

Board Office Use: Legislative File Info.	
File ID Number	10-2486
Introduction Date	10-06-10
Enactment Number	
Enactment Date	



Memo

TO: OUSD Board of Education

FROM: Adrian Kirk, Director FCO

DATE: February 17, 2011

SUBJECT: AC Transit for OUSD K-12 Students

ACTION

None required at this time.

BACKGROUND

AC Transit proposes to raise its fare structure making a decision on the changes in April of this year and implementation of the changes as soon as July 2011. In its own words AC Transit's goals are to create a simple, appropriate, equitable, transparent and supportable fare structure but one significant enough that will more than double the current Youth Fare. This proposal will have a significant impact on OUSD students and families. Because OUSD is responsible for providing a large number of students with transportation to and from school as well as the parents of students unable to travel alone and because the District relies on AC Transit as a partner to carry out this responsibility, the District must be aware of these changes. OUSD expenditures will also be impacted by these changes. Changes in the prices for Youth 31-Day and Adult 31-Day passes are:

- The AC Transit Youth Pass will continue to be available for students until their 19th birthdays.
- On July 1, 2011 the Youth Fare would increase from the current \$15.00, by 33%, to \$20.00. The Senior / Disabled Fare would remain unchanged at \$20.00. The Adult Fare will decrease by 5.5% to \$75.60 from \$81.00.
- In Fiscal 2013-14 the Youth Fare would increase again by 32.5% to \$26.50. The Senior / Disabled Fare would also increase by the same percentage from \$20.00 to \$26.50. The Adult Fare would rise again to \$81.00
- In Fiscal 2016-17 the Youth Fare, along with the Senior / Disabled Fare, would increase by an additional 30.2% to \$34.50. The Adult Fare will increase by 4.4% to \$84.60.
- In Fiscal 2018-19 the Youth Fare and the Senior / Disabled Fare would increase by another 30.4% to \$45.00. The Adult Fare will increase by 6.4% to \$90.00. This Youth Fare will have reached the AC Transit target of 50% of the adult fare.
- The Youth and Senior / Disabled Fare increase proposal reaches \$48.60 by FY 2025-26.

The OUSD Board of Education resolution in support of AC Transit applying the Youth Fare to all students in K-12 instruction regardless of age is a strong step but this situation remains unchanged. AC Transit is actively addressing its need to generate greater income, minimize fraud and devise an improved fare structure. Though there is concern as to the impact of the fare increases on the Oakland community, AC Transit's objectives are reasonable.

OUSD offices that provide transportation for at-risk students, continue to seek accommodations from AC Transit that would make a significant difference for students, families and the school district. First, we would benefit from expanding the definition of "youth" to include all K-12 students regardless of age. AC Transit's position to date is unchanged on this point. Second, because OUSD is obliged to provide transportation in the form of bus passes to parents of some students who are not able to travel alone, a price accommodation for these parents would allow the both OUSD and AC Transit to meet their obligations while serving the community of Oakland.

In the next few weeks the Family & Community Office (FCO) expects to finalize and implement a series of pilot strategies for obtaining and reloading the AC Transit "Clipper" Card. The strategies include student direct access on campuses to reload their own cards, office strategies to reload cards and a digital information exchange strategy where OUSD is responsible for providing transportation. OUSD has been assured of continued ready access to paper passes available to institutions and social service agencies until the access issues around the Clipper Card are resolved. AC Transit would, however, like to severely limit use of paper passes as quickly as possible.

NEXT STEPS

The FCO is the primary negotiator for OUSD and expects to continue in that capacity.

The FCO will attend the AC Transit Public Hearing on 2/17/11 to present the OUSD Board Resolution in support of access to the AC Transit Youth Pass for all K-12 students and to express the concerns and positions of the school district.

The FCO in collaboration with other OUSD departments will finalize and implement the pilot strategies for the Clipper Card.