



Notice of Public Hearing
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Proposed Adjustments to Metrorail, Metrobus and
MetroAccess Passenger Fares, Routes and Hours of Service;
and Changes to Funding for Parts
and the Preventive Maintenance Program
Docket B10-1

Purpose

Notice is hereby given that one public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority on proposed changes as follows:

Hearing No. 547
Wed., January 27, 2010
5:30 p.m.
Metro Headquarters
600 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

The hearing is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. An Open House will be conducted prior to the hearing at 5 p.m.

The location of this public hearing is wheelchair accessible. Any individual who requires special assistance such as a sign language interpreter or additional accommodation to participate in the public hearing, or who requires these materials in an alternate format, should contact Ms. Danise Peña at 202-962-2511 or TTY: 202-638-3780 as soon as possible in order for Metro to make necessary arrangements.



Proposal

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro) is faced with a \$40 million budget shortfall for this year. 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, and local jurisdictions in Virginia.

In an effort to address this year's FY2010 budget shortfall, Metro will be required to generate additional passenger revenues, as well as reduced costs through changes to bus routes, reduced hours of service for both bus and rail service, and minor service changes to bus and rail services. Additionally, consideration is being given to capitalizing the purchase of various parts, and using capital funding for eligible costs of preventive maintenance.

The public hearing will seek comment from the public on proposed adjustments to passenger fares, to proposed changes in the hours of service, to bus routes which will be identified in the Docket to be posted at wmata.com, minor service changes on Metrobus and Metrorail, capitalization of parts and the use of preventive maintenance funding for eligible operating expenses, and cuts in the hours of the Metro sales office. Details of these proposed changes will also be available at wmata.com. The proposed fare increase and proposed changes to service hours and routes are expected to take effect commencing on or about March 1, 2010.

Specifically, Metro is proposing:

- 1) Possible cuts to the span of service on Metrorail to include:
 - Opening rail system one hour later on Saturdays and Sundays
 - Opening rail system 30 minutes later on weekdays
 - Closing the rail system earlier
- 2) Metro is looking for comments on major restructuring of the following bus lines:
 - 16 Line Columbia Pike in Virginia
 - 80 Line North Capitol in the District of Columbia
 - 52, 53, 54 Line 14th Street in the District of Columbia
 - J1 Line Montgomery Mall – Silver Spring in Maryland
 - N2,4,6 Line Massachusetts Avenue in the District of Columbia
- 3) Metro proposes an increase on all Metrobus and Metrorail trips up to \$.10 per trip. The MetroAccess fare will be increased up to \$.10 per trip. The cost of all pass products will be increased to account for this change. The increase is proposed to take effect on or about March 1, 2010 and will terminate on June 30, 2010.
- 4) Minor headway adjustments on Metrobus and Metrorail that will affect weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays covering both peak and non-peak service as well as shorter hours of the Metro Sales Office.

- 5) Closing of certain mezzanines on weeknights and weekends where alternate mezzanines at the same stations are available.

The projected start date for the fare change is on or about March 1, 2010, four months before the start of Fiscal Year 2011 and will end June 30, 2010. Implementing fare changes on or about March 1, 2010 will allow Metro to collect needed additional revenue over four months.

Metro is interested in public comments weighing the use of capital dollars for preventive maintenance and parts against a larger fare increase and/or greater service modifications or a reduction in other capital projects.

In accordance with Section 62 of the WMATA Compact, Metro will conduct one public hearing at Metro's headquarters at 600 Fifth Street NW, Washington DC. Information on the hearings will be provided in area libraries, on Metro buses and Metrorail trains and online at wmata.com.

HOW TO REGISTER TO SPEAK AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

All organizations or individuals desiring to be heard with respect to the proposal will be afforded the opportunity to present their views and make supporting statements and to offer alternative proposals. To establish a witness list, individuals and representatives of organizations who wish to be heard at this public hearing are requested to furnish in writing their name, address, telephone number and organization affiliation, if any, to Office of the Secretary, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 600 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001. Alternatively, requests to speak may be faxed to 202-962-1133 or e-mailed to public-hearing-testimony@wmata.com. Please submit only one speaker's name per letter and reference the Hearing Number for the hearing at which you wish to speak. Lists of individual speakers will not be accepted. Others present at the hearing may be heard after those persons who have registered have spoken. Public officials will be heard first and will be allowed five minutes each to make their presentations. All other speakers will be allowed three minutes each. Relinquishing of time by one speaker to another will not be permitted.

HOW TO SUBMIT WRITTEN STATEMENTS

Written statements and exhibits should be sent to the Office of the Secretary, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 600 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001 and must be received by the close of the hearing on Wednesday, January 27, 2010. Alternatively, you may send an e-mail to public-hearing-testimony@wmata.com. Please reference the Hearing and/or Docket Number shown on the front of this document in your submission.