Hole Road and cross Inner Harbor they accelerate up the incline at maximum thrust, crashing through their gears and again emitting noise and fumes. This continues with increasing engine roars all the way at least to the level section before the turn off to Nobska Road. Coming into town they make the last turn just before Nobska at high speed and then rapidly decelerate, crashing loudly through their gears, emitting loud noises from the engine throttling and their brakes. A slight error would readily cause trucks to crash into the houses on the side of the road, a catastrophe waiting to happen when the roads are slick or the drivers are tired. The difference to the truckers of going more slowly, more quietly and with less menace cannot be more than two minutes if we instituted strict traffic calming zones and insisted on slower, quieter, calmer behaviors instead of macho aggression. But the impact on the environment and enjoyment of the village of Woods Hole for many of the residents and visitors would be huge.

I look forward to learning more about plans to abate the nuisance of the traffic in my neighborhood.

Sincerely
Dr. John C. Gore
530 Woods Hole Road
Steve Sayers

From: John Grande, Town Administrator <jgrande@tisburyma.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:02 PM
To: Steve Sayers
Cc: melindaloberg@gmail.com; James Rogers; crockerinn@aol.com
Subject: FW: Petition to Steamship Authority from Woods Hole residents and hearing on 11 June at 430PM

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

John “Jay” W. Grande, Town Administrator
Town of Tisbury
51 Spring Street, P O Box 1239
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

(O) 508-696-4203

From: John Grande, Town Administrator
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 1:09 PM
To: James Malkin; James Hagerty; Robert Whritenour; Tim Carroll; Jennifer Rand; Jeff Town Maddison
Subject: RE: Petition to Steamship Authority from Woods Hole residents and hearing on 11 June at 430PM

Hello

Last year the Steamship Authority held a public meeting in the Falmouth High School at the request of Woods Hole Residents. Feels like less than a year ago. Island representatives came over along with several citizens to indicate the necessity for having the early morning vessels. I believe the SSA Board at the time took a vote and/or voice consensus concerning the schedule in agreement with interested parties that supported the retaining the early boat(s). Not sure of the entire agenda, but could not login. Bob Davis should have letters from Oak Bluffs and Tisbury which were entered into the record from the prior meeting. I do not think it is fair to us to come out again to defend something that was thoughtfully considered and decided, if that is what is proposed.

Jay

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

John “Jay” W. Grande, Town Administrator
Town of Tisbury
51 Spring Street, P O Box 1239
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

(O) 508-696-4203

From: James Malkin
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 4:06 PM
To: James Hagerty; Robert Whitenour; John Grande, Town Administrator; Tim Carroll; Jennifer Rand; Jeff Town Maddison  
Subject: Petition to Steamship Authority from Woods Hole residents and hearing on 11 June at 430PM

Dear Towns:

The attached webpage is a copy of a petition by 50+ Woods Hole residents to the SSA regarding the 2021 proposed schedule. There will be a Zoom public meeting on this petition on June 11 at 430 - notices will be sent to the papers. Please make your BOS aware of this petition and request that someone from your town attend to present your views.

Essentially, the petition asks to eliminate early morning truck schedules to MV, to approach New Bedford or other posts to serve for construction materials, landscaping materials, waste and recyclables and to mitigate impacts in Bourne, Falmouth and other communities in SE Mass.

I am sure you are aware of our islands needs and the potential impacts of these elements in the petition on costs and operations.

As a Board Member, I will be observing. It will be helpful for the island to make views known.

Thanks -

https://remote.steamshipauthority.com/owa/DanaInfo=ssaadmcas3.steamshipauthority.com,SSL+attachment.ashx?attach=1&id=RgAAAAABcXhcKKa6dSaboHZsoMxGr0BwCdESIK4kPbSpoq5YvTfvqXAAAAAAEMAACdESIK4kPbSpoq5YvTfvqXAAA4QWO6AAAJ&attid0=EACwF615lzqT70+oRJatNAS&attcnt=1

Stay safe, wash and distance -

JMM

Everything returns to the Earth - either as food or as poison
Steve Sayers

From: John Grande, Town Administrator <jgrande@tisburyma.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:20 PM
To: Steve Sayers
Cc: James Rogers
Subject: FW: Public Hearing Regarding the 2021 Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall Operating Schedules
Attachments: LE_Steamship Authority_August 16, 2019.docx

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

John “Jay” W. Grande, Town Administrator
Town of Tisbury
51 Spring Street, P O Box 1239
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

(0) 508-696-4203

From: John Grande, Town Administrator
Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2020 10:01 AM
To: Robert Davis; schedules
Cc: Robert Davis; George Balco; James Rogers
Subject: RE: Public Hearing Regarding the 2021 Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall Operating Schedules

Bob

You have the signed original from last August.

