GUAM REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Government of Guam

Eddie B. Calvo, Governor
Raymond S. Tenorio, Lt. Governor
Enrique Agustin, Executive Manager

P.O. Box 2896
Hagatna, Guam 96932

Phone: (671) 475-4686 or 475-4616
Fax: (671) 475-4600

March 1, 2018

Transmitted via Electronic Mail
senator@senatorbjcruz.com

GCL# 34-18-1596
Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

MAR 0 1 2018
Time: 4:40 [ ] AM [ ] PM File No. 34-1599
Received By:

Senator Benjamin J.F. Cruz
Speaker 34th Guam Legislature
Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and Adjudication
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagatna, Guam 96910

Re: GRTA's Increase of Bus Fares

Hafa Adai Speaker Cruz,

From the establishment of the Guam Mass Transit in 1980 and the re-establishment of the current transit service now called Guam Regional Transit Authority (GRTA) in 2009, bus fares have not been raised. GRTA began looking at increasing bus fares in fiscal year 2016 to improve GRTA services and keep up with increasing costs. GRTA conducted three public hearings in November 2016. During regular GRTA Board of Director Meetings the public spoke up about the proposed bus fares and the Board established a fare focus advisory group in December 2016. The fare group finalized their recommendations on Tuesday, May 23, 2017. On Tuesday, November 21, 2017 the Board of Directors approved the fare increase to become effective Sunday, July 1, 2018.

GRTA submits for legislative record as pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 9, Article 3 §9301 (a), (b), (c), and (i) for the GRTA bus fare increase records.

a) Website Notice- Friday, September 23, 2016 & Tuesday, November 15, 2016
Newspaper Notice- Tuesday, November 8, 2016
Flyer Notices (passed out & given to the media) - Tuesday, November 1, 2016

b) Public Hearings Conducted (5:30 PM -7:00 PM)
Agat Community Center- Tuesday, November 15, 2016
Tamuning Community Center- Wednesday, November 16, 2016
Dededo Community Center- Thursday, November 17, 2016

c) GRTA Board of Directors approved for a fare focus group on Tuesday, December 20, 2016 for additional feedback and input on the fare increase.

2018 MAR -2 AM 10:36

1596

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d-h) Shall be exempt pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 9, Article 3 §9301 through the determination of GRTA's Preliminary Cost Assessment.

i) GRTA's Preliminary Cost Assessment determined the fare increase will fall under the threshold of $500,000.

Additionally, attached is the Board of Director Tuesday, November 21, 2017 Meeting Minutes approving the fare increase and the Wednesday, December 20, 2017 Press Release. Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase,

ENRIQUE I.S. AGUSTIN
Executive Manager

CC: Louise Rivera, GRTA Board Chairwoman
Karl Espaldon, Deputy Attorney General
Matthew Wolff, Assistant Attorney General

(a) §9301 of Article 3, Chapter 9, Title 5

Brenda Atalig <brenda.atalig@grta.guam.gov>

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT - PROPOSED BUS FARE INCREASE

Penelope Gates <penelope.gates@grta.guam.gov> Tue, Nov 1, 2016 at 4:55 PM
To: Guam PDN <life@guampdn.com>, rgibson@spbguam.com, Joan Aguon Charfauros <hottips@kuam.com>, travis@spbguam.com, "Borja, Karlyn RCG" <krborja@guam.gannett.com>, parroyo@spbguam.com, phill@spbguam.com, Renee Roberto <renee@spbguam.com>
Cc: "Mayor Louise C. Rivera" <mayorlcrivera.tatuha@gmail.com>, Ginger Porter <ginger.porter47@gmail.com>, Vicente Gumataotao <pitimayor@yahoo.com>, Andrew Tydingco <pokilabot@gmail.com>, Gerard Cruz <gerard.cruz71@gmail.com>, Enrique Agustin <rick.agustin@grta.guam.gov>, "Myra S. Abaya" <myra.abaya@grta.guam.gov>, "Rally M. Pilipina" <rally.pilipina@grta.guam.gov>, Brenda Atalig <brenda.atalig@grta.guam.gov>, Michelle Marquez <michelle.marquez@grta.guam.gov>, Peter Tran <peter@senatorada.org>

TO: All Media

I am requesting your kind assistance to disseminate/announce that GRTA will have a public hearing: See places and dates below:

Tuesday, November 15 - Agat Community Center
Wednesday, November 16 - Tamuning Community Center and
Thursday, November 17 - Dededo Community Center

from 5:30pm to 7:00pm regarding proposed bus fare increase. Please see Flyer attached.

Thank you kindly for your assistance.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase',

Penni Gates

GRTA Board Secretary
P. O. Box 2896
Hagatna, GU 96932
Phone: (671) 475-4616
Fax: (671)475-4600
penelope.gates@grta.guam.gov

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PUBLIC HEARING FLYER.pdf
49K

Guam Regional Transit Authority

GRTA

PUBLIC MEETING

Regarding the proposed GRTA bus fare increase.

