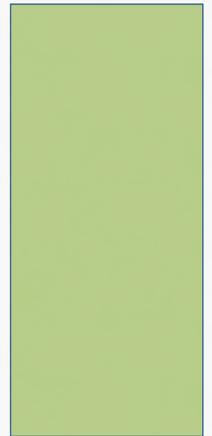


Proposed Bus & Rail Fare Changes

Connecticut Department of Transportation





Purpose of Today's Hearing

- Explain the bus and rail budget and the fare increase proposal
- Explain other changes to bus fares required for the future smart card
- Take comments from passengers about the bus and rail fare proposal





This Presentation

- Budget overview
- Fare Proposal – Bus, ADA & Rail
- Other Fare Adjustments for New Smart Card
- Fare Equity Analysis
- Hearing Guidelines



Transit Trends

- Recent service expansion:
 - 2013 – Shore Line East weekend service to New London
 - 2014 – New Haven Line half-hourly service
 - 2015 – CT**fastrak** service begins
- Rail and CT**fastrak** ridership increasing, bus ridership is down
- Cost increases for labor, health insurance, ADA paratransit services



DOT FY17 Budget

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Original anticipated expenditures: | \$655.2 million |
| Final budget available funds: | \$617.8 million |
| Shortfall: | \$37.5 million |

\$19.4 million required revenue/savings from Highway Operations:

- Reduce hours at rest areas to one shift per day
- Seek a private sponsor for the CHAMP program
- Reduce non-safety related maintenance, i.e. pavement preservation, joint and crack sealing, tree cutting, guide rail repair, drainage improvements and pavement markings.

Public Transportation required revenue/savings: \$18 million



Public Transportation FY17 Budget

DOT FY17 Budget – Public Transportation

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Original anticipated subsidies: | \$375.2 million |
| Final budget available funds: | \$357.2 million |
| Shortfall: | \$18.0 million |

- Passenger fares only cover a portion of the expense of services:
 - Bus: 24.2%
 - ADA: 4.5%
 - Rail: 55.3%



Budget Goals

- Minimize fare increase by reducing costs and operating more efficiently
- Preserve service for customers, preventing negative cycle of ridership and revenue losses
- Maintain the customer share of operating expenses



Balancing the Budget - Bus

- Reduced subsidy to Transit Districts
- **CTtransit** savings that do not affect service
- A \$0.25 fare increase for **CTtransit**

| | Current | Proposed |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Adult 2-hour | \$ 1.50 | \$ 1.75 |
| Senior/Disabled | \$ 0.75 | \$ 0.85 |
| Youth | \$ 1.20 | \$ 1.40 |
| ADA paratransit | \$ 3.00 | \$ 3.50 |

The \$0.25 increase in the base fare is a 16.7% increase; Other multi-ride prepaid fares go up proportionately



Bus Fare Comparison

Regional Bus Fares

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Westchester Bee-Line- New York | \$ 2.75 |
| MTA – New York | \$ 2.75 |
| RIPTA- Rhode Island | \$ 2.00 |
| MBTA- Boston | \$ 2.00 |
| CTtransit- Connecticut (Proposed) | \$ 1.75 |
| CDTA- Albany | \$ 1.50 |
| CTtransit- Connecticut (Current) | \$ 1.50 |
| PVTA- Springfield, MA | \$1.25 |

Urban transit district fares in CT range from \$1.50-\$2.00



Balancing the Budget- Rail

- Ticket windows closed at 3 stations
- Overtime reductions and other non-service cuts for New Haven Line
- Fuel savings on Shore Line East
- 5% increase in passenger rail fare plus previously scheduled 1% for M8 railcar pay-down

| One-way Fares | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|----------|----------|
| From | To | Current | Proposed |
| New Haven | Grand Central | \$ 22.00 | \$ 23.25 |
| Stamford | Grand Central | \$ 14.50 | \$ 15.25 |
| New Haven | Stamford | \$ 7.50 | \$ 8.00 |
| Old Saybrook | New Haven | \$ 6.75 | \$ 7.25 |



New Haven Line

Other Fare and Ticket Changes

- Mail and Ride 2% discount eliminated
- Reduced discount on joint monthly ticket/unlimited MetroCard packages (from 4% to 2%)
- Web Ticket replaced with new MTA E-Tix Mobile Ticket with new APP
- Updated Uni-Ticket fares



