

MEMORANDUM

March 27, 2009

TO: County Council

FROM: Glenn Orlin, Deputy Council Staff Director ⁶⁰

SUBJECT: **Introduction**—resolution to amend transportation fees, charges, and fares

All fees, charges, and fares for any transportation or transportation-related service or product provided by the Department of Transportation must be set by Council resolution adopted after a public hearing and approved by the Executive, unless any law expressly requires a different process. If the Executive disapproves a resolution within 10 days after it is adopted and the Council readopts it by a vote of six Councilmembers, or if the Executive does not act within 10 days after the Council adopts it, the resolution takes effect. The fees, charges, and fares currently in effect are those in Council Resolution 16-821 adopted on January 13, 2009 and approved by the Executive on January 21, 2009.

To provide more options in crafting the FY 2010 Operating Budget, public comment is solicited on the following potential changes to transit fares and parking fees:

- Suspend for FY 2010 free Ride On and Metrobus service for seniors and people with disabilities. The former half-fare rate of \$0.60 would be in effect for FY 2010.
- Suspend for FY 2010 the Kids Ride Free Program (2-7 pm on weekdays) on Ride On and Metrobus. The Youth Cruiser Pass, allowing unlimited rides on Ride On at all times, would be retained at its current cost of \$10/month.
- Suspend for FY 2010 the 'C' Pass providing County employees free Ride On service. The current Government Employees Transit Incentive (GET-IN) Program would be retained, providing a \$35/month discount on any transit mode in return for foregoing parking privileges.
- Raise the price of on-street short-term spaces in the Bethesda Parking Lot District (PLD) from \$0.75 to \$1.00 per hour. The price of off-street short-term spaces would remain at \$0.75/hour.
- Raise the price of long-term spaces in the Bethesda PLD from \$0.50 to \$0.75 per hour.
- Raise the price of the Parking Convenience Sticker in the Bethesda PLD from \$95 to \$140 per month.
- Raise the price of a 2-person carpool permit in the Bethesda PLD from \$70 to \$100/month.
- Raise the price of a 3-4-person carpool permit in the Bethesda PLD from \$40 to \$60/month.
- Raise the price of a 5+-person carpool permit in the Bethesda PLD from \$10 to \$15/month.

- Raise the price of the Daily Parking Permit in the Bethesda PLD and for the Daily Maximum and a Lost Ticket in Garage 49 from \$8.25 to \$12.00 per day.
- Rates applied in the North Bethesda Transportation Management District would be applied to all areas outside of parking lot districts.
- Raise the price of short-term spaces in areas outside of parking lot districts from \$0.60 to \$0.75 per hour.
- Raise the price of long-term spaces in areas outside of parking lot districts from \$0.45 to \$0.50 per hour.
- Raise the price of the Parking Convenience Sticker in areas outside of parking lot districts from \$85 to \$95 per month.
- Raise the price of biennial Residential Parking Permits from \$30 to \$35.
- As per Bill 27-08, raise the fine for parking recreational vehicles on public streets, or for parking heavy commercial vehicles or buses in other than commercial or industrial zones, from \$50.00 to \$75.00.

A draft resolution reflecting these potential changes is on ©1-8. The Council's public hearing is scheduled for April 21, 2009. The resolution is tentatively scheduled to be reviewed by the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment (T&E) Committee on April 29.

