

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Board Action/Information Summary

☒ Action ☐ Information

MEAD Number:
202285

Resolution:
☐ Yes ☒ No

TITLE:

Parking Fee Waiver for Shady Grove and Rockville

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Shady Grove and Rockville Metro Stations will be closed from mid-September to early December 2021 as part of the Rockville Station Canopy Replacement Project. Staff requests Board approval to waive the daily parking fees at these two Metro stations to encourage transit users to utilize Metrobus and other shuttle-to-rail services available during the station closure period.

PURPOSE:

Request Board approval to waive the daily parking fees at Shady Grove and Rockville Metrorail Stations parking facilities during the station shutdowns for the canopy replacement projects for a period not to exceed four months after the waiver is implemented.

DESCRIPTION:

Shady Grove and Rockville Metro Stations will both be closed for the FY22 Rockville Station Canopy Replacement Project. As such, staff recommends providing free daily parking to make it as convenient as possible for transit customers using Metrobus service from these stations while Metrorail service is not available, during the station shutdowns for a period not to exceed four month after the waiver is implemented.

Key Highlights:

- To replace the Rockville Station canopy, and make other necessary station improvements, Shady Grove and Rockville Metro Stations will be closed beginning on or about September 11, 2021 through on or about December 4, 2021
- Staff recommends waiving the daily parking fees at both Metrorail Stations to encourage customers to use Metrobus and/or shuttle-to-rail services.

Background and History:

Resolution 2018-53 adopted the Comprehensive Parking Policy, which includes the process for establishing rates and revenue collection hours at all Metro parking facilities and delegations to the General Manager/Chief

Executive Officer (GM/CEO); however, it does not include waiving parking rates.

Staff proposes waiving the daily parking fee at Shady Grove and Rockville Metro Stations during the Rockville Station Canopy Replacement Project, which is consistent with the approach taken for the 2019 and 2020 Platform Improvement Projects (PIP) where the Metrorail stations were closed for the duration of those summers. Free parking was provided during the PIP construction periods to encourage commuters to use the available bus bridges.

Discussion:

The FY22 Rockville Station Canopy Replacement Project will replace the platform canopy at Rockville where concrete beam structures, original to construction in the 1980's, are deteriorating. Additional improvements will also be made to the canopy, including new, efficient LED lights, upgraded speaker system for station announcements, new digital screens for passenger information and new CCTV cameras for improved security, among others. During this time, Metro will also make repairs to the aging canopy roof at Shady Grove Metro Station and perform other safety-critical work. The project will begin approximately on September 11, 2021 and be completed on or about December 4, 2021 and requires the closure of the Rockville and Shady Grove Metro Stations.

The daily parking rate at both stations is \$5.20 for riders and \$8.95 for non-riders (at Rockville only). Staff has evaluated the risk of non-riders taking up significant spaces and assesses that the impact would be minimal and not prevent parking spaces from being available to Metro's customers.

While parking utilization at each Rockville and Shady Grove is significantly down due to the impacts of Covid-19 (Rockville's current parking utilization is 8 percent; Shady Grove's current parking utilization is 6 percent), the station closures will result in some revenue loss, as follows:

- Rockville's estimated revenue loss during the proposed station closure period: \$13,700
- Shady Grove's estimated revenue loss during the proposed station closure period: \$105,830

The total estimated revenue loss associated with offering free parking during the proposed time period is \$119,530. 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 FY22.

FUNDING IMPACT:

No Impact on funding	
Project Manager:	Belinda Barrett

Project Department/Office:	CFO/LAND
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TIMELINE:

Previous Actions	Resolution 2018-53 Comprehensive Parking Policy 2019 and 2020 Platform Improvement Projects (PIP)
Anticipated actions after presentation	Summer 2021- Notify customers of temporary waiver of parking rates at Rockville and Shady Grove Metro Stations

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval to waive the daily parking fees at Shady Grove and Rockville Metrorail Station parking facilities during the station shutdowns for the canopy replacement projects for a period not to exceed four months after the waiver is implemented.

SUBJECT: WAIVER OF PARKING FEES DURING CANOPY REPLACEMENT PROJECTS

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

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

WHEREAS, Staff recommends waiving all parking fees at Rockville and Shady Grove Metrorail Station parking facilities while those stations are shut down for canopy replacement projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors waives all parking fees at Rockville and Shady Grove Metrorail Station parking facilities during station shutdowns for the canopy replacement projects for a period not to exceed four months after the waiver is implemented, and authorizes the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer to terminate the waiver sooner as he deems appropriate; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That in order for the parking fee waiver at Rockville and Shady Grove Metrorail Station parking facilities to be in place for the start of the station shutdowns for the canopy replacement projects, this Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,

/s/ Patricia Y. Lee

Patricia Y. Lee

Executive Vice President and General Counsel