Jay

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

John “Jay” W. Grande, Town Administrator
Town of Tisbury
51 Spring Street, P O Box 1239
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

(0) 508-696-4203

From: Robert Davis
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 5:21 PM
To: schedules
Cc: Robert Davis
Subject: Public Hearing Regarding the 2021 Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall Operating Schedules
Hello,

I want to inform you that a petition has been submitted to the Woods Hole, Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority by no fewer than 50 Falmouth residents who have requested a public hearing on the proposed 2021 Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall Operating Schedules. Specifically, the request objects to the inclusion of the 5:30 a.m. freight trip from Woods Hole on the schedules before the Long-Range Vineyard Transportation Task Force, which the Authority Board voted to approve at its October 15, 2019 meeting, is formed and begins to function.

Pursuant to the Authority’s Enabling Act, a public hearing will be held at 4:30 PM Thursday, June 11, 2020 via Zoom videoconferencing. The public may participate in the meeting, including offering testimony, by going to zoom.us and using meeting ID 895 6301 9690. Participants can also use the same meeting ID and join telephonically by calling one of the following numbers: (669) 900-6833, (346) 248-7799, (929) 436-2866, (253) 215-8782, (301) 715-8592, or (312) 626-6799.

You can find more information on the hearing here: https://www.steamshipauthority.com/about/news.

Thank you.

Bob

Robert B. Davis
General Manager
Woods Hole, Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority
228 Palmer Avenue
Falmouth, Massachusetts 02540
508-548-5011 ext. 200
August 19, 2019

Woods Hole, Martha’s Vineyard and
Nantucket Steamship Authority Board
P.O. Box 284
Woods Hole, MA 02543

Robert R. Jones, Chairman
Marc N. Hanover, Vice Chairman
Kathryn Wilson, Secretary
Moira E. Tierney
Robert F. Ranney

Re: Reduction in Service to the Island of Martha’s Vineyard

Dear Members of the Board:

We recently learned of a pending request before you to eliminate the 5:30 a.m. ferry service to the island. The Tisbury Selectmen adamantly oppose any reduction in service.

The Town of Tisbury is the year-round port for the Island of Martha’s Vineyard for the transit of passengers, freight and vehicles. Our residents, businesses and daily commuters rely on the early morning boats for our workforce, daily deliveries and to meet medical appointments off island. Eliminating or reducing the morning ferry service from and to Woods Hole, and specifically the 5:30 a.m. ferry service to the island, will have a substantial adverse impact on the island. The reduction in ferry service will increase traffic congestion on island, impede public transit service provided by the Vineyard Transportation Authority and unnecessarily prevent the smooth and timely flow of goods and services to the island.

The Steamship Authority provides an essential service for the island towns. This essential service cannot be met with an elimination or reduction in service. We believe the current schedule for ferry service provided by the Steamship Authority is just meeting the minimum needs of the island.

Sincerely,

John Grande,
Town Administrator

Cc. Robert B. Davis, General Manager
George J. Balco, Port Council Chairman
Steve Sayers

From: Dawna Hammers <Dawna.Hammers@SteamshipAuthority.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 12:09 PM
To: schedules
Subject: No 5:30 freight boat!

WARNING: This email originated from outside of The Steamship Authority. Please use CAUTION when clicking links, opening attachments, or providing information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Steamship Authority,
I’m greatly concerned a 5:30 freight truck boat will bring too many big, noisy, polluting and dangerous trucks traveling too fast down Woods Hole Rd too early in the morning into precious, quaint, historic Woods Hole. This will be both very disturbing to hard working residents As well as dangerous due to the many oil and gas trucks traveling on icy roads. There’s no great need for this, just capitalistic greed and overdevelopment.
PLEASE STOP THIS FROM HAPPENING!
Thank you very much, Dawna

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Steamship Authority,

The amount of increased freight trucks that you are proposing to have go up and down Woods Hole Rd is LUDICROUS!