Resolution: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: County Council

SUBJECT: Setting transportation fees, charges, and fares

Background

1. With the enactment of Bill 16-04, as of July 22, 2004 all fees, charges, and fares for any transportation or transportation-related service or product provided by the Department of Transportation must be set by Council resolution adopted after a public hearing and approved by the Executive, unless any law expressly requires a different process. If the Executive disapproves a resolution within 10 days after it is adopted and the Council readopts it by a vote of six Councilmembers, or if the Executive does not act within 10 days after the Council adopts it, the resolution takes effect.
2. The fees, charges, and fares currently in effect are those in Council Resolution 16-821 adopted on January 13, 2009 and approved by the Executive on January 21, 2009.
3. On March 31, 2009 the Council requested public comment on the following potential changes to transportation fees, charges, and fares:
 - Suspend for FY 2010 free Ride On and Metrobus service for seniors and people with disabilities. The former half-fare rate of \$0.60 would be in effect for FY 2010.
 - Suspend for FY 2010 the Kids Ride Free Program (2-7 pm on weekdays) on Ride On and Metrobus. The Youth Cruiser Pass, allowing unlimited rides on Ride On at all times, would be retained at its current cost of \$10/month.
 - Suspend for FY 2010 the 'C' Pass providing County employees free Ride On service. The current Government Employees Transit Incentive (GET-IN) Program would be retained, providing a \$35/month discount on any transit mode in return for foregoing parking privileges.
 - Raise the price of on-street short-term spaces in the Bethesda Parking Lot District (PLD) from \$0.75 to \$1.00 per hour. The price of off-street short-term spaces would remain at \$0.75/hour.
 - Raise the price of long-term spaces in the Bethesda PLD from \$0.50 to \$0.75 per hour.
 - Raise the price of the Parking Convenience Sticker in the Bethesda PLD from \$95 to \$140 per month.
 - Raise the price of a 2-person carpool permit in the Bethesda PLD from \$70 to \$100/month.
 - Raise the price of a 3-4-person carpool permit in the Bethesda PLD from \$40 to \$60/month.
 - Raise the price of a 5+-person carpool permit in the Bethesda PLD from \$10 to \$15/month.
 - Raise the price of the Daily Parking Permit in the Bethesda PLD and for the Daily Maximum and a Lost Ticket in Garage 49 from \$8.25 to \$12.00 per day.
 - Rates applied in the North Bethesda Transportation Management District would be applied to all areas outside of parking lot districts.

- Raise the price of short-term spaces in areas outside of parking lot districts from \$0.60 to \$0.75 per hour.
- Raise the price of long-term spaces in areas outside of parking lot districts from \$0.45 to \$0.50 per hour.
- Raise the price of the Parking Convenience Sticker in areas outside of parking lot districts from \$85 to \$95 per month.
- Raise the price of biennial Residential Parking Permits from \$30 to \$35.
- As per Bill 27-08, raise the fine for parking recreational vehicles on public streets, or for parking heavy commercial vehicles or buses in other than commercial or industrial zones, from \$50.00 to \$75.00.

4. A public hearing on this resolution was advertised and held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County approves the following resolution:

Transportation fares, fees, and charges in Resolution 16-821 are amended as described in Table 1, attached, and go into effect on July 1, 2009.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

Date

Approved

Isiah Leggett, County Executive

Date

TABLE 1: TRANSPORTATION FARES, FEES, AND CHARGES

I. Transit Fares

Regular cash fare or token	\$1.35
Regular fare paid with SmarTrip	\$1.25
Bethesda 8 (Route 92) and VanGo (Route 28) shuttles	Free
Twinbrook (Route 93) and Rock Spring (Route 96) shuttles	\$0.35
Designated routes in Free-Wheeling Days promotion	Free
[Kids Ride Free Program (2-7 pm weekdays)]	Free]
Code Red days	Free
Give and Ride Program	Free
Senior/Disabled with identification card	
attendant accompanying customer	[Free] <u>\$0.60</u>
with Attendant-Eligible card	[Free] <u>\$0.60</u>
MetroAccess Certified Customer with ID	Free
MetroAccess – companion	Free
Children under age 5	Free
Local bus transfer (SmarTrip only)	Free
Metrorail-to-Ride On bus transfer	\$0.75
Senior/Disabled transfer	Free
Metrobus weekly pass	Free
MARC weekly and monthly passes	Free
MTA Commuter Bus Pass	Free
Regional One Day bus pass	\$3.00
Ride On Monthly Pass	\$25.00
Youth Cruiser pass	\$10.00 Per Month
Summer Youth Cruiser pass (for 3-month period of June, July, and August)	\$15.00
['C' Pass (for current County employees)]	Free]
'U' Pass (for Montgomery College fee-paying students)	Free

II. Parking Fees (Note: No payment is required for motorcycles in spaces or areas where only motorcycle parking is permitted. No payment is required for any vehicle at all public parking spaces on County holidays.)

