

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
METRO FY2011 FARE INCREASES**

When will fare increases start?

Fare increases will go into effect on June 27th and August 1st, in two phases.

What will happen during each phase?

In Phase 1, new Metro fares will be introduced. In Phase 2, reserved parking fees will increase to \$65 per month, and a new peak-of-the-peak rail fare surcharge of 20 cents will be introduced along with a discount of 25 cents for using a SmarTrip® card, and the Weekly Short Trip Pass, the Weekly Fast Pass, and the Transit Link Card prices will increase.

The new pass prices being adjusted on August 1 are in the table below:

| METRORAIL Passes | August 1 Cost |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 7-Day Short Trip Pass | \$32.35 |
| 7-Day Fast Pass | \$47 |
| Transit Link Card | \$102 |

What is peak-of-the-peak pricing?

Beginning on August 1, a new peak-period fee of 20 cents will be added to fares on weekdays from 7:30 to 9: a.m. and from 4:30 to 6 p.m., based on the time a passenger boards.

Why introduce a peak-of-the-peak fee?

The concept for this fee actually came from input provided at public hearings. This fee is expected to generate vital funding and to encourage customers who have flexible hours, to ride during less crowded times. This fee may also help to alleviate crowding and congestion during the peak periods.

How much will Metrorail fares increase?

Metrorail fares will increase by an average of 18 percent depending on the type of fare, the time of day and the distance travelled. The new peak-period boarding charge is \$1.95, while the boarding charge for the off-peak period is \$1.60.

On August 1, customers traveling on Metrorail will also pay a new peak-period fee of 20 cents will be added to fares on weekdays from 7:30 to 9: a.m. and from 4:30 to 6 p.m., based

on the time a passenger boards. Those Metrorail customers using paper fare cards will also pay an additional charge of 25 cents, a charge that SmarTrip® users will avoid.

Will the cost of SmarTrip® cards be reduced?

Metro is reducing the cost of a SmarTrip® card by 50 percent to \$2.50 starting on August 29 to make it easier for customers to take advantage of the SmarTrip® discount. This marks the first reduction in the price of the cards since SmarTrip® was first introduced in 1999. For purchase locations go to <http://www.wmata.com/fares/purchase/where.cfm#retail>

What is the trip value of the Weekly Short Trip pass?

As of June 28, 2010 the Weekly short Trip pass sells for \$30.25 and the riders can ride free for rail trips up to \$3.05; for all trips above this amount the rider must pay the difference by using the Add-Fare machine.

As of August 1, 2010 the Weekly short Trip pass will sell for \$32.25 and the riders can ride free for rail trips up to \$3.25; for all trips above this amount the rider must pay the difference by using the Add-Fare machine. This adjustment is to align with the new peak-of-the-peak fee taking effect on August 1.

How much will Metrobus fares increase?

The new fare on a regular Metrobus will be \$1.50 when paid with a SmarTrip card or \$1.70 when paid with cash.

How are the Express Metrobus fares affected?

Express bus fares will be \$3.65 when paid with a SmarTrip® card or \$3.85 when paid with cash. Both the 5A bus route to Dulles International Airport and the B30 to Baltimore Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport will be \$6.

What is the charge for seniors and customers with disabilities?

Senior citizens 65 and older, persons with disabilities, and customers with a Medicare card and valid photo ID ride for half the regular fare. On Metrorail, they must use a SmarTrip® card or farecard for seniors or persons with disabilities to pay the reduced fare.

Will there be any change to the late night weekend Metrorail fares?

Peak fares will be charged from midnight until closing on Friday and Saturday nights.

Why are Metro's fares? Being raised?

Revenue from passenger fares and other sources covers 55 percent of transit operating costs. The remainder comes from state and local governments, and other revenue such as advertising.

Metro has always sought to manage resources efficiently and to avoid fare increases. However, periodic fare increases are needed to offset higher costs for inflation in fuel, electricity, and health insurance. This year, poor economic conditions have had a profound effect on revenue Metro earns and on the ability of Metro's funding partners in local government to contribute to the operating budget.

In keeping with input gained at public hearings, fare adjustments and increased government contributions were favored over service reductions.

How can I find out the new cost of my Metro trips?

You can now go to metroopensdoors.com and enter the travel dates, time and location into the Metro Trip Planner to find out the cost of travel. Entering a date and time will provide the new cost of the trip.

Will the cost of parking increase?

The cost of regular daily parking and metered parking will not increase. However, the price of reserved monthly parking will increase from \$55 to \$65.

Will the cost of bicycle lockers increase?

The new price of bicycle lockers will be \$200 annually, or 55 cents per day. This is Metro's first price increase in the rental fee for bicycle lockers in 32 years.

How will the MetroAccess fare adjustments be made?

On June 27, the MetroAccess base fare will increase from \$2.50 to \$3, with an additional \$2 to \$4 supplemental charge for MetroAccess passengers who begin or end their trips more than 3/4 of a mile from Metro fixed route service, which is the service corridor requirement laid out in the Americans with Disabilities Act. The maximum fare for MetroAccess service will be limited to \$7.

- Zone 1 - up to three miles beyond the corridor would require an additional \$2 premium fare;
- Zone 2 - between three and six miles beyond the corridor would require an additional \$3 premium fare
- Zone 3 - between six and nine miles beyond the corridor would require an additional \$4 premium fare
- Zone 4 - more than nine miles beyond the corridor would require an additional \$4 premium fare.

NOTE: During the fall, MetroAccess base fare will be adjusted to twice the equivalent fixed route bus or rail fare. Even with this change the maximum fare for MetroAccess, including supplemental charges will remain \$7.

How will the fare increase affect passes?

The price of passes and tokens will also be increased in two phases as follows:

Phase 1 – June 27

| METRORAIL Passes | June 27 Cost | METROBUS Passes | June 27 Cost |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| One-Day Pass | \$ 9 | Weekly Flash Pass | \$15 |
| 7-Day Short Trip Pass | \$30.35 | Adult Tokens 10-Pack | \$17 |
| 7-Day Fast Pass | \$45 | DC Student Tokens 10-Pack | \$ 7.50 |
| Smart Student Pass | \$30 | Weekly Senior Flash Pass | \$ 7.50 |
| DC Student 10-Trip Farecard | \$ 9.50 | Weekly Disabled Flash Pass | \$ 7.50 |
| Transit Link Card (MARC and VRE) | \$92 | | |

Phase 2 – August 1

| METRORAIL Passes | August 1 Cost |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 7-Day Short Trip Pass | \$32.35 |
| 7-Day Fast Pass | \$47 |
| Transit Link Card | \$102 |

Also as part of Phase 2, Metro will enact the new 20-cent fee during peak-of-the-peak periods. Customers also will save 25 cents per trip if they use a SmarTrip® card instead of a paper farecard.