

# Casco Bay Island Transit District Staff Informational Presentation

Public Meeting -  
New Vessel Capacity

March 23, 2019





# Welcome

- Please sign in!
- Introductions
- Audio of this meeting is being recorded
- Hard stop at 12:30
- Paper feedback forms are available

# Agenda

## **10:00 – Welcome and Agenda Overview**

*Hank Berg, General Manager, Casco Bay Lines*

*Jessica Joyce, Facilitator, Tidal Bay Consulting*

## **10:10 – CBITD Staff Informational Presentation (Hank Berg)**

## **10:30 – Public Comment Period (Jessica Joyce)**

Attendees will get 3 minutes to comment and/or ask questions.

Written forms are also available.

## **12:15 – Response to Questions (Casco Bay Lines staff)**

## **12:30 – Recap Next Steps and Adjourn (Hank Berg)**

# Meeting Purpose & Objectives

**Meeting Purpose:** To provide information Casco Bay Island Transit District background

- To provide information Schedule/Fleet Analysis process
- To provide Status of the new vessel design
- Solicit public input on capacity of the new vessel for the Board's consideration
- Discuss next steps

## **Outcomes:**

- A shared understanding of the overall process to date and next steps
- A record of feedback from the public on capacity of the new vessel
- A shared understanding of future opportunities to remain engaged and gather information from the public

# Meeting Scope

## Scope of this meeting includes:

- Process for development of a new vessel to service Peaks
- The capacity (passenger, vehicle or freight) of a new vessel

## It *does not* include:

- CBITD projects or initiatives that have been, or would need to be, considered separately by the Board of Directors (e.g. priority boarding, reservations, etc.).
- Anything that would fall outside of the purview of CBITD.

# Meeting Norms

**Be recognized before speaking:** Form a line at the microphone, raise your hand or get the attention of the facilitator before speaking. We also ask that you state your **name and affiliation** (if any) before making a comment for the record.

**Treat everyone with respect:** Express your opinions responsibly, focusing on the issues and not on personal differences or individuals, and speak both honestly and kindly. Please refrain from clapping or verbally showing support or dissent from other's comments.

**Allow others to be heard:** We recognize that we all interrupt at times by mistake or to build on each other's statements. However, we strive to allow each person the space to finish his or her thoughts.

# Meeting Norms *(continued)*

**Engage each other's thoughts, ideas and opinions:** We recognize the value of a meeting when everyone has a chance to participate. Keep an open mind, especially on opinions that may differ from your own.

**Stay focused on the topic under discussion:** We will stay focused on the agreed-upon scope.

**Minimize distractions:** Please silence cell phones and avoid side conversations.

**Shared responsibility for success:** We are all responsible for achieving the outcomes of the meeting.



# About CBITD



# CBL History

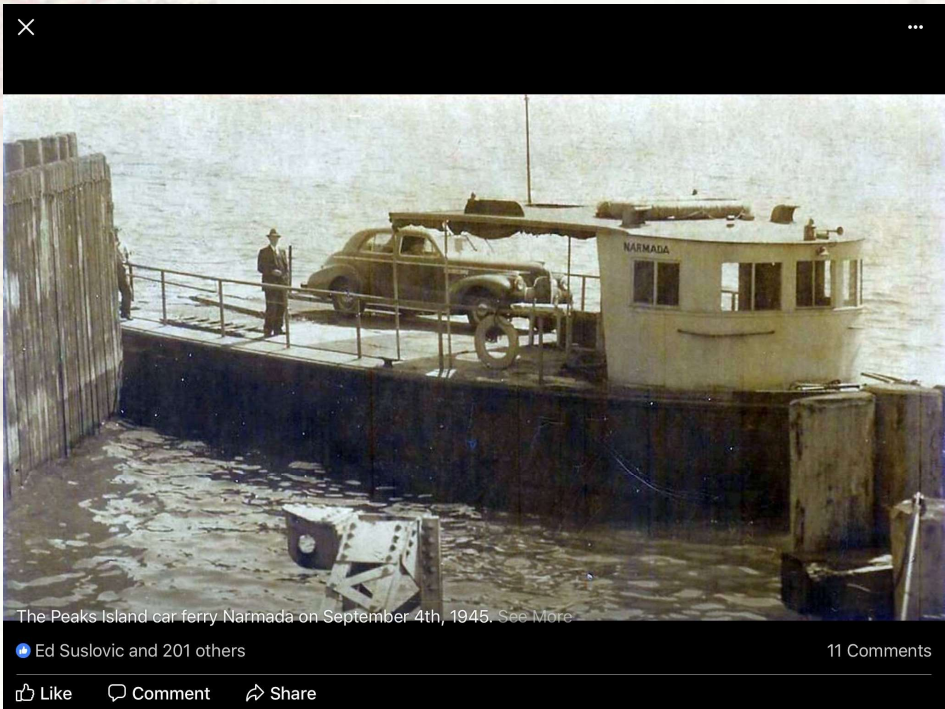
Ferry companies have been transporting passengers to Peaks for over 150 years. In the early 1900's wooden steamers with coal fired engines transported up to 1,100 passengers at a time.