A. Bethesda Parking Lot District

- 1. Meters on-street from 9 am to 10 pm, Monday through Saturday, and in lots from 7 am to 10 pm, Monday through Friday, and in garages from 7 am to 10 pm, Monday through Friday
 - Short-Term on-street (First 3 hours) \$1.00 Per Hour
 - Short-Term off-street (First 3 hours) \$0.75 Per Hour
 - Long-Term (More than 3 hours) [\$0.50] \$0.75 Per Hour
- 2. Garage 49
 - Daily Maximum [\$8.25] \$12.00 Per Day
 - Lost Ticket [\$8.25] \$12.00 Per Day
- 3. Special Permits
 - a. Parking permits
 - Parking Convenience Sticker [\$95.00] \$140.00 Per Month
 - Daily Parking Permit [\$8.25] \$12.00 Per Day
 - “AM/PM” Parking Permit \$20.00 Per Month
 - b. Carpool Permits
 - 2 Persons [\$70.00] \$100.00 Per Month
 - 3 and 4 Persons [\$40.00] \$60.00 Per Month
 - 5 or More Persons [\$10.00] \$15.00 Per Month
 - c. Townhouse Resident Permit \$2.00 Per Month

B. Silver Spring Parking Lot District

- 1. Meters on-street from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday, and in lots from 7 am to 7 pm, Monday through Friday, and in garages (except Garages 60 and 61) from 7 am to 7 pm, Monday through Friday
 - Short-Term (First 3 hours) \$0.75 Per Hour
 - Long-Term (More than 3 hours) \$0.50 Per Hour
- 2. Special Permits
 - a. Parking permits
 - Parking Convenience Sticker \$95.00 Per Month
 - Daily Parking Permit \$6.00 Per Day
 - “AM/PM” Parking Permit \$20.00 Per Month
 - b. Carpool Permits
 - 2 Persons \$65.00 Per Month
 - 3 and 4 Persons \$35.00 Per Month
 - 5 or More Persons \$5.00 Per Month
 - c. Townhouse Resident Permit \$2.00 Per Month
- 3. Garages 60 and 61 \$0.75 Per Hour

C. Wheaton Parking Lot District

- 1. Meters on-street from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday, and in lots from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday, and in garages from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday
 - Short-Term (First 3 hours) \$0.50 Per Hour
 - Long-Term (More than 3 hours) \$0.50 Per Hour
- 2. Special Permits
 - Parking Convenience Sticker \$95.00 Per Month
 - Townhouse Resident Permit \$2.00 Per Month

D. Montgomery Hills Parking Lot District

- 1. Meters on-street from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday, and in lots from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday
 - Short-Term (First 3 hours) \$0.25 Per Hour
 - Long-Term (More than 3 hours) \$0.25 Per Hour
- 2. Special Permits
 - Parking Convenience Sticker \$45.00 Per Month
 - Townhouse Resident Permit \$2.00 Per Month

E. [North Bethesda Transportation Management District] Areas Outside Parking Lot Districts

- 1. Meters on-street and in lots from 7 am to 7 pm, Monday through Friday
 - Short-Term (First 3 hours) [~~\$0.60~~] \$0.75 Per Hour
 - Long-Term (More than 3 hours) [~~\$0.45~~] \$0.50 Per Hour
- 2. Special Permits
 - Parking Convenience Sticker [~~\$85.00~~] \$95.00 Per Month

III. Parking Fines and Other Charges (with County Code Section Citations)

A. Motor vehicles, traffic control and highways, generally

31-6(b)(2)	Snow emergency – Parked in Right-of-Way	\$75.00
31-7	Unregistered vehicle/parking prohibited	\$50.00
31-8	Impeding traffic, threaten public safety	\$50.00

