

AGENDA ITEM #12
May 19, 2010
Action

MEMORANDUM

May 17, 2010

TO: County Council
FROM: Glenn Orlin, ⁶⁰Deputy Council Staff Director
SUBJECT: **Action**—resolution to approve FY11 transportation fees, charges, and fares

On May 11 the Council tentatively agreed with the T&E Committee's recommendations:

- to include the Executive's proposed Ride On fare increases;
- to suspend the Kids Ride Free program for FY11;
- to restrict the free fares for seniors between 9:30 am-3:00 pm weekdays; and
- to raise all parking fines by \$5 except those for parking in a fire lane or handicapped space, or illegal commercial vehicle parking.

The changes also include the Executive's recommendation to implement a monthly parking convenience sticker for Garages 60 and 61 in Silver Spring (no revenue impact). All these changes would go into effect on July 1, 2010. The draft adoption resolution is attached.

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According to Section 2-57A of the Montgomery County Code, 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. The fees, charges, and fares currently in effect are those in Council Resolution 16-1260 adopted on February 9, 2010 and approved by the Executive on February 22, 2010.

On March 15, 2010 the Executive submitted his FY11 Operating Budget predicated on increasing the following Ride On fares: the price of the regular cash fare or token to \$1.60, the regular fare paid with SmarTrip to \$1.50, the regular cash fare or token on Route 70 to \$3.75, and the regular fare paid with SmarTrip on Route 70 to \$3.65, the Metrorail-to-Ride On bus transfer to \$1.00, the Youth Cruiser Pass to \$11.00, the Summer Youth Cruiser Pass to \$18.00, and eliminating the regional one day bus pass.

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority advertised for public comment a wide range of Metrobus fares that it is considering for its FY11 budget. Because the County's policy has been to charge the same fares for Ride On, public comment was also solicited for the following potential Ride On fare increases: the price of the regular cash fare or token to \$1.70, the regular fare paid with SmarTrip to \$1.60, the regular cash fare or token on Route 70 to \$4.10, and the regular fare paid with SmarTrip on Route 70 to \$4.00, and the Metrorail-to-Ride On bus transfer to \$1.10.

The Executive's Recommended FY11 Operating Budget was predicated on raising parking fees:

- In the Bethesda Parking Lot District (PLD) raising the fee for long-term parking from \$0.65/hour to \$0.75/hour, the monthly pass from \$120 to \$140, and associated daily and carpool passes.
- In the Silver Spring PLD raising the fee for long-term parking from \$0.50/hour to \$0.60/hour, the monthly pass from \$95 to \$113, and associated daily and carpool passes.

Finally, the Council solicited public comment on other potential changes: suspending the Kids Ride Free Program, charging half-fare (up to \$0.80 per ride) for seniors and the disabled, raising the parking fees in areas outside of parking lot districts to match the proposed fees in the Silver Spring PLD (this has been the historic practice), extending parking charging hours to Saturday for all lots, garages, and on-street meters in the PLDs, and raising all parking fines by \$5 except those for parking in a fire lane or handicapped space, or illegal commercial vehicle parking.

The T&E Committee held a public hearing on April 22 on these changes.

Resolution: _____
Introduced: March 23, 2010
Adopted: _____

COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: County Council

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 16-1260 adopted on February 9, 2010 and approved by the Executive on February 22, 2010.
3. On March 15, 2010 the Executive submitted his FY 2011 Operating Budget predicated on increasing the following Ride On fares: the price of the regular cash fare or token to \$1.60, the regular fare paid with SmarTrip to \$1.50, the regular cash fare or token on Route 70 to \$3.75, and the regular fare paid with SmarTrip on Route 70 to \$3.65, the Metrorail-to-Ride On bus transfer to \$1.00, the Youth Cruiser Pass to \$11.00, the Summer Youth Cruiser Pass to \$18.00, and eliminating the regional one day bus pass.
4. The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority has advertised for public comment a wide range of Metrobus fares that it will consider for its FY 2011 Budget. Because the County's policy has been to charge the same fares for Ride On, the following Ride On fare increases are also submitted for public comment: the price of the regular cash fare or token to \$1.70, the regular fare paid with SmarTrip to \$1.60, the regular cash fare or token on Route 70 to \$4.10, and the regular fare paid with SmarTrip on Route 70 to \$4.00, and the Metrorail-to-Ride On bus transfer to \$1.10.
5. On March 15, 2010 the Executive submitted his FY 2011 Operating Budget predicated on increasing the parking fees in the Bethesda and Silver Spring Parking Lot Districts as shown in Table 1, Part II, attached.
6. The Council is soliciting for public comment the following additional potential changes: eliminating the Kids Ride Free Program, charging half-fare (up to \$0.80 per ride) for seniors and the disabled, raising the parking fees in areas outside of parking lot districts to match the proposed fees in the Silver Spring Parking Lot District, extending parking charging hours to Saturday for all lots, garages, and on-street meters in Parking Lot Districts, and raising all parking fines by \$5 except those for parking in a fire lane or handicapped space, or illegal commercial vehicle parking.
7. A public hearing on this resolution was advertised and held on April 22, 2010.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County approves the following resolution:

