

**Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority
Board Action/Information Summary**

Action
 Information

MEAD Number:

Resolution:
 Yes No

PURPOSE

To present the Board of Directors with answers to questions raised regarding a forecast of the FY09 operating budget, fare policy information and consideration of a proposed public hearing.

DESCRIPTION

The FY09 budget forecasts a funding need of \$109 million. In response to that staff has analyzed a number of fare changes for Board consideration. Additionally, the Board has requested information regarding possible fare policies.

FUNDING IMPACT

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

Should the Board reach consensus on a fare proposal for public hearing purposes, staff recommends that the Board approve advertisement to proceed with public hearings.

PRESENTED & ADOPTED:

SUBJECT: Public Hearings on Proposed Fare and Parking Rate Changes

PROPOSED
RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) provides Metrobus, Metrorail and MetroAccess services to the residents of the region; and

WHEREAS, These systems combine to provide about 1.3 million passenger trips daily; and

WHEREAS, The Washington metropolitan region has come to rely on the services of the Metrorail, Metrobus, and MetroAccess systems to provide safe and reliable service to respond to the mobility and accessibility travel needs of the region for work and discretionary activities; and

WHEREAS, The cost of Metrobus, Metrorail and MetroAccess services are funded in part by passenger revenues and in part by subsidies provided by the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland, local jurisdictions in Virginia and the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, The General Manager's estimated FY09 operating budget for Metrobus, Metrorail and MetroAccess currently includes a significant shortfall; and

WHEREAS, The General Manager has recommended that the budget shortfall be addressed through state and local government subsidy increases of 6.5 percent, and passenger revenue increases; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That, in accordance with Section 62 of the WMATA Compact, the Board of Directors, will conduct a series of public hearings on a proposed fare increase as shown on Attachment A (*to be determined*), to this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors expressly reserves judgment on whether any of the proposed fare increases are appropriate or justified; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors authorizes the General Manager to report on the findings of the public hearings and that the Board of Directors shall consider these findings and public comments in their deliberations on a proposed fare increase: and be it finally

RESOLVED, That this resolution will be effective immediately.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,

Carol B. O'Keeffe
General Counsel

PROPOSED



FY2009 Public Hearings on Proposed Fare and Parking Changes - Next Steps

Thursday, October 25: Board approves fare increase public hearings

Saturday, October 27: Advertise public hearings

Tuesday, November 13 – Monday, November 19: Conduct public hearings in DC, MD and VA

Thursday, December 13: Staff report on public hearings, Board vote on fare increase

Sunday, January 6: Fare changes implemented



Option A

18-Month Option — Minimal Ridership Loss Assumption		Current Fare	New Fare	Revenue
Metrorail				
Metrorail Peak	Increase boarding charge by 20 cents	\$1.35	\$1.55	
	Increase charge for composite miles between 3 and 6 by 4 cents	\$0.22	\$0.26	
	Increase charge for composite miles over 6 by 3 cents	\$0.195	\$0.225	
	Increase maximum regular fare by \$0.60	\$3.90	\$4.50	
	Increase the charge for Senior/Disabled to one-half regular fare	\$0.65 -\$1.95	\$0.80-\$2.25	
	Rail-to-bus transfer on Smarttrip only			
	Subtotal			\$61,859,470
Rail Off-peak	Increase charge for first 7 composite miles by 20 cents	\$1.35	\$1.55	
	Increase charge for composite miles between 7 and 10 by 20 cents	\$1.85	\$2.05	
	Increase charge for composite miles greater than 10 by 20 cents	\$2.35	\$2.55	
	Rail-to-bus transfer on Smarttrip only			
	Subtotal			\$18,208,726
	PASSES			
	Increase price of the One Day Pass by 20%	\$6.50	\$7.80	\$2,165,370
	Increase price of the Weekly Short Trip Pass by 20 %	\$22.00	\$26.40	\$626,299
	Increase price of the Weekly Fast Pass by 20%	\$32.50	\$39.00	\$1,461,067
	Eliminate the Metro Passport	15.00-\$30.00		
	Increase the price of the SmartStudent Pass	\$22.00	\$26.00	
	Increase price of Transit Link Card MARC and VRE	\$65.00	\$80.00	
	Increase price of Transit Link Card MTA	\$110.00	\$135.00	
	Subtotal Rail Passes			\$4,252,736
	OTHER FARE MEDIA			
	Increase the charge for DC Student Farecards/ 10 trips	\$6.50	\$7.75	
Total Rail Revenue				\$84,320,932
Metrobus				
Metrobus	Increase boarding charge by 25 cents	\$1.25	\$1.50	\$10,500,000
	Increase boarding charge for express bus service by 60 cents	\$3.00	\$3.60	
	Increase charge for Senior/Disabled fare by 15 cents	\$0.60	\$0.75	
	Bus-to-bus transfers issued on Smartcards only			
	Extend bus-to-bus transfer period from two to three hours			
	Increase all special fares by \$0.25			
	PASSES			
	Eliminate Regional One Day Pass	\$3.00	-	
	Increase price of the Weekly Flash Pass by 18 %	\$11.00	\$13.00	\$2,708,123
	Increase price of the Weekly Senior Flash Pass	\$6.00	\$7.50	
	Increase price of the Weekly Disabled Flash Pass	\$6.00	\$7.50	
	TOKENS			
	Eliminate regular Metrobus tokens			
	OTHER FARE MEDIA			
	Increase the charge for DC Student Tokens /10 trips (\$0.625 to \$0.75)	\$6.25	\$7.50	
Total Bus Revenue				\$13,208,123
MetroAccess				
MetroAccess	Increase MetroAccess fare as required by law	2.50	\$3.00	
	Increase supplemental zone fares by approximately 20%	\$1.00-\$4.00	\$1.25-\$4.75	
Parking				
	Increase parking fee by \$0.50 (approximately 90% capacity)	Varies	\$0.50	\$9,832,086
	Increase Monthly Reserved Parking by \$10.00 (8,500 spaces)	\$45.00	\$55.00	\$1,530,000
	Increase the rate for parking meters to \$1.00 for 60 minutes	\$0.25	\$1.00	\$1,100,000
	New Carrollton County Garage Monthly Fee			
	Extend the Non-Metro Parking Fee to all Metrorail stations			
	Eliminate the \$25.00 Redskins Game Day fee at Morgan Blvd. and Largo			
Total Parking Revenue				\$12,462,086
Bicycle Lockers				
	Increase bicycle lockers rental rate	\$70.00	\$150.00	
Charter				
Charter	Increase Contract/Charter rates by 20%			
Total	Total Fare Package			\$109,991,141