As it is there are too many cars and trucks racing beyond the speed limit everyday let alone more.

Woods Hole is too small and too precious. We expect that you respect and protect the people who live and work here at all costs.

We all need to simplify and downsize for the health of the people and the planet NOW.

I also speak on behalf of the endangered encroached upon wildlife that live in this area... turkeys, deer, fox, coyotes etc.

Noise pollution is real and adds to stress and air pollution leads to more cases of COVID cases!

PLEASE STOP THIS DESTRUCTION & TURN THIS SHIP AROUND!

Dawna Hammers
326 Woods Hole Rd

Sent from my iPhone
Steve Sayers

From: David Hastings <[redacted]>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 2:42 PM
To: schedules
Subject: truck traffic related to MV ferry schedules

WARNING: This email originated from outside of The Steamship Authority. Please use CAUTION when clicking links, opening attachments, or providing information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern:

I am a long time resident and a property owner in Woods Hole. I am concerned about the increased impact of traffic generated by ferries to and from the Vineyard. For the past 50 years, I have been well aware of ferry traffic to and from the Vineyard.

However, the substantial increase of traffic, especially the large trucks, and in the early morning, is of great concern to me. Our property is one house away from the main road, and the additional truck traffic has impacted the noise level substantially. I encourage you to explore alternative ways to get goods to the island, not using Woods Hole Road, which is not designed for heavy or early morning truck traffic. Sailing from New Bedford for commercial vehicles seems like the best option.

thank you,
David Hastings
1 Wilson Rd. Woods Hole, MA 02543
To whom it may concern:

I am a long time resident and a property owner in Woods Hole. I am concerned about the increased impact of traffic generated by ferries to and from the Vineyard. For the past 50 years, I have been well aware of ferry traffic to and from the Vineyard.

The substantial increase of traffic, especially the large trucks, and in the early morning, is of great concern to me. Truck traffic has impacted the noise level substantially. I encourage you to explore alternative ways to get goods to the island, not using Woods Hole Road, which is not designed for heavy or early morning truck traffic. Sailing from New Bedford for commercial vehicles seems like the best option.

I am also extremely concerned about the lack of responsiveness to Woods Hole residents, and the expansion of the Steamship Authority in downtown Woods Hole. We are a small community, and increasing your square footage and visual presence in Woods Hole is completely inappropriate.

I hope you will listen to us. Thank you.

Jennifer Hastings
18 Spencer Baird
Woods Hole, MA 02543
Dear Steamship Authority,

I received a letter in the mail from one Nat Trumbull asking me to sign a petition in regards to “concerns about Steamship Authority traffic growth”. I want to state that I have no such concerns. I live on the corner of Woods Hole Road and Mullen Way (4 Mullen way) and my bedroom window faces woods hole rd. I am not bothered by any Steamship Authority traffic and was fully aware of such traffic when I purchased the house. I want to state that as only 58 residents signed their petition this does not represent other individuals in the Falmouth/Woods Hole area who have no issues. We don't have a petition to sign since one is not needed. I have no issues with traffic using Steamship Authority since this is the main route that must be used. If I had concerns I would not have bought a house that is adjacent to Woods Hole Rd. Please be aware there are many citizens like myself who have no concerns and support the new schedule and the 5:30am addition. the volume of traffic and noise is minor.

Sincerely
Marko Horb
4 Mullen Way
Falmouth, MA
Steve Sayers

From: Richard Hugus <redacted>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 11:13 AM
To: schedules
Subject: Comment on Steamship Authority traffic

WARNING: This email originated from outside of The Steamship Authority. Please use CAUTION when clicking links, opening attachments, or providing information unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Steamship Authority Board,

Two Dukes County commissioners have questioned whether commenters on Steamship Authority traffic problems are even residents of Falmouth, I assure you that I am a resident, I own a house on Woods Hole Road, and I am opposed to the addition of a 5:30 AM freight boat to the Authority's schedule on the grounds of noise, air pollution, and safety. My mailbox is five feet from your trucks and I live in the back of my house in order to avoid noise from the road. Several times a day, trucks engine brake on the downhill by my house, and it is truly obnoxious.

