

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On Tuesday, July 26, 2005

Concerning Proposed Metro Transit Fare Increases

A public hearing will be held by the City of Madison Transit and Parking Commission (TPC) in Room 260 of the Madison Municipal Building, 215 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., on Tuesday, July 26, 2005 at 5:30PM to address a proposed Metro Transit fare increase to take effect on or after August 7, 2005.

The public hearing is scheduled to gather customer feedback on the fare increase which is proposed to meet a significant shortfall in transit funding in 2005 and 2006. (See box, right.)

State and Federal funding sources have not kept up with ordinary cost increases or extraordinary fuel cost increases. The City of Madison and Metro's contracting partners cannot pick up the difference in cost. Traditional passenger preference for fare increases over significant service cuts is the impetus for this fare increase proposal. If these fare increases were not adopted, Metro would have to reduce service by 9,200 or more revenue hours of service to meet budget. Service reductions would affect fixed-route and paratransit services on weekdays, weekends and holidays.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS:

The Transit and Parking Commission is also seeking input in some general elements of a broader plan to address anticipated funding shortfalls in the next few years including:

- The City of Madison is considering developing a low-income transit assistance program to be offered by the City (not Metro).
- TPC will endeavor to keep service cuts to a minimum, placing emphasis on service efficiencies to the extent possible, and on a fare increase plan for future years to help cover future shortfalls in funding. Increases may be in the range of 6-10% per year, to be determined later.
- TPC will consider strategies to increase advertising revenue including advertising in bus shelters, at Transfer Points, and full wraps on buses.

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PROPOSED FARES

	Current	Proposed
Base Fare:	\$1.50	\$1.75
Reduced Fares		
Youth	\$.85	\$1.00
Senior/Disabled	\$.75	\$.85
Child (under 5)	0	0
Discount Passes		
31-Day	\$39.00	\$47.00
One-Day	\$3.00	\$3.40
Youth Semester	\$95.00	\$133.00
Summer Youth	\$20.00	\$30.00
School Group	\$25.00	\$42.00
10-Ride Cards		
Adult	\$11.00	\$13.00
Youth	\$6.00	\$8.50
Senior/Disabled	\$7.50	\$8.50
2-4-1 (weekend & holiday) Adult Fare		\$6.00
Paratransit Fares		
Peak	\$3.00	\$3.40
Off-Peak	\$2.00	\$2.40
Special Shuttle	\$3.00	3.00
*Contract rate - Unlimited Ride Passes		
	\$.825	\$.88

**These rates apply on a per-trip basis to unlimited ride pass programs established on a contract basis with Metro.*

These programs make provision for free access by all of the employees and/or students of the institution to transit services. Each fixed-route trip is reimbursed at the rate shown. Paratransit trips are reimbursed on the basis of the paratransit fare in effect at the time. Current institutions with such agreements are the University of Wisconsin and University of Wisconsin Hospital Employees, Associated Students of Madison (UW Students), MATC Students, Edgewood College, St. Marys Hospital, and the City of Madison.

The Madison Municipal Building is accessible to people who use mobility aids and is equipped with assistive listening devices. Call Metro at 266-4904 (TTY 267-1143) at least 72 hours in advance of the public hearing to request a sign language interpreter, information in alternate formats - including large print, or other accommodations to access this public hearing.

Individuals may submit either oral or written comments regarding the proposed fare increases. Consideration will be given to views and comments expressed at the public hearing as well as written comments received at Metro Transit by noon on Wednesday, July 27, 2005.

Written comments may be addressed to:

Public Hearing Comments

Metro Transit

1101 E. Washington Ave.

Madison, WI 53703

or E-mail to mymetrobus@cityofmadison.com

For more information, contact the Metro Customer Service Center at 266-4466 (TTY: 267-1143) or mymetrobus@cityofmadison.com; Monday - Friday from 6:15 AM - 6:00 PM; Saturday from 8 AM - 4:30 PM; and Sunday and holidays from 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM.

Translation service is available for all calls to the Customer Service Center. All Metro information is also posted at mymetrobus.com.



For more information call Metro's Customer Service Center at 266-4466 (TTY 276-1143) or go online to www.mymetrobus.com