Option B

18-Month Option — Traditional Ridership Loss Assumption		Current Fare	New Fare	Revenue
Metrorail				
Metrorail Peak	Increase boarding charge by 25 cents	\$1.35	\$1.60	
	Increase charge for composite miles between 3 and 6 by 4 cents	\$0.22	\$0.26	
	Increase charge for composite miles over 6 by 3 cents	\$0.195	\$0.225	
	Increase maximum regular fare by \$0.60	\$3.90	\$4.50	
	Increase the charge for Senior/Disabled to one-half regular fare	\$0.65 - \$1.95	\$0.80 - \$2.25	
	Rail-to-bus transfer on Smartrip only			
	Subtotal			\$58,604,952
Rail Off-peak	Increase charge for first 7 composite miles by 25 cents	\$1.35	\$1.60	
	Increase charge for composite miles between 7 and 10 by 25 cents	\$1.85	\$2.10	
	Increase charge for composite miles greater than 10 by 25 cents	\$2.35	\$2.60	
	Rail-to-bus transfer on Smartrip only			
	Subtotal			\$20,677,403
PASSES	Increase price of the One Day Pass by 20%	\$6.50	\$7.80	\$2,165,370
	Increase price of the Weekly Short Trip Pass by 20 %	\$22.00	\$26.40	\$626,299
	Increase price of the Weekly Fast Pass by 20%	\$32.50	\$39.00	\$1,461,067
	Eliminate the Metro Passport	15.00-\$30.00		
	Increase the price of the SmartStudent Pass	\$22.00	\$26.00	
	Increase price of Transit Link Card MARC and VRE	\$65.00	\$80.00	
	Increase price of Transit Link Card MTA	\$110.00	\$135.00	
	Subtotal Rail Passes			\$4,252,736
OTHER FARE MEDIA	Increase the charge for DC Student Farecards/ 10 trips	\$6.50	\$8.00	
Total Rail Revenue				\$83,535,091
Metrobus				
Metrobus	Increase boarding charge by 25 cents	\$1.25	\$1.50	\$10,500,000
	Increase boarding charge for express bus service by 60 cents	\$3.00	\$3.60	
	Increase charge for Senior/Disabled fare by 15 cents	\$0.60	\$0.75	
	Bus-to-bus transfers issued on Smartcards only			
	Extend bus-to-bus transfer period from two to three hours			
	Increase all special fares by \$0.25			
PASSES	Eliminate Regional One Day Pass	\$3.00	-	
	Increase price of the Weekly Flash Pass by 18 %	\$11.00	\$13.00	\$2,708,123
	Increase price of the Weekly Senior Flash Pass	\$6.00	\$7.50	
	Increase price of the Weekly Disabled Flash Pass	\$6.00	\$7.50	
TOKENS	Eliminate regular Metrobus tokens			
OTHER FARE MEDIA	Increase the charge for DC Student Tokens /10 trips (\$0.625 to \$0.75)	\$6.25	\$7.50	
Total Bus Revenue				\$13,208,123
MetroAccess				
MetroAccess	Increase MetroAccess fare as required by law	2.50	\$3.00	
	Increase supplemental zone fares by approximately 20%	\$1.00-\$4.00	\$1.25-\$4.75	
Parking				
	Increase parking fee by \$0.50 (approximately 90% capacity)	Varies	\$0.50	\$9,832,086
	Increase Monthly Reserved Parking by \$10.00 (8,500 spaces)	\$45.00	\$55.00	\$1,530,000
	Increase the rate for parking meters to \$1.00 for 60 minutes	\$0.25	\$1.00	\$1,100,000
	New Carrollton County Garage Monthly Fee			
	Extend the Non-Metro Parking Fee to all Metrorail stations			
	Eliminate the \$25.00 Redskins Game Day fee at Morgan Blvd. and Largo			
Total Parking Revenue				\$12,462,086
Bicycle Lockers				
	Increase bicycle lockers rental rate	\$70.00	\$150.00	
Charter				
Charter	Increase Contract/Charter rates by 20%			
Total	Total Fare Package			\$109,205,300

