

AGENDA ITEM #2F
January 19, 2010

Introduction

MEMORANDUM

January 15, 2010

TO: County Council

FROM: Glenn Orlin, ^{Go}Deputy Council Staff Director

SUBJECT: **Introduction**—resolution to amend FY10 transportation fees, charges, and fares

On January 15 the County Executive transmitted a recommendation that the regular Ride On fares be increased by 10 cents per ride: from \$1.25 to \$1.35 for fares paid with a SmarTrip Card and from \$1.35 to \$1.45 for fares paid with cash or tokens. This increase would match the Metrobus fare increase under consideration by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. The County's (and region's) policy for many years is to strive to have all the public bus systems charge the same fare. The Executive also proposes increasing the Metrorail-to-Ride On transfer from \$0.75 to \$0.85 and the Day Pass from \$3.00 to \$3.20. These increases would go into effect on March 1, the same day that the Metrobus increase would go into effect if the WMATA approves its increase on January 28. The Department of Transportation estimates that these fare increases would generate \$205,000 more revenue during the last four months of FY10.

The Executive's transmittal memorandum is on ©1 and a draft adoption resolution is on ©2-8. The proposed fare changes are on ©3.

A public hearing on the Executive's proposal will be held on Thursday, February 4 at 7:30 pm in the Council's 3rd Floor Hearing Room. Final Council action is tentatively scheduled for February 9.



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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

January 15, 2010

TO: Nancy Floreen, President, County Council

FROM: Isiah Leggett, County Executive 

SUBJECT: Transmittal Fare Increase Recommendation and Resolution

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit a recommendation for FY10 Ride On service fare increase effective March 1, 2010, contingent on the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA) approving a similar fare increase.

WMATA is holding a public hearing forum and one of the items being discussed is a ten cent increase to bus fares starting March 1, 2010. WMATA's board will vote on any changes on January 28, 2010, and this is one of the items they are considering in lieu of service cuts. WMATA is proposing this as a temporary fare increase until the end of the fiscal year. However, the expectation is that this increase will be kept or raised higher on July 1, 2010. WMATA will have to hold another public hearing before approving, continuing or expanding the fare increase for FY11.

In order to promote seamless travel and encourage ridership, Montgomery County has always kept the Ride On base fare the same as the base fare for Metrobus. Our systems are coordinated and complementary, and it would be confusing to customers to have a difference in base fare prices. At this fare, our fare prices would still be much lower than most comparable bus systems in the nation. The fare increase would go in effect March 1, 2010, 27 days before the proposed service cuts. A decision needs to be made quickly, so that we could notify our riders of the change, as well as prepare for it.

I recommend that we increase Ride On fares contingent with WMATA. We expect this to be a ten cent fare increase so our cash fare would increase from \$1.35 to \$1.45 and the SmarTrip fare would increase from \$1.25 to \$1.35. Concurrently, I would recommend that the Day Pass increase from \$3.00 to \$3.20 and the Metrorail to Ride On transfer is increased from 75 cents to 85 cents and tokens increase from \$1.35 to \$1.45. This would keep us in line with WMATA and would create the least confusion to our customers. This fare increase would generate an additional \$205,000 for this fiscal year.

Please contact Carolyn Biggins, Division Chief, Transit Services at 240-777-5806 if you have any questions.

IL:tt

(1)

Resolution: _____

Introduced: _____

Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: County Council at the request of the County Executive

SUBJECT: Setting transportation fees, charges, and fares

Background

1. According to Section 2-57A of the Montgomery County Code, as of July 22, 2004 all fees, charges, and fares for any transportation or transportation-related service or product provided by the Department of Transportation must be set by Council resolution adopted after a public hearing and approved by the Executive, unless any law expressly requires a different process. If the Executive disapproves a resolution within 10 days after it is adopted and the Council readopts it by a vote of six Councilmembers, or if the Executive does not act within 10 days after the Council adopts it, the resolution takes effect.
2. The fees, charges, and fares currently in effect are those in Council Resolution 16-1214 adopted on December 1, 2009 and approved by the Executive on December 10, 2009.
3. On January 15, 2010 the County Executive recommended increasing the price of the regular cash fare or token to \$1.45, the regular fare paid with SmarTrip to \$1.35, the Metrorail-to-Ride On bus transfer to \$0.85 and the regional one day bus pass to \$3.20.
4. A public hearing on this resolution was advertised and held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County approves the following resolution:

Transportation fares, fees, and charges in Resolution 16-1214 are amended as described in Table 1, attached, and the increases to the regular cash fare or token, SmarTrip regular fare, Metrorail-to-Ride On bus transfer and all regional one day bus pass goes into effect on March 1, 2010.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

