

# Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority

Water Transportation Advisory Council Update  
December 19, 2019



Created by Chapter 701 of the Acts of 1960

“In order to provide adequate transportation of persons and necessities of life for the islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard...”

(Section 1)

# The Authority is authorized and empowered to:

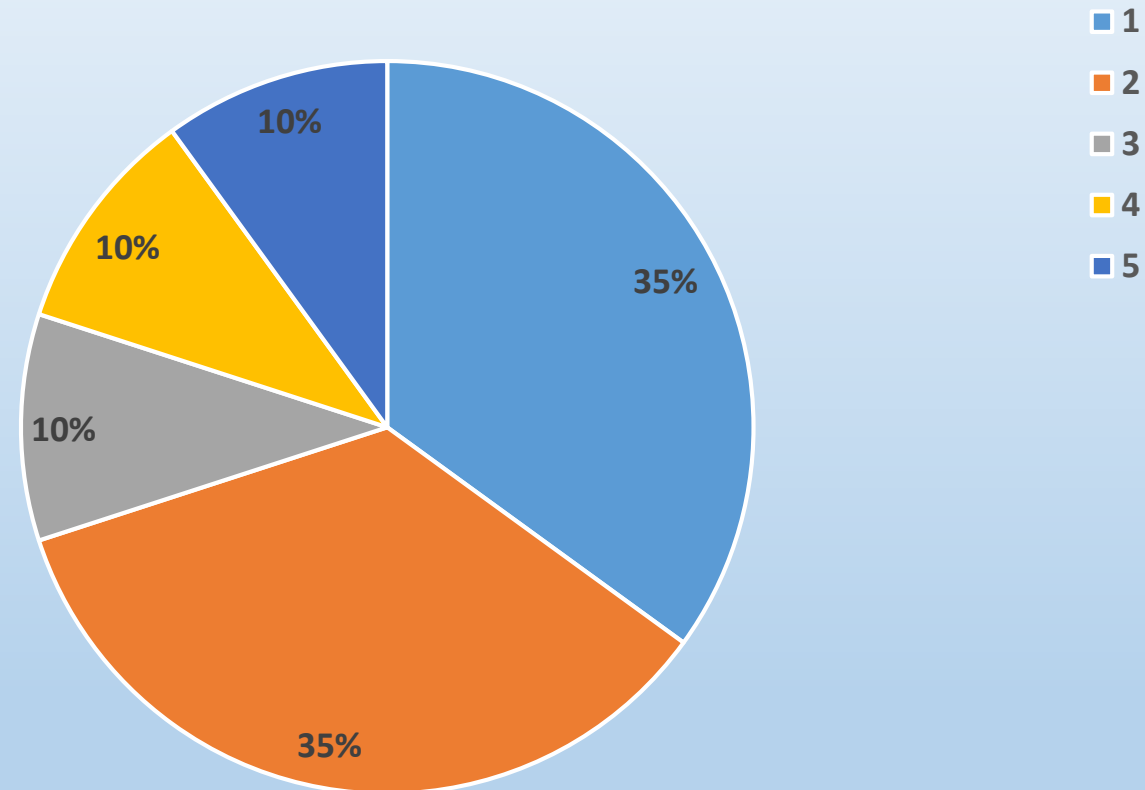
- Purchase, construct, maintain and operate
  - vessels,
  - docks,
  - wharves,
  - support vessels,
  - support facilities,
  - shuttle buses,
  - equipment,
  - furniture and supplies
- To issue revenue bonds payable solely from revenues

# The Authority consists of five-person Board appointed as follows:

- One resident of the county of Dukes County by the county commissioners;
- One resident of the county of Nantucket by the county commissioners;
- One resident of the town of Barnstable by the town council;
- One resident of the town of Falmouth by the selectmen; and
- One member who is a resident of the city of New Bedford by the mayor of the City of New Bedford with the approval of the city council.

While there is a five (5) member Board, the votes of which are weighted as follows:

- the county of Dukes County member's vote shall count as thirty-five percent (35%) of the whole; and
- the Nantucket member's vote shall count as thirty-five percent (35%) of the whole; and
- the Barnstable, Falmouth and New Bedford members' votes shall each count as ten percent (10%) of the whole.



# Board meets monthly and reviews and approves:

- Operating Schedules
- Operating Budget
- Fares
- Capital Budget
- Bonding
- Policies
- General oversight

# Section 14 of the Enabling Act establishes A “Port Council” consisting of:

- one member to be appointed by the board of selectmen of the town of Falmouth;
- one member to be appointed by the mayor with the approval of the city council of the City of New Bedford;
- one member to be appointed by the town council of the town of Barnstable;
- one member to be appointed by the selectmen of the town of Oak Bluffs;
- one member to be appointed by the board of selectmen of the town of Tisbury;
- one member to be appointed by the board of selectmen of the town of Nantucket; and
- one member to be appointed by the board of selectmen of the town of Fairhaven

“Port Council shall have the power to review the annual budget of the Authority and advise the Authority members concerning any activities underway or proposed in any port community in which the Authority operates.”

- Enabling Act, Section 14



# 100% Farebox Recovery

- Can receive and accept from any federal agency grants
- Responsible for operating efficiently
- Balancing revenues and expenses
- In the event of an operating deficit, the Authority shall notify the state treasurer of the amount of such deficiency.
- State will assess towns of Barnstable, Falmouth and Nantucket and the city of New Bedford and the county of Dukes County.
- The last such assessment was in **1962**.

Questions?