Schedule:

- **Tuesday, November 15, 2016-Agat Community Center**
- **Wednesday, November 16, 2016 -Tamuning Community Center**
- **Thursday, November 17, 2016- Dededo Community Center**

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Written comments may be submitted at the GRTA Office at 542 N. Marine Drive Tamuning, GU 96913 or emailed to brenda.atalig@grta.guam.gov or penelope.gates@grta.guam.gov

PROPOSED FARE RATE INCREASE

Type Fare - Fixed Route	Cost	Description
	A	
Full Fare	$2.00	All hours
Discounted Fare	$0.50	All hours
Full Fare Day Pass	$5.00	Unlimited rides
Discount Day Pass	$1.50	Unlimited rides
Full Fare Week Pass	$25.00	
Discount Week Pass	$7.50	
Full Fare Monthly Pass	$75.00	
Discount Monthly Pass	$25.00	
Fare Implementation Date: When new vehicles in service. No free PCAs		

Type Fare - Paratransit	Cost	Description
One ride	$3.00	All hours
Day Pass	$7.50	All hours
Week Pass	$37.50	
Monthly Pass	$80.00	
Fare Implementation Date: When new vehicles in service. PCAs ride Free. Companions pay paratransit fare *upon space availability. Establish system for basic lifeline paratransit fares. Distribution of these fares through Office of Public Guardian and other relevant network TBD		

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
PROPOSED NEW PUBLIC TRANSIT BUS FARE INCREASES

The Guam Regional Transit Authority (GRTA) pursuant to Section 2(c) of P.L. 31-268 announces that there will be three (3) public hearings to discuss the proposed bus fare increase prior to the effective date of Sunday, January 1, 2017. A complete copy of the proposed fares can be viewed from the GRTA website at www.grta.guam.gov. Hard copies will be made available at the public hearings.

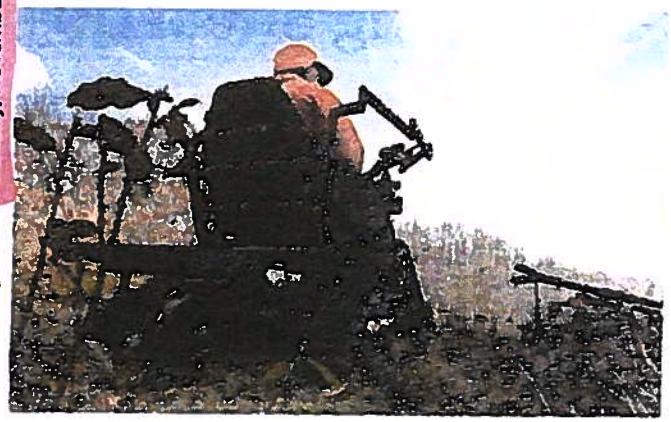
Public Hearings Dates, Times, and Locations:

Southern Public Hearing	**Central Public Hearing**	**Nothern Public Hearing**
Agat Community Center	Tamuning Community Center	Dededo Community Center
Tuesday, November 15, 2016	Wednesday, November 16, 2016	Thursday, November 17, 2016
5:30 PM to 7:00 PM	5:30 PM to 7:00 PM	5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Paratransit riders please make your reservation at least one (1) day to two (2) days prior to your scheduled pick up time. For more information call Kloppenburg Enterprises, Inc. at 647-7433/34/35.

For more information, please call Mr.Enrique Agustin, Executive Manager or Ms. Penelope Gates, Board Secretary at 475-4686/4603 or via email at penelope.gates@grta.guam.gov

Pacific Daily News Tuesday, November 8, 2016
guampdn.com



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paraplegic hunter Gary Dupuis, Ashburnham, Mass., waits in his all-terrain wheelchair, equipped with a shooting rack for his shotgun, while deer hunting in Devens, Mass., on Friday.

Paraplegic hunters pursue their passion

BOSTON (AP) — For more than 40 years, paraplegic hunters have gathered in the predawn darkness around Massachusetts for an opportunity that might otherwise be difficult, if not impossible.

ing areas for the disabled. Many offer waived or reduced fees for disabled hunters, allow them to hunt from their vehicles or allow the use of specialized equipment which hunters who have full use of their legs are

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GRTA

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information please email Mr. Daniel Mckay, Search Committee Chair at dmkay@triton.uog.edu.

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/s/ LARRY G. GAMBOA, SPHR, SHRM-SCP
Chief Human Resources Officer

THIS AD IS PAID FOR BY UNIVERSITY OF GUAM FUNDS



GUAM REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY(Government of Guam)

GRTA

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5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Central Public Hearing
Tamuning Community Center
Wednesday, November 16, 2016
5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Northern Public Hearing
Dededo Community Center
Thursday, November 17, 2016
5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

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For more information, please call Mr. Enrique Agustin, Executive Manager or Ms. Penelope Gates, Board Secretary at 475-4686/4603 or via email at penelope.gates@grta.guam.gov

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Guam Daily Post pg. 13
Tuesday. NV. 8

(b) §9301 of Article 3, Chapter 9, Title 5

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PUBLIC HEARING: Bus Fare Increase
Agat Community Center
Tuesday, November 15, 2016
5:30 – 7:00 PM

Recorded Time/Events:

5:30pm- GRTA Staff, Board Director Ginger Porter, and Rick Salas (Senator Tom Ada's Staff)

5:47pm- Matt Weiss, Guam Daily Post Photographer

5:55pm- Chris Fejeran, Agat Vice-Mayor Elect

6:00pm- Matt Weiss left

6:45pm- GRTA Staff got ready to close up.