Date

Approved

Isiah Leggett, County Executive

Date

TABLE 1: TRANSPORTATION FARES, FEES, AND CHARGES**I. Transit Fares**

Regular cash fare or token	[\$1.35] <u>\$1.45</u>
Regular fare paid with SmarTrip	[\$1.25] <u>\$1.35</u>
Route 70 cash fare or token	\$3.10
Route 70 fare paid with SmarTrip	\$3.00
Bethesda 8 (Route 92) and VanGo (Route 28) shuttles	Free
Designated routes in Free-Wheeling Days promotion	Free
Kids Ride Free Program (2-7 pm weekdays)	Free
Code Red days	Free
Give and Ride Program	Free
Senior/Disabled with identification card	Free
attendant accompanying customer	Free
with Attendant-Eligible card	Free
MetroAccess Certified Customer with ID	Free
MetroAccess – companion	Free
Children under age 5	Free
Local bus transfer (SmarTrip only)	Free
Metrorail-to-Ride On bus transfer	[\$0.75] <u>\$0.85</u>
Senior/Disabled transfer	Free
Metrobus weekly pass	Free
MARC weekly and monthly passes	Free
MTA Commuter Bus Pass	Free
Regional One Day bus pass	[\$3.00] <u>\$3.20</u>
Ride On Monthly Pass	\$30.00
Youth Cruiser pass	\$10.00 Per Month
Summer Youth Cruiser pass (for 3-month period of June, July, and August)	\$15.00
‘C’ Pass (for current County employees)	Free
‘U’ Pass (for Montgomery College fee-paying students)	Free

II. Parking Fees (Note: No payment is required for motorcycles in spaces or areas where only motorcycle parking is permitted. No payment is required for any vehicle at all public parking spaces on County holidays.)

A. Bethesda Parking Lot District

1. Meters on-street from 9 am to 10 pm, Monday through Saturday, and in lots from 7 am to 10 pm, Monday through Friday, and in garages from 7 am to 10 pm, Monday through Friday

Short-Term (First 3 hours)	\$1.00 Per Hour
Long-Term (More than 3 hours)	\$0.65 Per Hour
2. Garage 49

Daily Maximum	\$10.50 Per Day
Lost Ticket	\$10.50 Per Day
3. Special Permits
 - a. Parking permits

Parking Convenience Sticker	\$120.00 Per Month
Daily Parking Permit	\$10.50 Per Day
“AM/PM” Parking Permit	\$20.00 Per Month
 - b. Carpool Permits

2 Persons	\$90.00 Per Month
3 and 4 Persons	\$50.00 Per Month
5 or More Persons	\$13.00 Per Month
 - c. Townhouse Resident Permit

	\$2.00 Per Month
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B. Silver Spring Parking Lot District

1. Meters on-street from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday, and in lots from 7 am to 7 pm, Monday through Friday, and in garages (except Garages 60 and 61) from 7 am to 7 pm, Monday through Friday

Short-Term (First 3 hours)	\$0.75 Per Hour
Long-Term (More than 3 hours)	\$0.50 Per Hour
2. Special Permits
 - a. Parking permits

Parking Convenience Sticker	\$95.00 Per Month
Daily Parking Permit	\$6.00 Per Day
“AM/PM” Parking Permit	\$20.00 Per Month
 - b. Carpool Permits

2 Persons	\$65.00 Per Month
3 and 4 Persons	\$35.00 Per Month
5 or More Persons	\$5.00 Per Month
 - c. Townhouse Resident Permit

	\$2.00 Per Month
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3. Garages 60 and 61

	\$0.75 Per Hour
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C. Wheaton Parking Lot District

- 1. Meters on-street from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday, and in lots from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday, and in garages from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday
 - Short-Term (First 3 hours) \$0.50 Per Hour
 - Long-Term (More than 3 hours) \$0.50 Per Hour

- 2. Special Permits
 - Parking Convenience Sticker \$95.00 Per Month
 - Townhouse Resident Permit \$2.00 Per Month

D. Montgomery Hills Parking Lot District

- 1. Meters on-street from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday, and in lots from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday
 - Short-Term (First 3 hours) \$0.25 Per Hour
 - Long-Term (More than 3 hours) \$0.25 Per Hour

- 2. Special Permits
 - Parking Convenience Sticker \$45.00 Per Month
 - Townhouse Resident Permit \$2.00 Per Month

E. Areas Outside Parking Lot Districts

- 1. Meters on-street and in lots from 7 am to 7 pm, Monday through Friday
 - Short-Term (First 3 hours) \$0.75 Per Hour
 - Long-Term (More than 3 hours) \$0.50 Per Hour

- 2. Special Permits
 - Parking Convenience Sticker \$95.00 Per Month

III. Parking Fines and Other Charges (with County Code Section Citations)**A. Motor vehicles, traffic control and highways, generally**

31-6(b)(2)	Snow emergency – Parked in Right-of-Way	\$75.00
31-7	Unregistered vehicle/parking prohibited	\$50.00
31-8	Impeding traffic, threaten public safety	\$50.00