The rights of Martha's Vineyard should not come at the expense of Woods Hole. If the new freight boat is so vital, I see no reason why it can't run out of New Bedford.

Richard Hugus

312 Woods Hole Rd.
Steve Sayers

From: Robert Jaye <PC>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 11:44 AM
To: schedules
Subject: 5:30 am boat ...What is essential?

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I am against the 5:30 am Woodshole boat to MV. Tell me what is essential on the trucks. If things are so essential why don’t you ship out of another port.

Robert

Robert Jaye

7 Church Street
WoodsHole MA 02543

[Redacted]
Good afternoon

I would like to request that the 530am boat out of Vineyard Haven be made permanent all year round. Also that there would be no hazard 530 boat since most times there is only one vehicle, Ralph Packer. For all of us who commute for work and drive trucks, the 530 boat is a godsend.

Regards

Bob Kinnecom
Vineyard Haven
As a home owner in Woods Hole, I am very distressed by a number of issues created by the SSA, that are have an adverse impact on our village.

1. Your putting on a 5:30 AM ferry creates the need for large trucks to begin driving into Woods Hole shortly after 4:00 AM. This creates enormous distressing noise when people are trying to sleep.
2. The SSA has never presented a rational argument as to why a run at this hour is as critical as it claims, and why it cannot be postponed by one hour.
3. Although long ago the SSA
4. It is time for the SSA to show respect for the Woods Hole, Falmouth, and Cape communities which it continues to abuse by it totally self-centered actions.

Damien

Damien Kuffler
49 Gosnold Rd.
Woods Hole
MS 02543
Hello, I've just reread the letter I sent earlier today and found a few typos that are confusing. Below is a cleaner version for the records.

Sincerely,
Eugenie Kuffler

Dear Sirs and Madams,

The 5:30 am boat with its early morning trucks are a part of a continuing destruction of the quality of life in Falmouth and Woods Hole and I wish to bring your attention to one aspect of this degradation. Much of the quality of village life depends on the proportions between architecture, circulation and public spaces, when well balanced they create a social ecosystem which allows the inhabitants to move, rest, work and play sometime within surprisingly dense quarters. The SSA has destroyed the ecosystem at the corner of Luscombe and Railroad Avenues. In order to facilitate truck traffic at the 3rd slip, the SSA has taken out part of the sidewalk on Luscombe Avenue and fanned the ramp out onto a small park where there used to be a picnic table and bike racks. This industrial operation has wiped out the charm of that minuscule epicenter where locals and travelers used to intersect. From Crane Bridge one sees a formless sweep of macadam that has eliminated the boundary between private and town property and has expelled tourists and locals from a zone that is rightfully theirs. I urge the SSA restore the curbs on Luscombe and return to the village its precious collective space in order to preserve the fabric of this small town.

Thank you,
Sincerely,

Eugenie Kuffler
49 Gosnold Road
Woods Hole
I support residents of Falmouth/Woods Hole who are affected by truck noise related to the 5:30 AM ferry out of WH. I cannot find a serious, convincing reason that this ferry run cannot be move up an hour or even more on a regular basis. Were the Vinyarders to seriously consider how they would like this situation themselves, no doubt dealing with slightly later delivery times would seem the most reasonable of concessions and one that can be lived with. Lack of sleep has no benefits or even remediation except for better sleep environments. I am beginning to see this matter as a sound civil rights practice. Please remove the early morning (5:30 AM) ferry. Let’s be ahead of the curve on this matter and set a good policy example for everyone.

Suzanne Kuffler
Woods Hole
Dear Steamship Board of Governors and Mr. Davis,

As a concerned citizen of Falmouth, I am writing in deep opposition to your current and proposed schedule. I am opposed to the continuation of the 5:30 am departure from Woods Hole and request you change your schedule such the first departure is at 6:30am

As you well know, your schedule results in truck traffic down the Woods Hole Rd as early as 4:30am. Many of these trucks operate in violation of Falmouth noise ordinances and many are encouraged to stop and illegally park on the dirt siding about 1 mile out of town given your rules about entering the Woods Hole terminal. The net result of these actions, that are directly tied to your schedule, is that many of us are unable to sleep past 4:30 am. This situation is frankly unacceptable.