Transportation fares, fees, and charges in Resolution 16-1260 are amended as described in Table 1, attached. The amendments include the Executive's proposed transit fare increases described in Background Section 3, suspending the Kids Ride Free program, restricting the free fares for seniors between 9:30 am-3:00 pm weekdays, and raising all parking fines by \$5 except those for parking in a fire lane or handicapped space, or illegal commercial vehicle parking. These increases go into effect on July 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	[\$1.45] <u>\$1.60</u>
Regular fare paid with SmarTrip	[\$1.35] <u>\$1.50</u>
Route 70 cash fare or token	[\$3.20] <u>\$3.75</u>
Route 70 fare paid with SmarTrip	[\$3.10] <u>\$3.65</u>
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 <u>from 9:30 am-3:00 pm weekdays</u>	Free
[attendant accompanying customer	Free]
[with Attendant-Eligible card	Free]
<u>Senior with identification card except from 9:30 am-3:00 pm weekdays</u>	
<u>with cash fare or token</u>	<u>\$0.80</u>
<u>with SmarTrip card</u>	<u>\$0.75</u>
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	[\$0.85] <u>\$1.00</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	\$3.20]
Ride On Monthly Pass	\$30.00
Youth Cruiser pass	[\$10.00] <u>\$11.00</u> Per Month
Summer Youth Cruiser pass (for 3-month period of June, July, and August)	[\$15.00] <u>\$18.00</u>
‘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

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
3. Garages 60 and 61	\$0.75 Per Hour
<u>Monthly Permit</u>	<u>\$140.00 Per Month</u>

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	[\$80.00]	<u>\$85.00</u>
31-7	Unregistered vehicle/parking prohibited	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
31-8	Impeding traffic, threaten public safety	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>

B. Parking regulations generally – on-street

31-11(b)	Emergency/Temporary no parking sign	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
31-12	Violation of official sign (except residential permit parking)	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
31-12	Residential permit parking violation	[\$45.00]	<u>\$50.00</u>
31-13	Parking of vehicle – snow accumulation	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
31-14	Parking of heavy commercial vehicles, recreational vehicles, or buses		\$75.00
31-16	Over 24 hours	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
31-17	Within 35 feet of intersection	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
31-18	Posted time limit	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
31-19	Obstructing driveways (within 5 feet)	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
31-20	No person will:		
	(a) Stop, stand or park a vehicle whether occupied or not:		
	(1) Impeding traffic	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(2) On a sidewalk	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(3) Within an intersection	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(4) On a crosswalk	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(5) Alongside street repair	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(6) On bridge/ in tunnel	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(7) On any highway ramp	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(8) Official school board/Montgomery College sign	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(9) Rush hour restriction	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(10) Behind Official sign in Right-of-Way	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(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	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(2) within 20 feet of painted crosswalk	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(3) within 30 feet of traffic control signal/device	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(4) at a firehouse entrance clearance	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(5) at a No Standing sign	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(6) double parking	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(7) at a posted/marked fire lane		\$250.00
	(8) in front of theaters, posted	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(9) more than 12 inches from curb	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(10) opposite the flow of traffic	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(11) blocking another vehicle	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(12) not within designated parking space	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(13) at a posted bus stop	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(14) at a posted taxi stand	[\$55.00]	<u>\$60.00</u>
	(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:
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|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (1) within 50 feet of a railroad crossing | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (2) at an official No Parking sign | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |

C. Off-street public parking regulations

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 31-26 (a) No person shall park a vehicle on a public parking facility: | |
| (1) in violation of an official sign | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (2) in a No Parking zone | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (3) not within a designated parking space | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (4) in or on driving aisle/driveway/signwalks | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (5) at a bagged meter/temporary sign/barricade | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (6) blocking another vehicle | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (7) over 24 hours where not authorized | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (8) vehicle unregistered/inoperative | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (9) in violation, front-in-only, posted | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (10) straddling marked parking spaces | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (11) unattended/running | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| (12) impeding traffic | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| 31-27 (b) Prohibited vehicle/weight/size/type | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |
| 31-30(c) (c) Snow/ice emergency | [\$55.00] <u>\$60.00</u> |

D. Parking meters generally

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|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 31-35 Expired parking meter | [\$40.00] <u>\$45.00</u> |
| 31-36 Overtime parking at parking meter | [\$45.00] <u>\$50.00</u> |
| 31-37 More than 3 feet from parking meter | [\$40.00] <u>\$45.00</u> |
| 31-38 More than 1 vehicle in parking space except motorcycles | [\$40.00] <u>\$45.00</u> |

E. Administration, enforcement, penalties, and collection

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 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

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| 31-48(h) Biennial fee | \$35.00 |
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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] 2010 and June 30, [2010] 2011, 2.5 cents/sf GFA will be charged for each full quarter after a use and occupancy permit has been issued.