



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS

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To: Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk

From: Pat Smith, Utility Analyst

Date: May 5, 2023

Subject: Docket No. 23-08 - FR Blackstone Valley Tourism Council’s Tour/Charter Rates

On February 20, 2023, the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council (“Tourism Council”) filed a request for changes in its fares effective with the 2023 season. The Tourism Council provides tours and charters on the Blackstone River on the *Blackstone Valley Explorer*. The 2023 season begins on June 3rd and runs through October 29, 2023. According to the filing, this is the first fare change since 2016. The below table shows the current and proposed fares.

<u>Fare Category</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<u>Scheduled Tours</u>		
Adult	\$12.00	\$20.00
Seniors 62 and Older	\$10.00	\$15.00
Children Under 12	\$10.00	\$15.00
<u>Pirate Tours</u>		
Adult	N/A	\$25.00
Senior/Children	N/A	\$20.00
Education Tour /Charter	N/A	\$325.00

The Tourism Council is a non-profit agency and the tours and charters it provides are tourist related and discretionary. Due to the discretionary nature of the services provided, the Division does not object to the proposed fares. The Division does not believe a hearing on this matter is necessary and recommends approval of the fare changes as filed.