

AGENDA ITEM #35  
June 22, 2010  
**Public Hearing/Action**

**MEMORANDUM**

June 18, 2010

TO: County Council

FROM: Glenn Orlin,<sup>Go</sup> Deputy Council Staff Director

SUBJECT: **Public Hearing/Action**—resolution to amend FY11 transportation fees, charges, and fares

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 16-1358 adopted on May 19, 2010 and approved by the Executive on May 29, 2010.

On May 27, 2010 the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority approved some fares for Metrobus that were different than those charged for comparable rides on Ride On. The County's practice has been to charge the same fare on Ride On as on Metrobus for comparable trips. The revenue impact of these changes is anticipated to be minimal.

On June 4, 2010 the County Executive requested elimination of the Code Red Free Program on Ride On, noting that the program costs the County \$45,000 in lost revenue on each Code Red weekday, and \$26,000 and \$20,000 on each Code Red Saturday and Sunday, respectively. Montgomery County is currently the only jurisdiction in the region which has this program. The Executive's memo is on ©1.

A draft of this resolution is on ©2-8; all the proposed changes are on ©3.



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

June 4, 2010

TO: Nancy Floreen, Council President

FROM: Isiah Leggett, County Executive **Original signed by  
Isiah Leggett**

SUBJECT: Code Red Ride Free Program Elimination

This purpose of this memorandum is to recommend elimination of the Code Red Ride Free Program on Ride On. For fifteen years, Montgomery County has offered free bus rides on days forecast to be an "Air Quality Action Day" or "Code Red Day" by the Council of Governments. The program's intent was to encourage motorists to leave their cars at home and take public transportation in an effort to reduce vehicle emissions in the Washington region.

Montgomery County is the last jurisdiction in the Metropolitan Washington area to offer free transit service during these events. Northern Virginia Transportation Commission eliminated their program effective May 1, 2009. Metrobus will not be participating due to budget constraints and the District of Columbia has never participated.

Every time that a Code Red Day is issued, Ride On estimates that the county loses \$45,000 in revenue for a weekday, \$26,000 in revenue if it's a Saturday and \$20,000 in revenue if it's a Sunday. Previous weekday Code Red day's ridership analysis shows minimal to no increase in ridership for a single alert day and 5-7 percent ridership increase if there are multiple Code Red days in succession. In 2009, there were no Code Red Days, 2008 had three and 2007 had three.

Since the County Council is updating Transit's fares to coincide with the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority's fare decisions of last week this would be the right time to make this change as well. This would align our policy with other jurisdictions in our region, with little to no impact on ridership and save thousands of dollars in revenue that is lost for the "Code Red Day."

I appreciate your time and consideration on this matter.

IL:de

cc: County Council Members  
Glenn Orlin, County Council staff  
Arthur Holmes, Jr., Director

Resolution: \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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By: County Council

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**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 16-1358 adopted on May 19, 2010 and approved by the Executive on May 29, 2010.
3. On May 27, 2010 the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority approved some fares for Metrobus that were different than those charged for comparable rides on Ride On. The County's practice has been to charge the same fare on Ride On as on Metrobus for comparable trips.
4. On June 4, 2010 the County Executive requested elimination of the Code Red Free Program on Ride On, noting that the program costs the County \$45,000 in lost revenue on each Code Red weekday, and \$26,000 and \$20,000 on each Code Red Saturday and Sunday, respectively. Montgomery County is currently the only jurisdiction in the region which has this program.
5. 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 16-1358 are amended as described in Table 1, attached. The amendments eliminate the Code Red Ride Free Program and conform Ride On's fares to those approved by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority for Metrobus. The new transit fares go into effect on June 27, 2010.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

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Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

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Date

*Approved*

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Isiah Leggett, County Executive

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Date

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

Regular cash fare or token	[ <u>\$1.60</u> ] <u>\$1.70</u>
Regular fare paid with SmarTrip	\$1.50
Route 70 cash fare or token	[ <u>\$3.75</u> ] <u>\$3.85</u>
Route 70 fare paid with SmarTrip	\$3.65
Bethesda 8 (Route 92) and VanGo (Route 28) shuttles	Free
Designated routes in Free-Wheeling Days promotion	Free
[Code Red days	Free]
Give and Ride Program	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	\$1.00
<u>Metrorail-to-Route 70 transfer</u>	<u>\$3.15</u>
<u>Local bus-to-Route 70 transfer</u>	<u>\$2.15</u>
Metrobus weekly pass	Free
MARC weekly and monthly passes	Free
MTA Commuter Bus Pass	Free
Ride On Monthly Pass	\$30.00
<u>Boarding Route 70 with weekly or monthly pass</u>	<u>\$2.15</u>
Youth Cruiser pass	\$11.00 Per Month
Summer Youth Cruiser pass (for 3-month period of June, July, and August)	\$18.00
‘C’ Pass (for current County employees)	Free
‘U’ Pass (for Montgomery College fee-paying students)	Free
Senior* with identification card from 9:30 am-3:00 pm weekdays	Free
Senior* with identification card except from 9:30 am-3:00 pm weekdays	
with cash fare or token	[ <u>\$0.80</u> ] <u>\$0.85</u>
with SmarTrip card	\$0.75
<u>Metrorail-to-Ride On bus transfer (SmarTrip only)</u>	<u>\$0.25</u>
<u>Local bus transfer (SmarTrip only)</u>	<u>Free</u>
[Senior/Disabled transfer	Free]
<u>Senior* with identification card for Route 70 except from 9:30 am-3:00 pm weekdays</u>	
<u>with cash fare or token</u>	<u>\$1.90</u>
<u>with SmarTrip card</u>	<u>\$1.80</u>
<u>Metrorail-to-Route 70 with SmarTrip</u>	<u>\$1.30</u>
<u>Local bus-to-Route 70 with SmarTrip</u>	<u>\$1.05</u>
<u>Boarding with weekly or monthly pass</u>	<u>\$1.05</u>

\* For the purposes of this resolution, a person with disabilities not certified for MetroAccess service is treated the same as a senior.

**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
Monthly Permit	\$140.00 Per Month

**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	\$85.00
31-7	Unregistered vehicle/parking prohibited	\$60.00
31-8	Impeding traffic, threaten public safety	\$60.00

**B. Parking regulations generally – on-street**

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

### 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	\$60.00
	(2) in a No Parking zone	\$60.00
	(3) not within a designated parking space	\$60.00
	(4) in or on driving aisle/driveway/signwalks	\$60.00
	(5) at a bagged meter/temporary sign/barricade	\$60.00
	(6) blocking another vehicle	\$60.00
	(7) over 24 hours where not authorized	\$60.00
	(8) vehicle unregistered/inoperative	\$60.00
	(9) in violation, front-in-only, posted	\$60.00
	(10) straddling marked parking spaces	\$60.00
	(11) unattended/running	\$60.00
	(12) impeding traffic	\$60.00
31-27	(b) Prohibited vehicle/weight/size/type	\$60.00
31-30(c)	(c) Snow/ice emergency	\$60.00

### D. Parking meters generally

31-35	Expired parking meter	\$45.00
31-36	Overtime parking at parking meter	\$50.00
31-37	More than 3 feet from parking meter	\$45.00
31-38	More than 1 vehicle in parking space except motorcycles	\$45.00

### 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
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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, 2010 and June 30, 2011, 2.5 cents/sf GFA will be charged for each full quarter after a use and occupancy permit has been issued.