Option C

12-Month Option — Minimum Ridership Loss Assumption		Current Fare	New Fare	Revenue
Metrorail				
Metrorail Peak	Increase boarding charge by 35 cents	\$1.35	\$1.70	
	Increase charge for composite miles between 3 and 6 by 6 cents	\$0.22	\$0.28	
	Increase charge for composite miles over 6 by 4 cents	\$0.195	\$0.235	
	Increase maximum regular fare by \$1.10	\$3.90	\$5.00	
	Increase the charge for Senior/Disabled to one-half regular fare	\$0.65 - \$1.95	\$0.85 - \$2.50	
	Rail-to-bus transfer on Smartrip only			
	Subtotal			\$66,028,320
Rail Off-peak	Increase charge for first 7 composite miles by 35 cents	\$1.35	\$1.70	
	Increase charge for composite miles between 7 and 10 by 35 cents	\$1.85	\$2.20	
	Increase charge for composite miles greater than 10 by 35 cents	\$2.35	\$2.70	
	Rail-to-bus transfer on Smartrip only			
	Subtotal			\$20,705,695
PASSES	Increase price of the One Day Pass by 20%	\$6.50	\$7.80	\$1,924,773
	Increase price of the Weekly Short Trip Pass by 20 %	\$22.00	\$26.40	\$556,710
	Increase price of the Weekly Fast Pass by 20%	\$32.50	\$39.00	\$1,298,726
	Eliminate the Metro Passport	15.00-\$30.00		
	Increase the price of the SmartStudent Pass	\$22.00	\$26.00	
	Increase price of Transit Link Card MARC and VRE	\$65.00	\$80.00	
	Increase price of Transit Link Card MTA	\$110.00	\$135.00	
	Subtotal Rail Passes			\$3,780,209
OTHER FARE MEDIA	Increase the charge for DC Student Farecards/ 10 trips	\$6.50	\$8.50	
Total Rail Revenue				\$90,514,224
Metrobus				
Metrobus	Increase boarding charge by 25 cents	\$1.25	\$1.50	\$8,200,000
	Increase boarding charge for express bus service by 60 cents	\$3.00	\$3.60	
	Increase charge for Senior/Disabled fare by 15 cents	\$0.60	\$0.75	
	Bus-to-bus transfers issued on Smartcards only			
	Extend bus-to-bus transfer period from two to three hours			
	Increase all special fares by \$0.25			
PASSES	Eliminate Regional One Day Pass	\$3.00	-	
	Increase price of the Weekly Flash Pass by 18 %	\$11.00	\$13.00	\$2,035,447
	Increase price of the Weekly Senior Flash Pass	\$6.00	\$7.50	
	Increase price of the Weekly Disabled Flash Pass	\$6.00	\$7.50	
TOKENS	Eliminate regular Metrobus tokens			
OTHER FARE MEDIA	Increase the charge for DC Student Tokens /10 trips (\$0.625 to \$0.75)	\$6.25	\$7.50	
Total Bus Revenue				\$10,235,447
MetroAccess				
MetroAccess	Increase MetroAccess fare as required by law	2.50	\$3.00	
	Increase supplemental zone fares by approximately 20%	\$1.00-\$4.00	\$1.25-\$4.75	
Parking				
	Increase parking fee by \$0.50 (approximately 90% capacity)	Varies	\$0.50	\$6,554,724
	Increase Monthly Reserved Parking by \$10.00 (8,500 spaces)	\$45.00	\$55.00	\$1,020,000
	Increase the rate for parking meters to \$1.00 for 60 minutes	\$0.25	\$1.00	\$733,333
	New Carrollton County Garage Monthly Fee			
	Extend the Non-Metro Parking Fee to all Metrorail stations			
	Eliminate the \$25.00 Redskins Game Day fee at Morgan Blvd. and Largo			
Total Parking Revenue				\$8,308,057
Bicycle Lockers				
	Increase bicycle lockers rental rate	\$70.00	\$150.00	
Charter				
Charter	Increase Contract/Charter rates by 20%			
Total	Total Fare Package			\$109,057,728