*Seen during her earlier years on Casco Bay, the steamer Pilgrim, carries no fewer than 800 excursionists for a day's outing among the islands. On the busy Peaks Island shuttle, the popular "grand lady" was permitted to carry up to 1,100 passengers. The Peabody Museum of Salem*

Pilgrim  
Circa 1900

# CBL History



Narmada



Berkley  
Circa 1960s

# CBITD History



## Rebel

Year Built: 1957 (in CBL service circa 1970s)

Capacity:

72 – 174 passengers

Up to 9 vehicles

Length: 65 feet

Beam: 34 feet



## Machigonne II

Year Built: 1987 (in service since 1988)

Capacity:

Original: 349 passengers, 12 vehicles

Current: 399 passengers, 12 vehicles

Length: 122 feet

Beam: 37 feet

# CBITD History

- The economics of many private entities operating profitably **only** in the summer resulted in bankruptcies with a constant threat of not having year-round service.
- When the privately owned Casco Bay Lines declared bankruptcy in 1981, the Casco Bay Island Transit District (CBITD), a quasi-municipality, was established on April 17, 1981 through emergency State legislative action to ensure the continuation of service to the islands of Casco Bay.
- CBITD was given exclusive rights to transport passengers, freight and vehicles to the six regulated islands in Casco Bay including Peaks and is required to meet demand.
- CBITD took over the assets of CBL in 1982
  - March 26, 1982 (37 years ago!)

# Current Law

- Enabling legislation states “...District...is for public purposes in the interest of public health, safety, comfort, and convenience of the inhabitants of the islands comprising the district **and other passengers served by the district.**”
- CBITD cannot “segregate” or discriminate between passengers. All are treated equally.

# CBITD Governance

The Casco Bay Island Transit District (CBITD) is governed by a Board of Directors composed of 12 Directors.

- 10 elected from the islands
- 1 appointed by the City of Portland
- 1 appointed by the Commissioner of the Maine Department of Transportation

- Responsible for making policy
- Not responsible for implementing policy
- Employer/Supervisor of General Manager
- Other duties as set forth in the by-laws

# Regulation/Oversight of CBITD

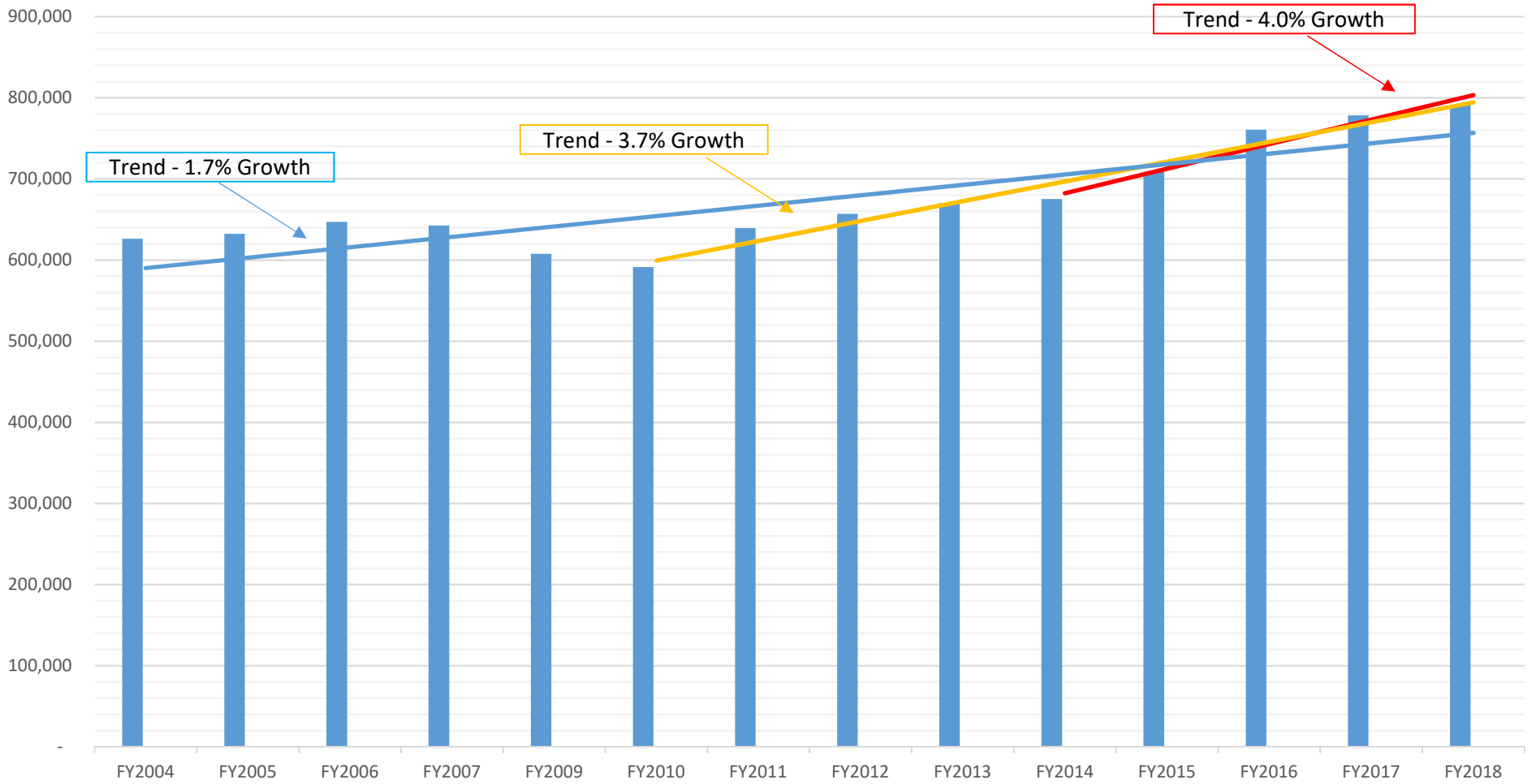
- Federal Transit Administration
- Maine Public Utilities Commission
- Maine Department of Transportation
- United States Coast Guard
- Department of Homeland Security

