



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#13-0913

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: November 19, 2013

TITLE: Public Hearing - Fare Increase for Three Community Bus Routes and
Adoption of the City's Fare Policy for Community Bus Service – Deferred
until December 17, 2013

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission hold a public hearing and approve a fare increase on three of the City's community bus routes and adopt a Transit Fare Policy for community bus service.

Background

In August of 2012, the City requested permission to raise the fare ceiling imposed by Broward County Transit's Fare Policy for community bus routes. Broward County Transit (BCT) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) determined that since the City is a Direct Recipient of federal grant dollars, then it should maintain its own fare policy and not be under the auspices of BCT's policy.

With its own fare policy, the City is required to adhere to Title VI and ADA regulations in Section 11 (formerly Section 14) of the FTA's 2013 Triennial Review (Exhibit 1) and establish a Half Fare policy for individuals who are elderly, persons with disabilities, and Medicare cardholders. The City must also comply with all applicable provisions, regulations, and directives of the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Transit Administration including, but not limited to, 49 U.S.C. 5307 and U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration Circular FTA C 4702.1B.

The City-County Interlocal Agreement (ILA) was recently amended and extended for an additional year through September 30, 2014 by the City Commission at its June 18, 2013 meeting (Item M-7) and by the Board of County Commissioners at its October 22, 2013 meeting (Item 15). According to the amendment, the City's fares shall not exceed BCT's fixed-route base adult one-way fare as established in the Broward County Administrative Code.

City staff is recommending a Transit Fare Policy (Exhibit 2) for community bus routes that charge a fare. The proposed regular one-way fare is \$1.00 and the reduced fare

for seniors, disabled and Medicare recipients is \$0.50 with no peak hour fare periods. The current regular one-way fare is \$0.50 with no reduced fares. The three initial routes for the new fare implementation are the Beach Link, Las Olas Link, and Galt Link. Both the Beach and Las Olas Link already have an existing \$0.50 fare, while the City Commission approved a \$0.50 fare for the Galt Link on February 19, 2013, which has not been implemented yet. Both the reduced fares for the One-Way and Monthly passes are 50% of the regular rate while the reduced All Day pass is 33% of the regular rate. No fares are being proposed for the other community bus routes at this time.

The purpose of this Fare Policy is to establish guidelines for setting and/or restructuring public transit fares for the City. The City will utilize this policy to monitor fare collection and to make future decisions about adjusting fares.

The table below illustrates a comparison between the City’s proposed fare structure and BCT’s existing fare structure:

City-County Transit Fare Comparison		
Transit Fare Types	City	BCT
Regular One-Way Fare (Base Cash)	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.75
Regular Reduced Fares	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.85
All Day Regular Bus Pass	\$ 3.00	\$ 4.00
All Day Bus Pass Reduced	\$ 1.00	\$ 3.00
Monthly Pass*	\$ 30.00	\$ 58.00
Monthly Pass Reduced*	\$ 15.00	\$ 29.00
<i>*-BCT offers a 31 consecutive day Bus Pass</i>		
City Reduced Fare will be applicable for individuals who are Seniors, Disabled, or on Medicare		

The effective date of the fare change will be December 1, 2013.

Resource Impact

Since the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Transportation Management Association (TMA) will be collecting the fares and using them for operations, there is no fiscal impact to the City at this time.

Strategic Connection

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the **Infrastructure Cylinder of Excellence**, specifically advancing:

Goal 1: Be a pedestrian friendly, multi-modal City.

Objective 1: Improve transportation options and reduce congestion by working with agency partners.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan*: We are Connected.

Related CAMs:

13-0267 on February 19, 2103 (Galt Link Fare Increase)

13-0673 on October 1, 2013 (City-County Fourth Amendment)

Attachments:

Exhibit 1 – FTA Triennial Review Fare Regulations Sections 10 & 11 (FY13)

Exhibit 2 – City Community Bus Fare Policy

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