I must also remind you that when I bought my house on the Woods Hole Rd some 26 years ago, your operations did not cause these issues. At the time of our purchase, your company was run as a compassionate and constructive member of the Woods Hole community. You provided good jobs and were a good neighbor. Your leadership was able to balance the island and mainland needs and we were able to get a good night of sleep. I am not sure what compelled you to change and to operate under a scorched earth policy towards Falmouth. Whatever the driver, it is truly shameful that the leadership of the Steamship is unable and unwilling to work towards a compromise.

Given the state of the world today and the shakey state of the Steamship, I encourage you to take a change of strategy. I encourage you to find common ground and once again become a positive member of the larger Woods Hole community. Changing your schedule so we can sleep is the moral solution. Operating the Steamship with a view towards the total economic cost and not just financial profit and loss is the right thing to do. Building a community bridge across Vineyard Sound is the right thing to do.

Please do the right thing and change your schedule. Compromise is a true demonstration of leadership.

With Respect and Deep Concern

Stephen Laster
Dear Steamship Authority,

I would like you to consider having most semi-trucks go to the Islands via New Bedford. It is maybe a half hour longer by sea but it takes congestion off the two bridges which are out of date and unsafe with no dividing barriers! New Bedford is the perfect place to bring trucks from. It is close to Boston and Providence and it would take hundreds of trucks off the road of a tourist community.

The noise and pollution from those semis in front of our house is both annoying and bad for our community.

Thank you for you consideration,

Capt. Paul E. Lobo
114 Ships Watch, Falmouth 02540

San Francisco Bar Pilot 1977-2008-Retired
Author: Crossing the Bar, The Adventures of a San Francisco Bar Pilot.
Voted Top Five nautical books by gCaptain (2016)
Steve Sayers

From:  
Sent:    Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:02 AM  
To:      schedules  
Cc:      
Subject: Thursday, June 11, 4:30PM Public Hearing of Steamship Authority

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Dear Mr. Davis,

I have lived on Woods Hole Rd for over 40 years and I am strongly opposed to allowing the scheduling of a 5:30 am ferry departing Woods Hole. As traffic has increased overall on this road I realize this is not all due to the SSA. However, we can certainly say that the majority of the truck and bus traffic is SSA related (look at the numbers). I realize the SSA buses keep the vehicles out of Woods Hole (a good thing) but they still contribute to the noise and smell.

The worst is the truck traffic early in the morning. You don’t need an alarm clock and good luck trying to get back to sleep. It’s so bad I can tell which truck is coming up the hill and going by the house just by the engine sound. People complain about Harley’s making noise, they should hear one of these diesels coming up the hills at 4:30 in the morning.

The real scary part is having these loaded tanker trucks traveling down Woods Hole Rd. to make the boat. Ever since the SSA received permission to allow the transport of the fuel trucks this has been a concern. Please recall the recent accident involving the tanker truck at the Bourne Rotary and all the impact on that area and imagine a similar situation on Woods Hole Rd. All it takes is one sleepy or texting driver, it’s really a frightening thought.

I can understand the SSA responsibility to serve the growing needs of the Island but a line needs to be drawn regarding the acceptability of sailing times from Woods Hole. It’s not fair that the residents of Woods Hole & Falmouth have to put up with the noise, smells (both diesel and the fragrant trash trucks, imagine that thru your neighborhood!) and all the resultant traffic congestion.

Sincerely,

Richard Lovering  
Woods Hole Rd.
Dear Members of the Steamship Authority,

As a property owner in Woods Hole I support my neighbors who are impacted by the early morning truck noise. Though I am not directly impacted by the noise of the trucks because my house is far enough away from the main road, I believe that the noise issue need to be dealt with. A compromise somewhere in the middle needs to be found.

Thank you,

Jim Mavor

James Mavor
19 Standpipe Hill Road
Woods Hole, MA 02543