A detailed map of Casco Bay, Maine, showing numerous islands and surrounding waters. Overlaid on the map are several colored dashed lines representing ferry routes: a red line, a blue line, a green line, and a purple line. The text "Ridership Trends" is centered in a large, red, serif font over the map.

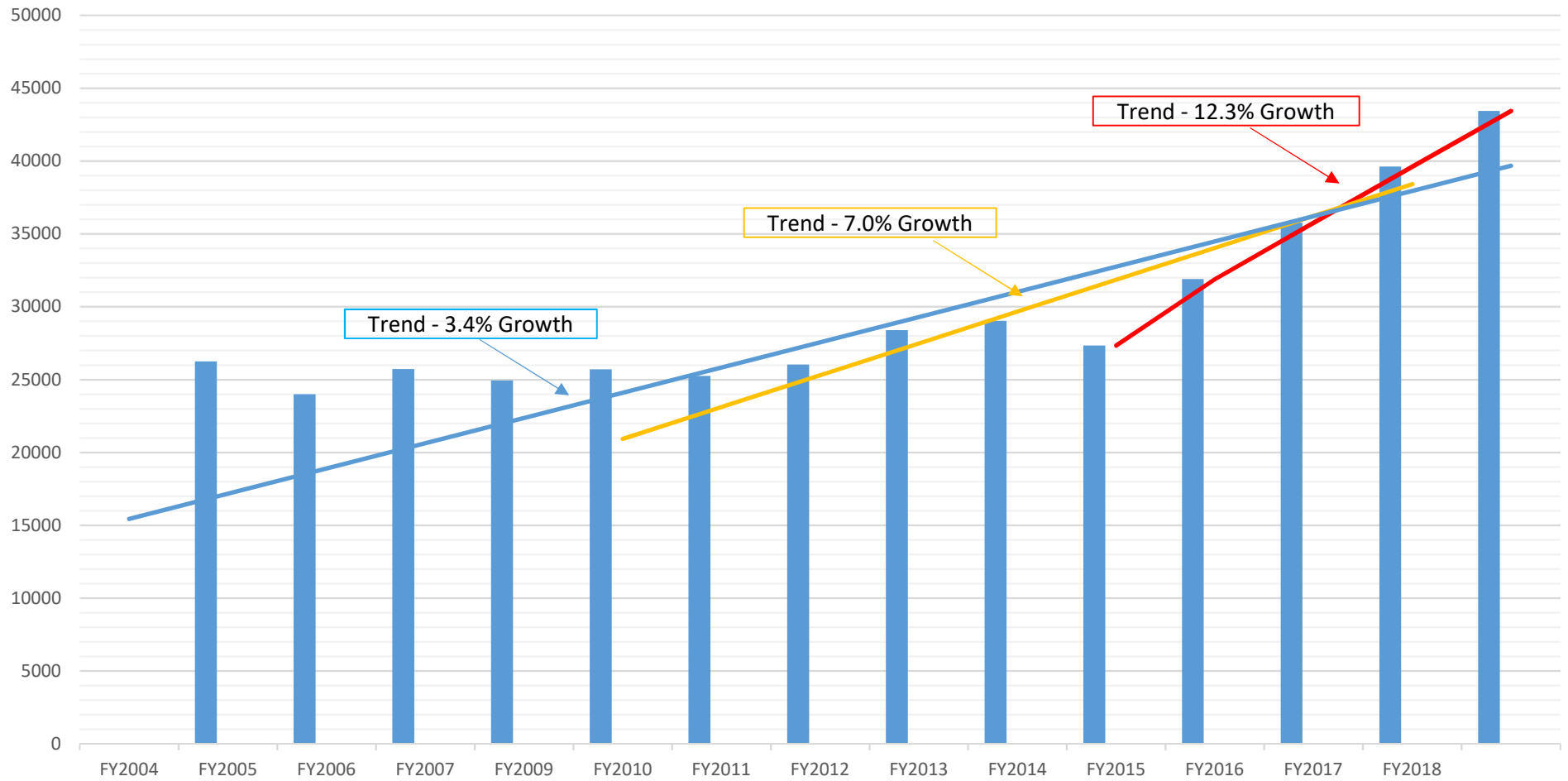
# Ridership Trends



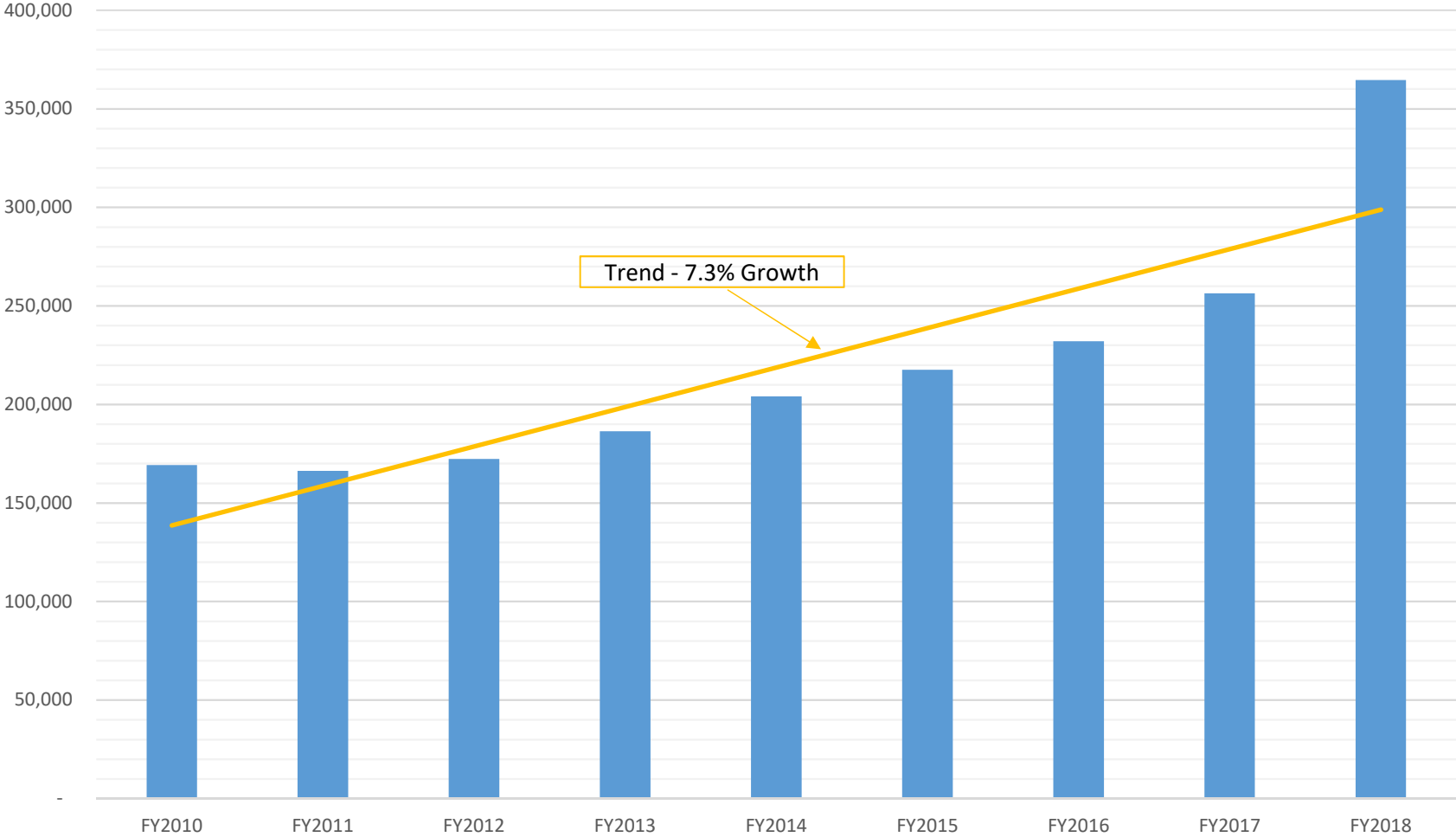
# Peaks Island Annual Ridership



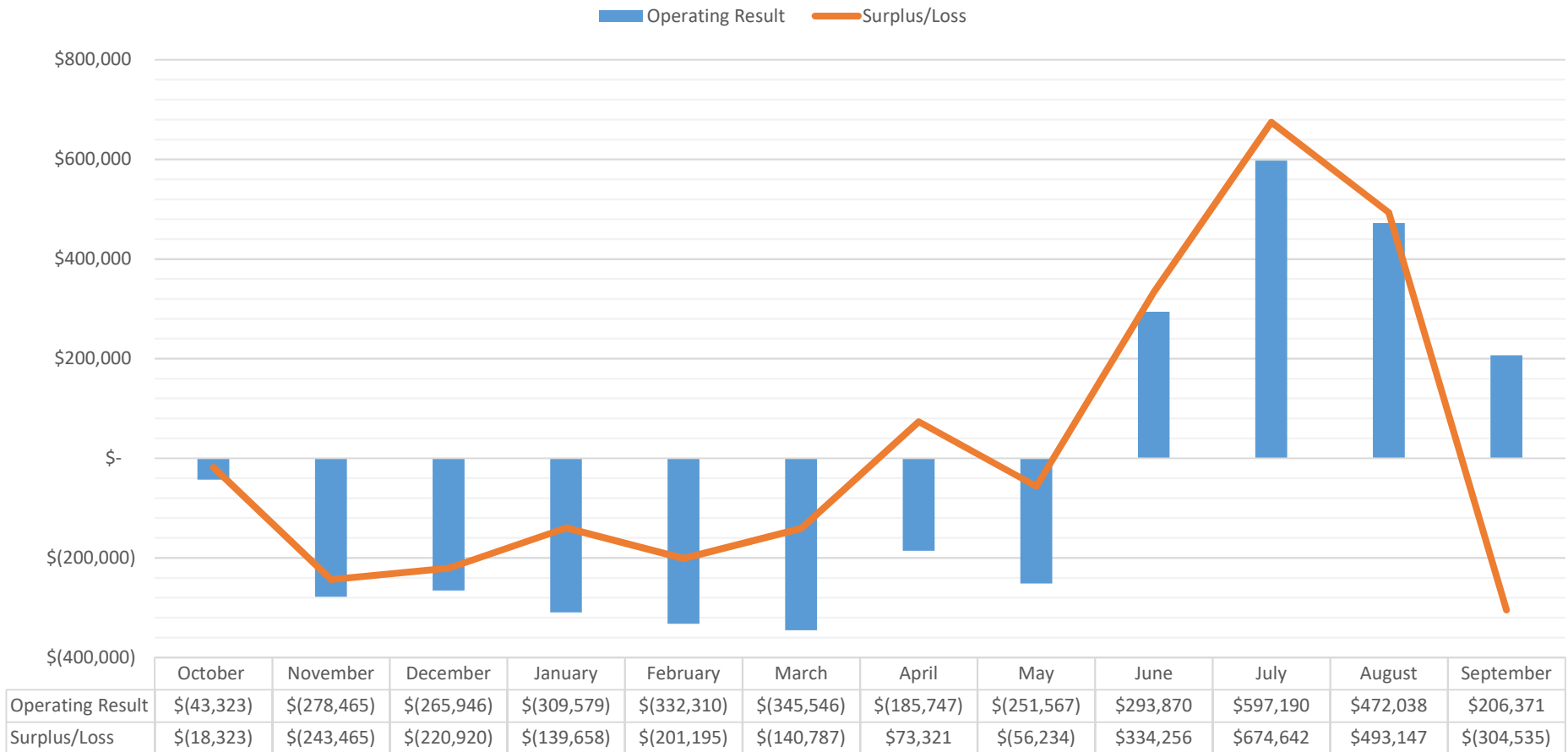
# Peaks Island Annual Vehicles



# Peaks Freight Revenue



# CBITD Monthly Financial Performance FY2018



- Summer revenue enables operations for the rest of the year
- Summer revenue has allowed for no fare increase in 10 years and much needed capital improvements