6:50pm- Took down signs
- **Gerald J. Herrera, Agat Mayor Staff signed in and requested handout materials to give to a rider.**

7:00pm- GRTA closed out and left.

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PUBLIC HEARING: Bus Fare Increase
Tamuning Community Center
Wednesday, November 16, 2016
5:30 – 7:00 PM

Recorded Time/Events:

5:30pm

- Presentation/Introduction
- Recognized Board of Directors: Mayor Rivera, Mayor Gumataotao, Ginger Porter, and Gerard Cruz
- Recognized Staff
- Total of 27 people signed in.
- 14 signed in w/ disability, 11 no disability, 2 no comment

PUBLIC COMMENTS accepted spoken/written

5:45pm

• Lourdes Mesa	**OPPOSED (written submitted)**
• Tom Manglona	FOR w/ gradual increase
• Lisa Ogo	FOR
• Albert Bermudes	FOR but bring back pilot program
• Roy Rosario	FOR w/ gradual increase
• Victor Tuquero	FOR w/ gradual increase
• Lee Perez	FOR w/ discount to those w/ economic hardship
• Evelyn Duenas	FOR w/ gradual increase

6:55pm

- Last call for questions

7:00pm

- GRTA closed out and left.

November 16, 2016

Guam Regional Transit Authority (GRTA)
P.O. Box 2896
Hagatna, GU 96932

Public Meeting: Proposed 2017 Fare Rate Increase
Tamuning Community Center

Dear Mr. Enrique Agustin and members of the GRTA Board and Advisory Committee,

My name is Lourdes Ann Mesa and I am here on behalf of my son with a disability who is an ADA certified bus rider and uses the ParaTransit bus system. As a parent and advocate, I am deeply concerned regarding the increased fare rate being proposed by the Guam Regional Transit Authority (GRTA).

My son, Clinton Mesa, is a young adult on the autism spectrum. Autism Spectrum Disorders are complex disorders of brain development characterized by difficulties in social interactions, communication, restricted and repetitive behaviors and sensory-integration issues. Adults on the spectrum like my son want to live as independently as possible but face many barriers to full participation in society.

Because of his challenges, Clinton is unable to drive a car and depends heavily on other people and the Paratransit system to travel to his place of work, go shopping, get to his medical and dental appointments and attend recreational activities. He was granted an ADA unconditional eligibility in 2011.

The GRTA increased bus fares structure especially the extremely high fare rates for those utilizing the Paratransit bus is going to negatively affect paratransit riders financially and in travel flexibility. Many of these individuals with disabilities are already struggling to survive on a fixed or limited income. Even if some of them are able to find work, many of them work part-time or earn the minimum wage. Raising the bus fares, will most likely hurt the people who have the least ability to pay for the increase. Instead of creating more barriers, we should instead make every effort to remove barriers that affects a person's quality of life. But this is not just a quality of life issue, for too many, it is a survival issue.

In the PDN September 21, 2016 news article, Mr. Enrique San Agustin was quoted as saying that this is GRTA's first fare increases in 36 years. If GRTA wants to increase bus fares, I would like to see a more graduated scale over a period of time and not slam the riders with monumental increases all at once. The proposed fare increases before us is not going to be affordable to many people.

Mr. San Agustin was also quoted as saying "The fares are going to increase because we have expenses that have increased over the last 36 years-the cost of fuel, the cost of mechanics to fix buses, the cost to hire bus drivers, the cost to hire dispatchers and schedulers." "At the same time,

the transit authority isn't getting the amount of funding that it should." GRTA should not fix its budget problems "on the backs of the very poor and most vulnerable". Maybe GRTA should first focus on improving their current services before looking at fare increases and bus service expansion. The present quality of services we have doesn't justify it.

The proposed ParaTransit pass increases places an inequitable burden on the ADA certified persons with disabilities.

Let me just give you an example. **See attached GRTA 2017 Proposed Fare Rate Increase Comparison Chart.**

Where is the fairness in this? Why are those using the Paratransit buses being asked to pay more? If GRTA is going to increase bus fares, then it needs to be justifiable and equitable.

According to the Paratransit Rider's Guide, "Paratransit service is an island wide transportation service for individuals with disabilities who are not able to fully utilize the Guam public transit system, fixed route and demand-response services". GRTA grants two types of eligibility to ParaTransit riders: Unconditional eligibility is "granted if your disability prevents you from using the Guam Public Transit System for all trips that you might need to make." Conditional eligibility is "granted if you can use the Guam Public Transit System buses under certain circumstances, but need GRTA's Paratransit Service for certain trips."

