



Legislation Text

File #: 18340, **Version:** 1

Fiscal Note

Funding for 300 monthly low-income passes is included in the Metro Transit 2010 Adopted operating budget. No additional appropriation is required.

Title

Adopting the report and recommendations of the Low Income Bus Pass Program Committee (see Legislative File ID# 18200)

Body

WHEREAS, the Low Income Bus Pass Program Committee was created in response to concerns related to Metro Transit's fare increase that was implemented April 5, 2009, and;

WHEREAS, the committee held their first meeting on August 14, 2009 and met through April 2010, and;

WHEREAS, the committee was comprised of Ald. Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, Ald. Brian Solomon (Transit & Parking Commission), William Clingan (Community Development Director), Sarah Gillmore (Salvation Army), Liz Green (Dane County Human Services), Ray Harmon (Mayoral Assistant), Angela Jones (United Way), Charles Kamp (Transit General Manager), Ralph Middlecamp (St. Vincent de Paul Society), Kristen Petroschius (YWCA), Steven Schooler (Chair/Porchlight), Patti Stone (City Treasurer's Office), Lisa Subeck (Citizen Member) and Amanda White (Transit & Parking Commission), and;

WHEREAS, the committee was charged with developing a sustainable low income bus pass program and balance that with the need for Metro Transit to maintain a stable funding source, and;

WHEREAS, with feedback from relevant constituencies the final recommendation was approved by the committee (see Legislative File No. 18200 for complete report):

The Low Income Bus Pass Program Committee recommends that the City continue to fund the equivalent of 300 passes per month in Metro Transit's annual budget. The Committee feels strongly that the need for low income bus passes exceeds the current 300 pass/month cap. Therefore if further monies are identified from the City or any outside funding sources, the Committee recommends that those funds be used to expand the capacity of this program.

The Committee has developed program recommendations based on the desire to use available funds in the most efficient way, provide service to as many eligible customers as possible and make the program accessible and user friendly. The reduced fare pass gives low income community members a chance to ride the bus more often (as compared to a scenario where they just come up with the cash to ride to and from work each day) and therefore allows them to participate more fully in the community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council adopts the report and recommendations of the Low Income Bus Pass Program Committee.