A detailed map of Casco Bay, Maine, showing numerous islands and surrounding waters. Overlaid on the map are several colored lines representing proposed or existing routes: a red dashed line, a blue solid line, and a green dashed line. The text "New Vessel Project" is centered in a large, red, serif font.

# New Vessel Project

# Board Strategic Planning

- As part of a long-range planning process undertaken by the CBITD Board of Directors between 2015 and 2016, the Board agreed to a number of goals and priorities, including:
  - Performing a schedule and fleet analysis
  - Developing a vessel replacement schedule
  - Securing funding for vessel replacement
- Guidelines were created for schedule, fleet and vessel projects

# FTA Required TAM

- CBITD maintains an FTA required Transit Asset Management Plan (TAM) to track the inventory of transit assets (including vessels), their condition, and costs associated with their maintenance, in order to assist the District in planning and budgeting for the asset replacement.
- The Casco Bay Lines TAM Plan identified:
  - Machigonne II is beyond useful life and needs to be replaced first
  - Maquoit is approaching the same status

# Project Funding

- With the help of the FTA, the State of Maine, the City of Portland and PACTS, CBITD has secured the ~\$11.2M in funds needed to design and construct one new car ferry.
- With the support of Senators Collins and King \$6M of this funding came from the FTA's Passenger Ferry Grant Program. CBITD competed with passenger ferries nationwide to win this competitive grant, receiving the highest award in the country.

