

Consent Item (A) 02-27-2020

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Board Action/Information Summary

☒ Action ☐ Information

MEAD Number:
202155

Resolution:
☒ Yes ☐ No

TITLE:

Parking Fee Waiver for 2020 Platform Construction

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

The Vienna and Dunn Loring Metro stations on the western segment of the Orange Line will be closed beginning on or about May 23, 2020 as part of Metro's three-year Platform Improvement Project. Staff requests Board approval to waive parking fees for the parking facilities at these stations as a courtesy to customers and to make it convenient as possible to take advantage of Metrobuses that will replace train service. No operating subsidy impact is anticipated to the jurisdictions.

PURPOSE:

Request Board approval to waive parking fees at Vienna and Dunn Loring Metro stations during the Summer 2020 Platform Shutdown.

DESCRIPTION:

Staff requests Board approval to waive parking fees at Vienna and Dunn Loring parking facilities, beginning on or about May 23, 2020, as a courtesy to customers at these stations and to make it as convenient as possible to take advantage of Metrobuses what will replace train service.

Key Highlights:

- Two Metrorail stations on the Orange Line west of Ballston-GMU Metro Station will be closed beginning on or about May 23 to repair station platforms and complete related station improvements.
- Metro will provide bus bridges as well as regular Metrobus service from these stations.
- Staff recommends waiving parking fees at Vienna and Dunn Loring stations to encourage customers to use available Metrobus service.
- Combined, the two facilities have approximately 7,000 parking spaces and their use by non-riders is minimal
- Estimated revenue loss associated with offering free parking at the two stations is approximately 2.5 million
- There will not be an operating subsidy impact to the jurisdictions

- Capital funding designated for revenue losses due to major capital projects will be transferred to mitigate reduced operating revenue in FY2021.

Background and History:

Metro's three-year Platform Improvement Project ("PIP") will involve the reconstruction of outdoor platforms at 20 Metrorail stations, making platforms safer and more accessible for customers with disabilities, while also addressing any identified structural issues. The 2020 phase of the PIP includes the rehabilitation of four Metrorail stations (Vienna, Dunn Loring, West Falls Church and East Falls Church) on the Orange Line and will occur beginning on or about May 23. Two stations (Vienna and Dunn Loring) will suspend Metrorail service during this period but continue to provide regular Metrobus service. West Falls Church Metro station will provide single-tracking service throughout the summer, as well as provide Metrobus service. All transit services, including parking, at East Falls Church will be suspended during the Summer 2020 period.

Resolution 2018-53 adopted the Comprehensive Parking Policy, including the process for establishing rates and revenue collection hours at all Metro parking facilities and delegations to the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer, but those delegations do not include waiving parking fees.

Resolution 2019-10 authorized staff to waive the parking fees during the Summer 2019 Platform Shutdown at three Metrorail stations on the Blue and Yellow Lines. This proposal to waive the parking fees at two Metro stations during the Summer 2020 Platform Shutdown is consistent with the approach taken in 2019 to waive parking fees at three Metro stations.

The two Metro stations for which staff is proposing to waive the parking fees are Vienna and Dunn Loring. The East Falls Church Metro station will be closed in its entirety, so customers will not be able to access the parking facility. The West Falls Church Metro station will continue to provide Metrorail service, so staff is not recommending waiving the parking fees at that station.

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A summary of the parking spaces available and the parking rates charged is provided below:

Metrorail Station Daily Parking Fee	Total Spaces Non-Rider Fee	Utilization
Vienna \$4.95	5,169 N/A	76%

Dunn Loring	1,964	44%
\$4.95	\$8.95	

Discussion:

The three-year Platform Improvement Project (“PIP”) is an important initiative to rehabilitating and improving the exterior platforms throughout the Metrorail system. This is the second year of the three-year project. Similar to Board approved waiver of parking fees at three Metro stations in Summer 2019, staff recommends waiving parking fees at Vienna and Dunn Loring stations for the Summer 2020 Platform Shutdown, as a courtesy to riders and to encourage riders to continue to use transit.

The parking fees that this would apply are the daily parking rate of \$4.95 per day at each station and the \$8.95 per day non-rider fee at Dunn Loring. Staff has evaluated the risk of non-riders taking up significant spaces at the Dunn Loring Metro station and assesses that the impact would be minimal and not prevent parking spaces from being available to Metro's customers.

Staff is proposing to waive parking fees at two Metro stations: Vienna and Dunn Loring. Combined, the two parking facilities have approximately 7,133 parking spaces. The estimated revenue loss associated with offering free parking during the Summer 2020 Platform Shutdown is estimated to be \$2.5 million. There will not be an operating subsidy impact to the jurisdictions. Capital funding designated for revenue loss due to major capital projects will be transferred to mitigate reduced operating revenue in FY2020 and FY2021.

FUNDING IMPACT:

The estimated revenue loss associated with offering free parking at two parking facilities is \$2.5 million. There is no operating subsidy impact to the jurisdictions. In FY2021, capital funding designated for revenue losses will be used to mitigate reduced operating revenue from this action.	
Project Manager:	Belinda Barrett
Project Department/Office:	CFO/LAND

TIMELINE:

Previous Actions	
Anticipated actions after presentation	<p>Spring 2020-Customer notification of Summer 2020 Platform Shutdown schedule</p> <p>May-September 2020- Period that Metro</p>

would not collect parking fees at Vienna and Dunn Loring Metro stations

RECOMMENDATION:

Board approval to waive parking fees at Vienna and Dunn Loring Metro stations during the Summer 2020 Platform Shutdown.-

**SUBJECT: WAIVER OF PARKING FEES DURING ORANGE LINE PLATFORM
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

2020-07

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

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Compact § 60, the Board has sole and exclusive jurisdiction over service performed by transit facilities owned or controlled by WMATA, and the rates and fares to be charged for such service; and


WHEREAS, Staff recommends that the Board waive all parking fees at Vienna and Dunn Loring parking facilities during station shutdowns on the Orange Line at Vienna and Dunn Loring for platform reconstruction projects scheduled to begin on or about May 23, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board waives all parking fees at Vienna and Dunn Loring parking facilities during station shutdowns due to the platform reconstruction projects on the Orange Line at Vienna and Dunn Loring for no longer than six months after the parking fee waiver was implemented and authorizes the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer to terminate the waiver sooner; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Resolution shall be effective 30 days after adoption in accordance with § 8(b) of the WMATA Compact.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,



Patricia Y. Lee
General Counsel

WMATA File Structure No.:
12.8.2 Parking Fees and Fee Collection

Motioned by Mr. Smedberg, seconded by Mr. Letourneau

Ayes: 8- Mr. Smedberg, Ms. Gidigbi, Mr. Goldman, Mr. Horner, Mr. Letourneau, Mr. Marootian, Mr. Graham and Mr. McMillin