



AAC

Accessibility Advisory Committee

600 Fifth Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
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March 10, 2014

Dear Chair Downs and Members of the Board,

It is my pleasure to present you with the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) report for the month of February 2014. The primary issues we reviewed were: 1) the proposed FY2015 fare adjustments; and 2) an overview of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) on MetroAccess vehicles.

Issues of the Month

Metro's Proposed FY2015 Fares

The AAC discussed the proposed FY2015 Fare Adjustments. The Committee has examined several approaches, but focused on options that are sustainable and achievable, and took into account a customer's ability to afford public transportation. Therefore, the AAC cannot support any fare increase on MetroAccess service. Additionally, the AAC supports the General Manager's proposal to remove the surcharge for cash on buses, because of its impact on the economically disadvantaged seniors and people with disabilities. Upon motion, the AAC recommends three solutions, which appear as follow in order of preference:

- Change the formula by which MetroAccess fares are calculated to two times the bus only fare for all trips;
- Reduce the current multiplier of the fixed route fare to 1.25x or 1.5x; and
- Reduce the cap for MetroAccess fares to \$6.50

The AAC regards its recommendations as sustainable for Metro while achieving a measure of social equity for MetroAccess customers. A correspondence summarizing the recommendations has been forwarded to Chairman Downs and all members of the Board. The AAC looks forward to the Board's support with these changes in fare policy.

GPS System on MetroAccess Vehicles

The MetroAccess Subcommittee (MAS) was provided an overview of the features of the GPS system used on MetroAccess vehicles. The system known as Ranger provides MetroAccess Operators with point-to-point navigation information for customer's drop off/pick up locations and other trip information. The Ranger is also used by dispatch staff to manage operations. The MAS provided suggestions on improving efficiency of the Ranger by adding traffic and weather to its software.

Sincerely,

Patrick Sheehan
Chairman