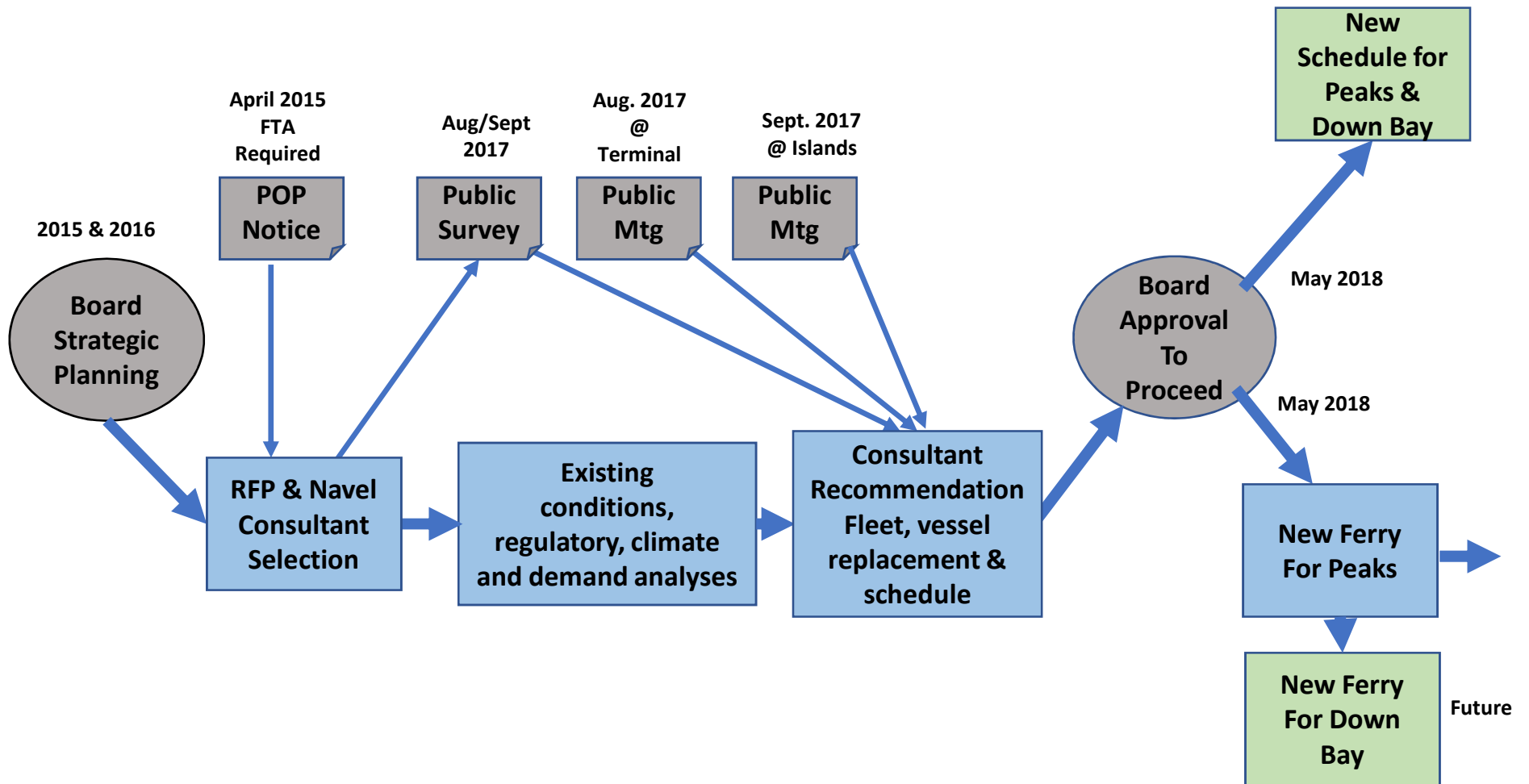




# Schedule / Fleet Analysis Process

- A marine transportation consulting firm, KPFF, was hired through an RFP to evaluate the current schedule and fleet.
- Their scope included making a recommendation to the Board as to which vessels should be replaced, and in which order.