Option D

12-Month Option — Traditional Ridership Loss Assumption		Current Fare	New Fare	Revenue
Metrorail				
Metrorail Peak	Increase boarding charge by 40 cents	\$1.35	\$1.75	
	Increase charge for composite miles between 3 and 6 by 6 cents	\$0.22	\$0.28	
	Increase charge for composite miles over 6 by 4 cents	\$0.195	\$0.235	
	Increase maximum regular fare by \$1.25	\$3.90	\$5.15	
	Increase the charge for Senior/Disabled to one-half regular fare	\$0.65-\$1.95	\$0.85-\$2.50	
	Rail-to-bus transfer on Smartrip only			
	Subtotal			\$67,767,016
Rail Off-peak	Increase charge for first 7 composite miles by 35 cents	\$1.35	\$1.70	
	Increase charge for composite miles between 7 and 10 by 35 cents	\$1.85	\$2.20	
	Increase charge for composite miles greater than 10 by 35 cents	\$2.35	\$2.70	
	Rail-to-bus transfer on Smartrip only			
	Subtotal			\$18,851,239
PASSES	Increase price of the One Day Pass by 20%	\$6.50	\$7.80	\$1,924,773
	Increase price of the Weekly Short Trip Pass by 20 %	\$22.00	\$26.40	\$556,710
	Increase price of the Weekly Fast Pass by 20%	\$32.50	\$39.00	\$1,298,726
	Eliminate the Metro Passport	15.00-\$30.00		
	Increase the price of the SmartStudent Pass	\$22.00	\$26.00	
	Increase price of Transit Link Card MARC and VRE	\$65.00	\$80.00	
	Increase price of Transit Link Card MTA	\$110.00	\$135.00	
	Subtotal Rail Passes			\$3,780,209
OTHER FARE MEDIA	Increase the charge for DC Student Farecards/ 10 trips	\$6.50	\$8.75	
Total Rail Revenue				\$90,398,464
Metrobus				
Metrobus	Increase boarding charge by 25 cents	\$1.25	\$1.50	\$8,200,000
	Increase boarding charge for express bus service by 60 cents	\$3.00	\$3.60	
	Increase charge for Senior/Disabled fare by 15 cents	\$0.60	\$0.75	
	Bus-to-bus transfers issued on Smartcards only			
	Extend bus-to-bus transfer period from two to three hours			
	Increase all special fares by \$0.25			
PASSES	Eliminate Regional One Day Pass	\$3.00	-	
	Increase price of the Weekly Flash Pass by 18 %	\$11.00	\$13.00	\$2,035,447
	Increase price of the Weekly Senior Flash Pass	\$6.00	\$7.50	
	Increase price of the Weekly Disabled Flash Pass	\$6.00	\$7.50	
TOKENS	Eliminate regular Metrobus tokens			
OTHER FARE MEDIA	Increase the charge for DC Student Tokens /10 trips (\$0.625 to \$0.75)	\$6.25	\$7.50	
Total Bus Revenue				\$10,235,447
MetroAccess				
MetroAccess	Increase MetroAccess fare as required by law	2.50	\$3.00	
	Increase supplemental zone fares by approximately 20%	\$1.00-\$4.00	\$1.25-\$4.75	
Parking				
	Increase parking fee by \$0.50 (approximately 90% capacity)	Varies	\$0.50	\$6,554,724
	Increase Monthly Reserved Parking by \$10.00 (8,500 spaces)	\$45.00	\$55.00	\$1,020,000
	Increase the rate for parking meters to \$1.00 for 60 minutes	\$0.25	\$1.00	\$733,333
	New Carrollton County Garage Monthly Fee			
	Extend the Non-Metro Parking Fee to all Metrorail stations			
	Eliminate the \$25.00 Redskins Game Day fee at Morgan Blvd. and Largo			
Total Parking Revenue				\$8,308,057
Bicycle Lockers				
	Increase bicycle lockers rental rate	\$70.00	\$150.00	
Charter				
Charter	Increase Contract/Charter rates by 20%			
Total	Total Fare Package			\$108,941,968