B. Parking regulations generally – on-street

31-11(b)	Emergency/Temporary no parking sign	\$50.00
31-12	Violation of official sign (except residential permit parking)	\$50.00
31-12	Residential permit parking violation	\$40.00
31-13	Parking of vehicle – snow accumulation	\$50.00
31-14	Parking of heavy commercial vehicles, recreational vehicles, or buses	\$75.00
31-16	Over 24 hours	\$50.00
31-17	Within 35 feet of intersection	\$50.00
31-18	Posted time limit	\$50.00
31-19	Obstructing driveways (within 5 feet)	\$50.00
31-20	No person will:	
	(a) Stop, stand or park a vehicle whether occupied or not:	
	(1) Impeding traffic	\$50.00
	(2) On a sidewalk	\$50.00
	(3) Within an intersection	\$50.00
	(4) On a crosswalk	\$50.00
	(5) Alongside street repair	\$50.00
	(6) On bridge/ in tunnel	\$50.00
	(7) On any highway ramp	\$50.00
	(8) Official school board/Montgomery College sign	\$50.00
	(9) Rush hour restriction	\$50.00
	(10) Behind Official sign in Right-of-Way	\$50.00
	(b) Stand or park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except momentarily to pick up or discharge a passenger:	
	(1) within 15 feet of fire hydrant	\$50.00
	(2) within 20 feet of painted crosswalk	\$50.00
	(3) within 30 feet of traffic control signal/device	\$50.00
	(4) at a firehouse entrance clearance	\$50.00
	(5) at a No Standing sign	\$50.00
	(6) double parking	\$50.00
	(7) at a posted/marked fire lane	\$250.00
	(8) in front of theaters, posted	\$50.00
	(9) more than 12 inches from curb	\$50.00
	(10) opposite the flow of traffic	\$50.00
	(11) blocking another vehicle	\$50.00
	(12) not within designated parking space	\$50.00
	(13) at a posted bus stop	\$50.00
	(14) at a posted taxi stand	\$50.00
	(15) in a handicapped parking space	\$250.00

- (c) Park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading merchandise or passenger:
 - (1) within 50 feet of a railroad crossing \$50.00
 - (2) at an official No Parking sign \$50.00

C. Off-street public parking regulations

- 31-26 (a) No person shall park a vehicle on a public parking facility:
 - (1) in violation of an official sign \$50.00
 - (2) in a No Parking zone \$50.00
 - (3) not within a designated parking space \$50.00
 - (4) in or on driving aisle/driveway/signwalks \$50.00
 - (5) at a bagged meter/temporary sign/barricade \$50.00
 - (6) blocking another vehicle \$50.00
 - (7) over 24 hours where not authorized \$50.00
 - (8) vehicle unregistered/inoperative \$50.00
 - (9) in violation, front-in-only, posted \$50.00
 - (10) straddling marked parking spaces \$50.00
 - (11) unattended/running \$50.00
 - (12) impeding traffic \$50.00
- 31-27 (b) Prohibited vehicle/weight/size/type \$50.00
- 31-30(c) (c) Snow/ice emergency \$50.00

D. Parking meters generally

- 31-35 Expired parking meter \$35.00
- 31-36 Overtime parking at parking meter \$40.00
- 31-37 More than 3 feet from parking meter \$35.00
- 31-38 More than 1 vehicle in parking space except motorcycles \$35.00

E. Administration, enforcement, penalties, and collection

- 31-62 (c) Impoundment or immobilization fee \$115.00
- 31-52 (e) Fee for withholding the registration of a vehicle \$10.00
- 31-57(a) First late penalty for failure to fully pay fine or appeal citation within 15 days \$25.00
- 31-59 Second late penalty for failure to fully pay the original fine and penalties within 45 days of the original issuance of the citation \$25.00

F. Residential Parking Permits

- 31-48(h) Biennial fee \$35.00

IV. Transportation Management District (TMD) annual fees

In this section Gross Floor Area (GFA) is defined as described in Section 52-47 of the County Code.

A. Bethesda Transportation Management District

Commercial space occupied before July 1, 2006 where payment of TMD fee was a condition of subdivision or optional method approval	\$0.10/square foot GFA
Commercial space first occupied on or after July 1, 2006*	\$0.10/square foot GFA

B. Friendship Heights Transportation Management District

Commercial space occupied before July 1, 2006 where payment of TMD fee was a condition of subdivision or optional method approval	\$0.10/square foot GFA
Commercial space first occupied on or after July 1, 2006*	\$0.10/square foot GFA

C. North Bethesda Transportation Management District

Commercial space occupied before July 1, 2006 where payment of TMD fee was a condition of subdivision or optional method approval	\$0.10/square foot GFA
Commercial space first occupied on or after July 1, 2006*	\$0.10/square foot GFA

D. Silver Spring Transportation Management District

Commercial space occupied before July 1, 2006 where payment of TMD fee was a condition of subdivision or optional method approval	\$0.10/square foot GFA
Commercial space first occupied on or after July 1, 2006*	\$0.10/square foot GFA

* Between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010, 2.5 cents/sf GFA will be charged for each full quarter after a use and occupancy permit has been issued.