# Schedule/Fleet Analysis Process





# New Peaks Ferry Design - Status

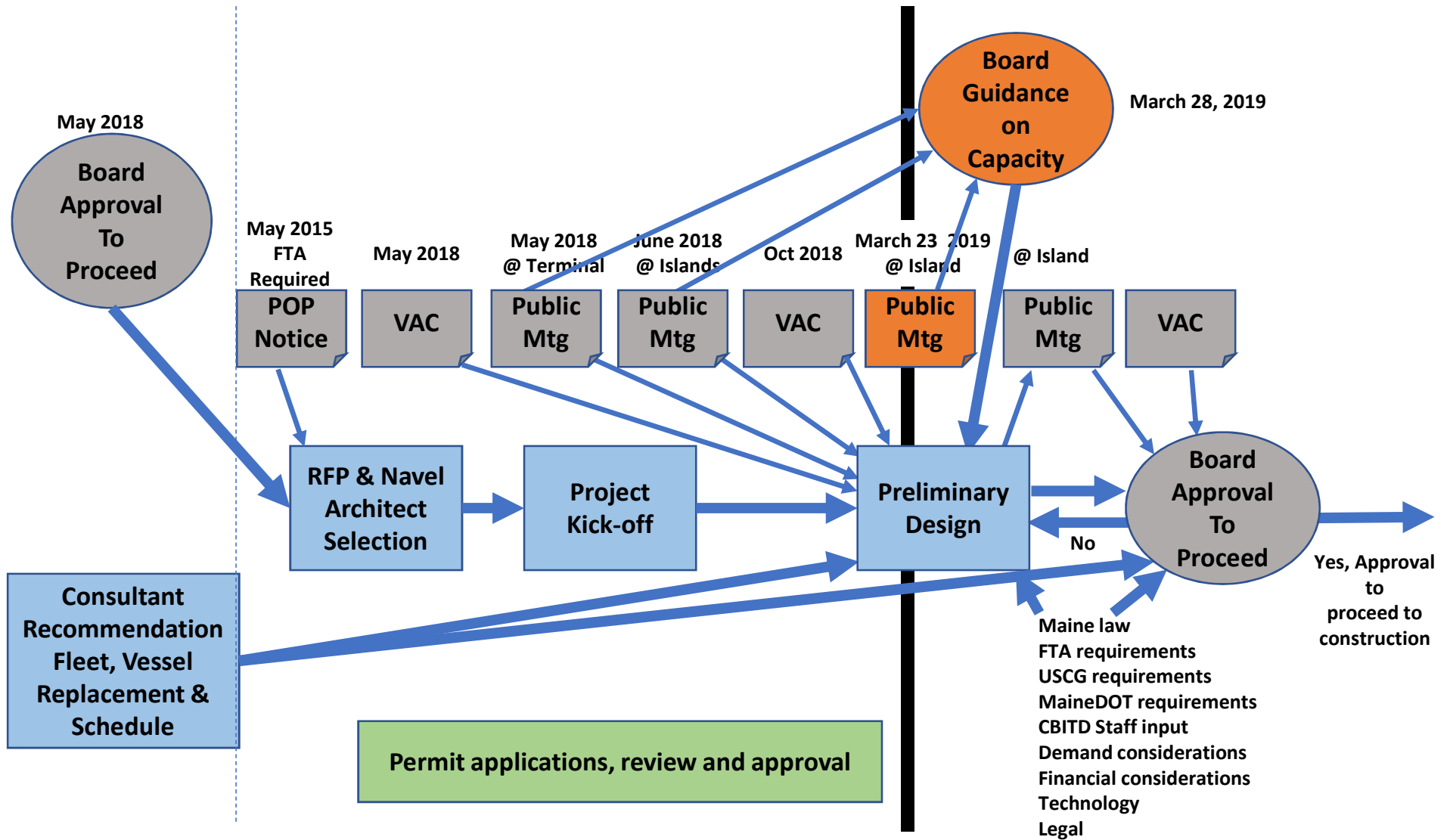
- After receiving a recommendation from KPFF who had analyzed the fleet, the Board voted on May 17, 2018, to proceed with design for a new vessel to service Peaks Island.
- CBITD released an RFP to hire a vessel designer, selecting Elliott Bay Design Group (EBDG) from Seattle, Washington.



# New Peaks Ferry Design - Status

- EBDG is working to develop a proposed new vessel configuration that meets CBITD needs for the next 30 years and conforms to the various regulatory requirements and operational constraints.
- **Status: 20% through preliminary design process**

# New Peaks Ferry Design Process



# Vessel Advisory Committee

- Committee composition set during Board strategic planning to include:
  - Members of the public
  - CBL staff
  - Directors from the CBITD Board
- Members of the VAC committee were appointed by the Board president
- Serves in an advisory role to prepare a recommended vessel design for the Board's consideration
- All meetings are posted and open to the public
- The VAC has no authority to create or approve policy or make any final decisions

A faded, light-colored map of the Casco Bay area in Maine, showing various islands and waterways. The map is overlaid with a semi-transparent white box containing the title and bullet points.

# Public Input Policy

- CBITD staff, relying on the PACTS public input policy, has met and exceeded all FTA public input requirements.
- All public input is welcome, public participation is encouraged, and the Board of Directors consider public input as a part of their role serving as the elected/appointed body representing the islands.
- CBITD staff has made, and will continue to make, every effort to answer questions and provide meaningful opportunity for public input.
- Don't assume any discussion with crew/shoreside staff will be included as part of the process.



# Public Input Policy

## Delivery of Comments to Board

- All feedback received on the new vessel (email, public meetings, survey, paper forms) will be provided to the Board of Directors for their consideration.
- Public feedback is one of many factors the Board will weigh in their consideration of a new vessel design.