B. Parking regulations generally – on-street

31-11(b)	Emergency/Temporary no parking sign	\$50.00
31-12	Violation of official sign (except residential permit parking)	\$50.00
31-12	Residential permit parking violation	\$40.00
31-13	Parking of vehicle – snow accumulation	\$50.00
31-14	<u>Parking of heavy c[C]ommercial vehicles, recreational vehicles,</u> [\$50.00]	
	<u>[/bus] or buses [abutting residences or schools]</u>	\$75.00
31-16	Over 24 hours	\$50.00
31-17	Within 35 feet of intersection	\$50.00
31-18	Posted time limit	\$50.00
31-19	Obstructing driveways (within 5 feet)	\$50.00
31-20	No person will:	
	(a) Stop, stand or park a vehicle whether occupied or not:	
	(1) Impeding traffic	\$50.00
	(2) On a sidewalk	\$50.00
	(3) Within an intersection	\$50.00
	(4) On a crosswalk	\$50.00
	(5) Alongside street repair	\$50.00
	(6) On bridge/ in tunnel	\$50.00
	(7) On any highway ramp	\$50.00
	(8) Official school board/Montgomery College sign	\$50.00
	(9) Rush hour restriction	\$50.00
	(10) Behind Official sign in Right-of-Way	\$50.00
	(b) Stand or park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except momentarily to pick up or discharge a passenger:	
	(1) within 15 feet of fire hydrant	\$50.00
	(2) within 20 feet of painted crosswalk	\$50.00
	(3) within 30 feet of traffic control signal/device	\$50.00
	(4) at a firehouse entrance clearance	\$50.00
	(5) at a No Standing sign	\$50.00
	(6) double parking	\$50.00
	(7) at a posted/marked fire lane	\$250.00
	(8) in front of theaters, posted	\$50.00
	(9) more than 12 inches from curb	\$50.00
	(10) opposite the flow of traffic	\$50.00
	(11) blocking another vehicle	\$50.00
	(12) not within designated parking space	\$50.00
	(13) at a posted bus stop	\$50.00
	(14) at a posted taxi stand	\$50.00
	(15) in a handicapped parking space	\$250.00
	(c) Park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading merchandise or passenger:	
	(1) within 50 feet of a railroad crossing	\$50.00
	(2) at an official No Parking sign	\$50.00

C. Off-street public parking regulations

31-26	(a) No person shall park a vehicle on a public parking facility:	
	(1) in violation of an official sign	\$50.00
	(2) in a No Parking zone	\$50.00
	(3) not within a designated parking space	\$50.00
	(4) in or on driving aisle/driveway/signwalks	\$50.00
	(5) at a bagged meter/temporary sign/barricade	\$50.00
	(6) blocking another vehicle	\$50.00
	(7) over 24 hours where not authorized	\$50.00
	(8) vehicle unregistered/inoperative	\$50.00
	(9) in violation, front-in-only, posted	\$50.00
	(10) straddling marked parking spaces	\$50.00
	(11) unattended/running	\$50.00
	(12) impeding traffic	\$50.00
31-27	(b) Prohibited vehicle/weight/size/type	\$50.00
31-30(c)	(c) Snow/ice emergency	\$50.00

D. Parking meters generally

31-35	Expired parking meter	\$35.00
31-36	Overtime parking at parking meter	\$40.00
31-37	More than 3 feet from parking meter	\$35.00
31-38	More than 1 vehicle in parking space except motorcycles	\$35.00

E. Administration, enforcement, penalties, and collection

31-62 (c)	Impoundment or immobilization fee	\$115.00
31-52 (e)	Fee for withholding the registration of a vehicle	\$10.00
31-57(a)	First late penalty for failure to fully pay fine or appeal citation within 15 days	\$25.00
31-59	Second late penalty for failure to fully pay the original fine and penalties within 45 days of the original issuance of the citation	\$25.00

F. Residential Parking Permits

31-48(h)	Biennial fee	[\$30.00] <u>\$35.00</u>
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IV. Transportation Management District (TMD) annual fees

In this section Gross Floor Area (GFA) is defined as described in Section 52-47 of the County Code.

A. Bethesda Transportation Management District

Commercial space occupied before July 1, 2006 where payment of TMD fee was a condition of subdivision or optional method approval	\$0.10/square foot GFA
Commercial space first occupied on or after July 1, 2006*	\$0.10/square foot GFA

B. Friendship Heights Transportation Management District

Commercial space occupied before July 1, 2006 where payment of TMD fee was a condition of subdivision or optional method approval	\$0.10/square foot GFA
Commercial space first occupied on or after July 1, 2006*	\$0.10/square foot GFA

C. North Bethesda Transportation Management District

Commercial space occupied before July 1, 2006 where payment of TMD fee was a condition of subdivision or optional method approval	\$0.10/square foot GFA
Commercial space first occupied on or after July 1, 2006*	\$0.10/square foot GFA

D. Silver Spring Transportation Management District

Commercial space occupied before July 1, 2006 where payment of TMD fee was a condition of subdivision or optional method approval	\$0.10/square foot GFA
Commercial space first occupied on or after July 1, 2006*	\$0.10/square foot GFA

* Between July 1, [2008] 2009 and June 30, [2009] 2010, 2.5 cents/sf GFA will be charged for each full quarter after a use and occupancy permit has been issued.