The ADA ParaTransit Service Compliance Review that was conducted on February 9-12, 2010 by the Federal Transit Administration found that at the time of the on-site review, GRTA was not enforcing conditional eligibility, meaning that all riders could reserve a trip without any conditions. In most transit systems conditional eligibility typically comprises less than 50% of applicants. However, GRTA grants conditional eligibility to about 76% of applicants. If this problem is still occurring, this might explain why the proposed ParaTransit fares are much higher. It is costing GRTA more to service all the ParaTransit riders. This is a management issue that GRTA will need to resolve. DO NOT punish and hurt the people who need the Paratransit services the most.

GRTA, the Board and the Advisory Council needs to go back to the drawing board and consider keeping the discounted, ParaTransit regular fare structure equitable at all times of the day, every day.

We thank everyone for giving us the opportunity to voice our concerns.

I want to leave you with this thought: *"The moral test of a government is how it treats those who are at the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the aged; and those who are in the shadow of life, the sick, the needy, and the handicapped."* Hubert Humphrey, 1977

Respectfully,

Lourdes AG Mesa, Advocate and Parent

Clinton G. Mesa, ParaTransit Rider

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PUBLIC HEARING: Bus Fare Increase
Dededo Community Center
Thursday, November 17, 2016
5:30 – 7:00 PM

Recorded Time/Events:

5:30pm

- Asked to wait 5-10 more minutes for more people because only 4 people present at this time. All agreed to wait a little.

5:40pm

- Total of 8 signed in.
- Introduction by Enrique Agustin, Executive Manager

5:50pm

- Recognized Board of Director Ginger Porter
- Total of 13 people signed in.
- 4 GRTA staff members present
- 6 disabled, 5 not disabled, 2 unidentified (no wheelchairs)

PUBLIC COMMENTS accepted spoken/written

5:55pm

• Rudy Ignacio	FOR w/ gradual increase
• Odie Jainie	FOR w/ gradual increase and can we go back to the trail run with the multi-stops
• Rodney Calimlim	It will hurt him, but if he has to choose he will pay because it is life and death for him.
• Bertha Diamond	It is fine, but would like more bus stops (closest bus stop from her place is two miles.)
• Terry Aguon	This is an access to healthcare problem, not just a transportation issues, need to have this at the forefront because these are people's lives.

6:55pm

- Last call for questions
- Director Porter spoke on working with different agencies to offset bus fare fee for those who can't afford it or those directly under other federal programs.

7:00pm

- GRTA closed out and left.

(c) §9301 of Article 3, Chapter 9, Title 5

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FY 2016

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mayorlcrivera.tatuha@gmail.com

Vice Chairman
Gerard Cruz
487-4248
gerard.cruz71@gmail.com

Secretary
Ginger Porter
(671) 483-6150
ginger.porter47@gmail.com

Members
Vicente Gumataotao
T (671) 472-1232/688-7877
pitimayor@yahoo.com

Andrew Tydingco
T (671) 472-8903
pokilabot@gmail.com

Vacant

Vacant

MEETING MINUTES
Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting of December 20, 2016

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Louise Rivera at 4:15pm, at the GRTA Conference Room, 542 North Marine Corp Drive, Tamuning.

II. Roll Call:

Chairwoman Louise Rivera, Board Secretary Ginger Porter, Board Member Andrew Tydingco and Board Member Ben Gumataotao were present. Not present – Board Vice Chair Gerard Cruz.

Also present were: EM Rick Agustin, Chief Planner Rally Pilipina, AO Myra Abaya, BS Penelope Gates, Planner II Brenda Atalig and Planning Tech I Michelle Marquez.

A quorum was established.

Doc. No. 34GL-18-1596.

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III. Approval of Minutes

September 13, 2016 – for 2nd approval – This was approved last board meeting subject to corrections.

November 22, 2016 – for approval – Moved to approve by Board Secretary Ginger Porter. Seconded by Board member Ben Gumataotao. Motion carries. Subject to corrections.

IV. Executive Manager's Report (Rick Agustin)

Sole Source – LONG TERM BUS SERVICE CONTRACT AWARDED
Long term bus service contract was awarded November 23, 2016. A press release was announced December 7, 2016. 14 days must elapse after a contract has been awarded in case of a protest before it can be released to the public. It has taken 12 years to get to this point for a long-term transit service contract. This long-term contract has eliminated a major recurring deficiency last time FTA was here in 2014.

V. Old Business

A. DOL use of MV1 Vans – DOL MOA Approval

Dr. Sam Mabini, Director of Department of Labor (GDOL), spoke on behalf of GDOL's MOA between GRTA and GDOL. GDOL will provide the driver to transport customers as needed; provide the driver training; salaries and benefits; provide the cost to maintain the vehicle including quarterly vehicle maintenance; registration, fuel and supplies and submit quarterly reports on services to GRTA. GRTA to provide the vehicle passenger transport which is ADA accessible; and identify training requirements for drivers to service individuals with disabilities.

A motion to approve the MOA by GRTA Board Secretary Ginger Porter. Effective date upon the signing of the Governor of Guam, The Honorable Eddie Baza Calvo. Seconded by GRTA Board member and Mayor Ben Gumataotao and carried.