Rail Fare Comparison

Local Fares - Monthly

| | From | To | Miles | Cost |
|--------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|----------|
| LIRR | Bellport, NY | Jamaica, NY | 48.5 | \$377.00 |
| NJ TRANSIT | Trenton, NJ | Newark, NJ | 48.0 | \$353.00 |
| NHL-Proposed | New Haven, CT | Rye, NY | 48.2 | \$247.50 |
| NHL-Current | New Haven, CT | Rye, NY | 48.2 | \$233.50 |
| MBTA | Wickford Jct., RI | Route 128, MA | 52 | \$221.50 |
| SLE-Proposed | New London, CT | New Haven, CT | 48.3 | \$215.25 |
| SLE-Current | New London, CT | New Haven, CT | 48.3 | \$206.00 |

Fares to NYC - Monthly

| | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------|----------|
| Metro North | Poughkeepsie, NY | Grand Central | 74.0 | \$506.00 |
| NHL - Proposed | New Haven, CT | Grand Central | 72.3 | \$495.00 |
| LIRR - Long Island | Westhampton, NY | Penn Station New York | 74.3 | \$485.00 |
| NJ TRANSIT | Bay Head, NJ | Penn Station New York | 66.7 | \$480.00 |
| NHL - Current | New Haven, CT | Grand Central | 72.3 | \$467.00 |



New Smart Card in 2017

- Replacing the 20+ year old fare collection system on **CTtransit** local and express buses
- New account-based smart cards will offer new fare categories and fare capping
 - reduced fare all-day pass, 3-day, 5-day, & 7-day
 - express bus all-day pass, 3-day, 5-day, & 7-day
- Retail network allows you to reload card



What is Fare Capping?

The customer always pays the lowest fare for their particular trip.

| 2-Hour Pass | All-Day Pass | 3-Day Pass | 5-Day Pass | 7-Day Pass | 31-Day Pass |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| tap once | tap again after 2 hours | 5 taps in 3 day period | 8 taps in 5 day period | 11 taps in 7 day period | 36 taps in a 31 day period |
| \$1.75 (proposed) | \$3.50 (proposed) | \$8.75 (versus \$10.50 for three all-day passes) | \$14.00 (versus \$17.50 for five all-day passes) | \$19.25 (versus \$24.50 for seven all-day passes) | \$63.00 (versus \$108.50 for 31 all-day passes) |



I-Bus Fares

- I-Bus (Stamford – Westchester) fare will be converted to a 3 Zone Express fare due to requirements for the smart cards.

| I-Bus Express | From | To |
|------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| One Way Cash Fare | \$ 3.00 | \$ 3.20 |
| One Way Senior/Disabled Cash | \$ 1.50 | \$ 1.60 |
| 10-Trip Ticket | \$ 24.25 | \$ 28.80 |
| All Day Pass | \$ 6.00 | \$ 6.40 |
| 31-Day Pass | \$ 90.00 | \$ 108.80 |



Fare Equity Analysis

- USDOT requires an analysis of the impact of the fare increase on low-income and minority populations
- Analyze whether the fare increase is more burdensome for low-income populations than the overall rider populations
- Review whether the fare increase affects members of a group identified by race, color, or national origin more than the overall rider population.



Fare Equity Analysis - Results

Fare proposals analyzed for equity in following ways:

- Nominal fare changes in \$\$
- Fare changes per mile of travel
- Fare changes relative to household income
- Proportion of revenues generated by bus and rail passengers
- Proportion of expenses covered by bus and rail passengers



Comments

Comments on the proposed fare increases must be received by **September 15, 2016** and addressed to:

COMMENT ON FARE CHANGES
Bureau of Public Transportation
2800 Berlin Turnpike
P.O. Box 317546
Newington, CT 06131-7546

E-mailed comments should be made within the same time frame and addressed to dot.farecomments@ct.gov



Next Steps

- Review comments on fares and equity analyses
- A final recommendation goes to DOT Commissioner for review and approval
- New Haven Line fare proposal is provided to the MTA Board
- Fare increases, if approved, would take effect on:
 - Rail - Thursday, December 1, 2016
 - Bus - Sunday, December 4, 2016



Hearing Guidelines

- If you wish to make comments, please sign-in.
- Speakers will be called in order
- Each speaker is allowed 3 minutes to comment
- Limit comments to the fare changes, other comments should be made to representatives at the back of the room
- Use the microphone so that your comments become part of the hearing record