# New Peaks Ferry Design

## Next Steps

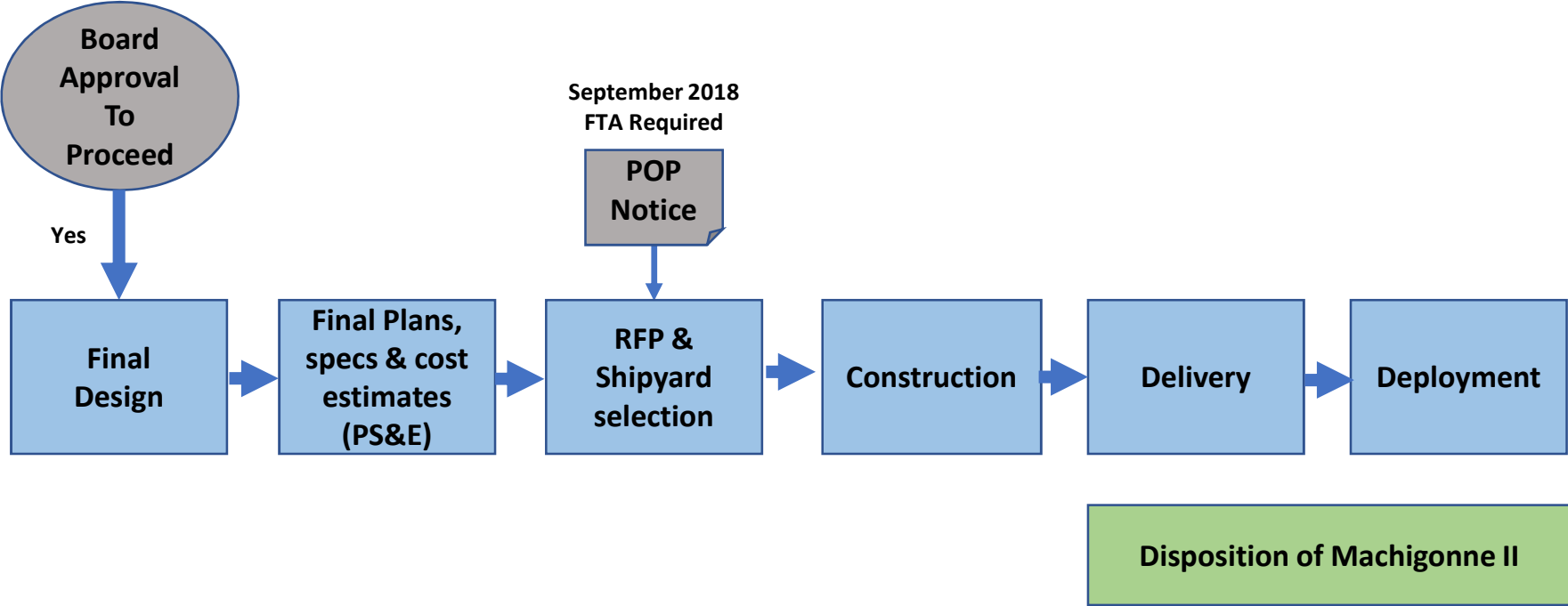
- Board meeting in March 28 to consider new vessel guidance to Preliminary Design process
- Hull consideration: Double end vs Single end
- Propulsion consideration: hybrid diesel electric
- Complete preliminary design

# New Peaks Ferry - Next Steps

- Conduct another public meeting & VAC meeting to discuss the proposed new vessel design
  - Any and all who are interested can attend
  - Notice of the meeting will be sent out in our email newsletter and posted on our website
- Following Board approval of a proposed design, the design phase will be complete and construction of the new vessel will begin
- It is our hope to have the new vessel in operation in Summer 2021

# New Peaks Ferry Construction

(to be done)



A detailed map of Casco Bay, Maine, showing numerous islands and surrounding waters. Overlaid on the map are several colored lines representing proposed routes: a red dashed line, a blue dashed line, and a green dashed line. The text "Public Comment Period" is centered over the map in a large, red, serif font.

# Public Comment Period

A background map of Peaks Island, Maine, showing various land parcels, roads, and water bodies. Overlaid on the map are several colored lines representing ferry routes: a red line, a blue line, and a green line. The text is overlaid on this map.

# Public Comment Welcome

**Q:** Given the information presented today, do you oppose or support the consideration of a proposed vessel design for a new Peaks Island ferry that has increased capacity? Please provide justification for your answer.



# Response to Questions

# Next Steps

- Presentation will be made available shortly on the website.
- Presentation and transcript of this meeting will be shared with the Board in advance of their March 28<sup>th</sup> Board meeting along with all feedback on the new vessel received by today.
- Answers to questions received at this meeting (paper feedback form or during public comment period) will be posted on the website within a reasonable timeframe.
- Additional feedback collected after today will be shared with the Board following their March 28<sup>th</sup> meeting in advance of their future consideration of a proposed vessel design.



# Recap & Adjourn

Thank you!



# Casco Bay Island Transit District

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Thank You!