B. Budget Report and Ridership Report (Myra Abaya)

Budget Report
BBMR gave GRTA an opportunity to present goals and plans for FY2017. Originally, GRTA requested 9 Million Dollars which included expansion and improvements of bus operation services, installation of more bus shelters, bus stop signs and benches, and recruitment of additional staff to implement these goals. BBMR reviewed GRTA's goals and plans and presented GRTA with a budget ceiling of $4,314,161. This was submitted to the Legislature and cut again by $650,203 for a total FY2017 budget of $3,663,958. A fiscal restraint was imposed by BBMR of 15% reserve from the total FY2017 budget of

Doc. No. 34GL-18-1596.

$549,593.70. GRTA will be operating on a total net budget for FY2017 in the amount of $3,114,364.30. This includes salaries, benefits, travel, contractual services, etc. Out of the Local funds, the total appropriation for bus operations is $2,567,007 less miscellaneous contractual funds of $134,076. The FY17 estimated bus operation costs of $3,696,702 yields a shortfall of local funds of $1,263,771 less current available federal funds of $610,113.05 for a grand total shortfall of $653,657.95. Page 3 of the Budget Report is the breakdown of the federal funds continuing grants and special federal grants and their current balances. If the federal awards GRTA with FY17 continuing grant, those funds we will used to procure capital improvements. Per Rally Pilipina, Chief Planner, the release of FY17 budget in June or July will be $500,000 from bus related grant programs for capital improvements.

Ridership Report

November, 2016 – Fixed Route – 11,718 riders; Paratransit – 3,809 riders.
Total Ridership – 15,527
Total Hours of Operation – Fixed Route – 1,762 Hours; Paratransit – 2,077 Hours.
Paratransit hours are more than fixed route hours. Paratransit has 6 vehicles and fixed route has only 5 vehicles. This would explain the higher hours for paratransit. Per GRTA EM R. Agustin, based on statistics report, paratransit, on a monthly basis gets 350 more hours of operation than fixed route. A circular states that transit can adjust the period that GRTA picks up paratransit riders that it would end the same time as fixed route. If GRTA decides to open 7 days a week, or 6 days a week, GRTA will run out of funds and there will not be any buses available. Either that, or shorten the operation days to 5 days a week including holidays. That would mean riders would have to schedule their week based on only 5 days a week of bus operation.
November, 2016 days of operation – 24 days.
As of November, 2016 active Paratransit riders – 463 paratransit riders. Seven new rider applications have been submitted to GRTA and being reviewed.

VI. **<u>Chief Planner Report (Rally Pilipina)</u>** – All Procurement project updates

A. Request for Proposal of the Transportation Management System Hardware and Software

RFP for the One-Call One-Click Dispatch Center - The evaluation team is on a recess for the holidays. The evaluation for the RFP will resume after the New Year. GRTA projects that it would be awarded by the end of January, 2017.

B. GRTA Resolution 2017-001 and 2017-002

Resolution 2017-002 – Consolidated grant application for FY2016 Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility for seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Grant Program), Section 5311 (Non-Urbanized Area Formula Grant Program), and Section 5339 (Bus and Bus-Related Facilities Grant Program). Guam is requesting to consolidate its Section 5310, Section 5311 (b) (3), Section 5339

grants to Section 5311 grant program, including the FY2015 unconsolidated Fund Balance; approval for the GRTA's Executive Manager to accept the grant; and approval for the GRTA's Chief Planner to execute GU-18-X032-00 grant submission via FTA's Transit Award Management System (TrAMS). GRTA Board Secretary Ginger Porter moved to approve for the adoption with the understanding that there is some flexibility to adjust relevant to data and planning of the Resolution 2017-002. Seconded by GRTA Board member Andrew Tydingco and carried.

Resolution 2017-001 – Executive Manager or designee is authorized to execute and file an application for federal assistance with the FTA authorized by 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 or any other federal statutes authorizing activities administered by the FTA; execute and file annual certifications and assurances and other documents; execute the grant and cooperative agreements with the FTA on behalf of GRTA;
GRTA Board Member Andrew Tydingco moved to approve, subject to corrections of Resolution 2017-001 as amended. Seconded by GRTA Board Secretary Ginger Porter. Motion carried.

VII. New Business

A. Special board meeting – SMR preparation and FY2017 budget

Per GRTA Board Chairwoman Mayor Louise Rivera, instead of having a special board meeting this can be discussed by email.

Based on the FY2017 budget GRTA is required to go forward and start preparing FY2018 budget. Discussion is on GRTA plans and goals for FY2018. AO Myra Abaya can prepare a draft and submit to the board and board will comment back through email and then discuss it in the next regular board meeting rather than have a special board meeting.

B. VTCLI - One Million Dollars ($1,000,000.00) with DISID

Veterans Transportation Committee Living Initiative (VTCLI) grant money of $1,305,000 was awarded by FTA to VTCLI. The funds have yet to be used. EM R. Agustin is suggesting to place a veteran on the GRTA Board. He would like to continue research on how GRTA can assist the veteran community.

