

**Presented and Adopted: March 23, 2020**

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY WAIVER OF METROBUS FARES DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

**2020-08**

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

WHEREAS, WMATA Compact § 60 grants the Board sole and exclusive authority over fares to be charged by WMATA; and

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 virus has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization.

WHEREAS, The President of the United States has declared a national emergency due to COVID-19, and the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the State of Maryland have also declared public health emergencies; and

WHEREAS, The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is urging everyone in the United States to remain at least six (6) feet away from each other during the pandemic emergency; and

WHEREAS, The location of the farebox on Metrobuses makes such distance between customers and the bus operator impossible;

WHEREAS, In light of the global public health emergency it is necessary to implement rear-door only boarding, waive the requirement to "tap" the SmarTrip card, and not accept cash payments to protect the health and safety of Metrobus operators and customers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

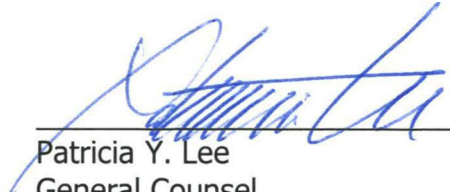
*RESOLVED*, That the Board, for up to sixty (60) days from the effective date of this resolution, waives the payment of all fares on Metrobus, including cash payments, and requires rear-door only boarding and exiting, except for customers who use wheelchairs who will continue to board via the wheelchair lift at the front door; provided, however, that the Board authorizes to the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer to reinstate fare collection and front door boarding on Metrobus in his discretion any time before the expiration of the sixty (60) day period; and be it finally

**Motioned by Mr. Smedberg, seconded by Mr. Goldman**

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

RESOLVED, That this Resolution shall take effect immediately to implement the CDC social distancing recommendation, in recognition of the declared national and public health emergencies, and to provide greater protection for WMATA's customers and employees.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,



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Patricia Y. Lee  
General Counsel

WMATA File Structure No.:  
9.12.9 Tariff (WMATA Fare Structure)