C. Decision on Bus Fare Increase

GRTA EM R. Agustin would like to establish a temporary Focus Group for the purpose of collecting data for fare structure from other riders on the fare increase. This focus group will consist of 9 members from the public. They will establish their own officers and consist of a 60-day timeline based on their start date. GRTA EM R. Agustin would like to connect with other agencies one last time on how these agencies will assist clients in need of transportation

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through bus fares. GRTA Board Secretary Ginger Porter was not sure that having steps of increments for fare increase would be the best idea with regards to operations and financial structure. Motion to approve a temporary focus group was moved by Board Member Andrew Tydingco. Seconded by Board Secretary Ginger Porter. The majority is in favor. Motion carried.

VIII. Public Comments – 15 minutes

Mark Peredo, paratransit rider, explains his plight to the Board and that bus fare right now at .35¢ or .50¢ is affordable for everyone.

Lou Mesa, mother of paratransit rider, would like to have other organizations get involved to assist transit. She feels GRTA would lose the ridership should the bus fare increase dramatically.

Lyn Tydingco, paratransit rider, thanked the Board for considering the focus group. She applauded GRTA's efforts in improving transit services and moving forward. She asked fellow riders to be responsible, be understanding and courteous because transit is not their personal vehicle. She sees a lot of abuse amongst riders. She was initially denied a ride for the meeting and asked to be considered should paratransit have a cancellation.

Roy Rosario, former GRTA advisory chair and paratransit rider, has concerns about the government having holiday day after Christmas because there is no service for that day.

Lisa Ogo, paratransit rider, says it's important for bus riders to be a part of the focus group.

IX. Executive Session

GRTA EM R. Agustin does not have any personnel issues to discuss. The meeting recessed for Executive Session at 6:20pm.

X. Adjournment

The GRTA Board meeting reconvened at 7:19pm. GRTA Board member Andrew Tydingco moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Board member Ben Gumataotao. Motion carried. GRTA Board meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Penni Gates
GRTA Board Secretary

Guam Regional Transit Authority
GRTA

Brenda Atalig <brenda.atalig@grta.guam.gov>

1ST FOCUS GROUP MEETING - DATE, PLACE AND TIME

Penelope Gates <penelope.gates@grta.guam.gov> Thu, Jan 26, 2017 at 3:32 PM
To: Roy Rosario <bigroyrosario@yahoo.com>, Lisa Ogo <wordscantexpress777@hotmail.com>, Lyn Tydingco <magodai@yahoo.com>, "Virginia A. Mendiola" <virginia.mendiola021@gmail.com>, Clifford Hackett <3659745@gmail.com>, Rodney Calimlim <rccalimlim1@gmail.com>, "Lourdes B. Mendiola" <loubascmend@gmail.com>, Lourdes Mesa <lagmesa@yahoo.com>
Cc: Enrique Agustin <rick.agustin@grta.guam.gov>, "Mayor Louise C. Rivera" <mayorlcrivera.tatuha@gmail.com>, Ginger Porter <ginger.porter47@gmail.com>, Gerard Cruz <gerard.cruz71@gmail.com>, Vice Mayor Frank Benavente <frankabenavente17@gmail.com>, Andrew Tydingco <pokilabot@gmail.com>, Michelle Marquez <michelle.marquez@grta.guam.gov>, Brenda Atalig <brenda.atalig@grta.guam.gov>

Buenas Everyone,

Please take note that the Focus Group meeting will be set on:

DATE: Wednesday, February 8, 2017

PLACE: Tamuning Community Center

TIME: 5:30pm - 7:00pm

There are Nine (9) Focus Group Members. I have either spoken to you or left a message on your voicemail.

These are the members who have confirmed their attendance for this day:

1. Roy Rosario
2. Lisa Ogo
3. Clifford Hackett
4. Virginia Mendiola
5. Tom Manglona
6. Lourdes Mendiola

These are the members who have not yet confirmed. I left a message on their voicemail.

7. Lynn Tydingco
8. Lourdes Mesa
9. Rodney Calimlim

Please confirm your attendance in this email if you have not confirmed yet.

Thank you kindly for your assistance. I look forward to hearing from you.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase',

Penni Gates

GRTA Board Secretary
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penelope.gates@grta.guam.gov

Attachment 1

GRTA Fare Advisory Committee
Bus Fare Structure Proposal
to the
Guam Regional Transit Authority Board
May 23, 2017

Advisory Committee Members

Chairperson: Lynn Tydingco

Vice-Chairperson: Lourdes AG Mesa

Members: Lourdes Bascon Mendiola, Roy Rosario, Lisa Ogo, Rodney Calimlim, Thomas L. Manglona, and Virginia A. Mendiola

Background and Purpose

The Guam Regional Transit Authority (GRTA) held three public hearings in November 2016 to discuss bus fare increases. Attendees voiced their concerns over the fare increases especially for those using the Paratransit system. A one ride full fare will increase by 100%, a discounted fare one ride by 42% and a one ride Paratransit fare will increase by 757%. Several people with disabilities and low-income riders said they would not be able to afford the proposed fare hikes and others argued that the quality of service doesn't justify it.

The GRTA board and management allowed an additional opportunity to have the ridership become actively involved through an advisory committee.
On February 8, 2017, the GRTA Advisory Committee comprised of riders, family members and an advocate from the American Job Center met for the purpose of recommending to the GRTA Board a bus fare structure that is fair, reasonable, and meets the challenges of affording GRTA revenue to make improvements to transit facilities that is lacking or neglected.
The Advisory Committee met weekly and had concluded that fare increases be considered. However, it must be done in a way that doesn't drive the ridership down nor hurt the lowest income individuals who rely on public transportation.

After ten weeks of research, brainstorming and meaningful discussions, the Advisory Committee drafted a fare rate increase proposal that they believe to be reasonable and equitable while providing an increased revenue source for the transit system.

Recommendations

The Advisory Committee members were in favor of GRTA's fare rate increases for discounted fare passes. However, they did not support the fare increases for Paratransit fares. GRTA's proposed hike in Paratransit fares would place

an inequitable burden on the ADA certified persons with disabilities, most who live on limited incomes and are transit-dependent.
Paratransit and discounted fares have been identical for the past 30 years. The Advisory Committee strongly recommends fares continue to be the same for both Paratransit and discounted fares.

In reviewing the full fares, the Advisory Committee recommends rate increases between 18% to 50%. Below is the proposed bus fare structure the Advisory Committee is submitting to the GRTA Board for their consideration. A fare rate increase comparison chart is included. Please see Attachment I.

Advisory Committee Recommended Fare Rate Increase

Type Fare-Fixed Route	Cost	Description
Full Fare	$1.50	All hours
Discounted Fare	$.50	All hours
Full Fare Day Pass	$4	Unlimited rides
Discount Day Pass	$1.50	Unlimited rides
Full Fare Week Pass	$20	
Discount Week Pass	$7.50	
Full Fare Monthly Pass	$65	
Discount Monthly Pass	$25	

Type Fare -Paratransit	Cost	Description
One Ride	$.50	All hours
Day Pass	$1.50	All hours
Week Pass	$7.50	
Monthly Pass	$25	

Conclusion
While issues of fare hikes are sensitive and raising fares is never an easy decision, the Advisory Committee commends and thanks the GRTA Board for providing the ridership and their advocates a platform to further voice their concerns and provide their input to the proposed fare increases.
As the Board reviews the recommendations presented and before they make a decision on fare increases, the Advisory Committee asks to please think about the people who utilize the transit system; the elderly, people with disabilities, people on welfare, the homeless, part-time workers, students, and minorities.

Attachment 2

FARE INCREASES COMPARISON CHART

TYPE FARE-FIXED ROUTE	Current	GRTA Proposed	% Increase	Advisory Committee Proposed & Approved by Board	% Increase
Full Fare	$1.00	$2	100%	**$1.50**	50%
Discounted Fare	$.35	$.50	42%	**$.50**	42%
Full Fare Day Pass	$3	$5	67%	**$4**	33%
Discount Day Pass	$1	$1.50	50%	**$1.50**	50%
Full Fare Week Pass	$15	$25	67%	**$20**	33%
Discount Week Pass	$5	$7.50	50%	**$7.50**	50%
Full Fare Monthly Pass	$55	$75	36%	**$65**	18%
Discount Monthly Pass	$20	$25	25%	**$25**	25%

TYPE FARE-PARATRANSIT	Current	GRTA Proposed	% Increase	Advisory Committee Proposed & Approved by Board	% Increase
One Ride	$.35	$3	757%	**$.50**	42%
Day Pass	$1	$7.50	650%	**$1.50**	50%
Week Pass	$5	$37.50	650%	**$7.50**	50%
Monthly Pass	$20	$80	300%	**$25**	25%

(i) §9301 of Article 3, Chapter 9, Title 5

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GRTA Preliminary Cost Impact Assessment

Since, the inception of the Guam Mass Transit on January 8, 1980; the Guam Mass Transit now called the Guam Regional Transit Authority (GRTA) has not increased or amended the bus fares. To improve GRTA services and to keep up with increasing costs the GRTA proposed to increase the fares. Three public hearings were conducted on November 15-17, 2016 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Agat Community Center, Tamuning Community Center, and the Dededo Community Center, respectively. GRTA's fare proposal received both good and bad feedback, however, the GRTA board wanted to give the ridership another opportunity to give input and created the GRTA Fare Advisory Committee comprised of eight members. Attached is the Fare Advisory Committee's Report and Comparison Chart between the two fare proposals.

According to the Administrative Adjudication Law §9301 of Article 3, Chapter 9, Title 5 (i). The GRTA is exempt from the economic impact statement of proposed fare increase as determined by this preliminary cost impact assessment and declares the proposed increase of bus fares will not be an impact of more than Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000).

Currently, GRTA averages 221,000 riders per year. If all the riders were to pay a fee of $2.00 the total fare collection for the year would be $442,000 under the $500,000 threshold exempting GRTA from the economic impact statement. Furthermore, this estimation is an optimistic one because it does not take into account the discounted rates or the day, week, and month passes which provides discounts to our riders. GRTA concludes bus fare collections will fall under the threshold with the proposed fare structure.

GRTA Bus Fare Collection Data

Fiscal Year	Collected Revenue (Nearest dollar)	Total Riders	Average Payment Per Rider
2017	$116,238	236,853	0.49¢
2016	$103,761	205,946	0.50¢
2015	$113,521	235,466	0.48¢
2014	$117,058	221,295	0.53¢

GRTA Ridership Data

Fiscal Year	Fixed Route Riders	Para-transit Riders	Total
2017	180,955	55,898	236,853
2016	159,114	46,832	205,946
2015	188,906	46,560	235,466
2014	171,929	49,366	221,295

Additional Attachments

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FY 2017

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David Arentz
989-0055
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Vacant

MEETING MINUTES - *AMENDED*
Board of Directors scheduled Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 3:03pm.

I. Call to Order:

Chairwoman Louise Rivera called the meeting to order at 3:03pm, at the GRTA Conference Room, 542 North Marine Corp Drive, Tamuning.

II. Roll Call:

GRTA Board Chairwoman Louise Rivera, Vice Chair Gerard Cruz, Board member Andrew Tydingco and Board Member David Arentz were present. Not present were Board Secretary Ginger Porter due to being off-island and Board member Vice Mayor Frank Benavente for family viewing.

Also present were: Executive Manager Rick Agustin, Administrative Officer Myra Soriano, Planner II Brenda Atalig, Board Secretary Penelope Gates, Transportation Supervisor Mark Crisostomo, Customer Service Representative Jennifer Badar, Planning Technician Michelle Marquez and welcome aboard to our newest GRTA employee, Program Coordinator IV Pilar Carbullido.

A quorum was established.

Doc. No. 34GL-18-1596.

III. Approval of Minutes

September 19, 2017 – Director Andrew Tydingco moved to approve the minutes. Seconded and carried.

IV. Executive Manager's Report (Rick Agustin)

A. $197,000 Issue – AG Recommendation

EM R. Agustin reported in April 2017 the SMR Evaluators indicated $197,000 of federal funds were used to procure services of a contractor, Parson's & Brinkerhoff to write up bus specifications. FTA has an issue with this, particularly, because the bus specification should have been competitively bided out.

V. For Board Approvals

A. Focus Group – Fare Increase

GRTA Board of Director Andrew Tydingco moved to approve the Focus Group proposed Fare Rate Increase to take effect July 1, 2018 with the condition to revisit the fare increase every two (2) years. Seconded and carried.

VI. Old Business

A. DISID – MOA

One Million Dollars ($1,000,000) from FTA federal funds went to DISID to construct a Resource center. This project is actively moving forward between DISID, GRTA and GEDA. GRTA will own 2,500 square feet of office space from this project.

VII. Budget Report and Ridership Report (Myra Abaya)

Please see September 19, 2017 Budget and Ridership Report

VIII. Bus Operations Schedule (Mark Crisostomo)

GRTA Vehicles in Operation
Currently GRTA has one arboc bus and five MV1 Vans operating including VA MV1 Van. Six (6) vehicles in operation.

Preventive Maintenance
Three MV1 Vans in repairs with Fukuda Enterprises, Inc.
Ten Arboc buses and six MV1 Vans inoperable at this time.

Operational vehicles
One Arboc bus and three MV1 Vans are in operation as of now.
In 30 days, the entire GRTA fleet will be operational provided the parts are on-hand and the PO's submitted to GRTA.

Doc. No. 34GL-18-1596.

Please see September 19, 2017 Bus Operations Schedule Report for further disclosure.

IX. **Chief Planner Report (by Mr. Agustin)** –All Procurement project updates.
EM R. Agustin reported one procurement activity, Transportation Management System (TMS). There will be a separate room for the schedulers and dispatchers to monitor GRTA equipment, consumption of fuel even tracking the speed of GRTA vehicles. Based on a negotiated price, an announcement made by the end of this calendar year. By January, the winning vendor will install the software and provide the training. Then GRTA will take over that task from KEI.

X. **New Business**

A. Ethics Training

GRTA TS Mark Crisostomo, GRTA CSR Jennifer Badar, GRTA Board members David Arentz and Vice Chairman Gerard Cruz attended the training class Friday, September 29, 2017 at UOG, PIP Classroom 205.

B. Personal hygiene of transit riders

This was a complaint made by a rider. This is a HIPPA situation. A lawsuit will entail in this case. This is a very sensitive topic. We cannot discriminate against anyone for personal hygiene unless it is a safety issue. Per Board Vice Chair Gerard Cruz, FTA rules state if a person comes in with body odor, we cannot deny him a ride but if he enters the bus with rotten food, they must remove the item from the bus and if they refuse, they can be denied a ride. A criteria has not been established regarding this particular issue. This falls under special cases.

C. Transit Drivers personal device to record on bus

Per GRTA EM R. Agustin, drivers are defending themselves with their own personal cameras by placing them on the dashboard and recording whenever they are harassed or threatened. They are using their devices for their own protection. GRTA cannot stop the drivers from protecting themselves. GRTA does not have a policy in place.

D. Special meeting criteria

EM R. Agustin stated when GRTA board does not have a quorum it is not a reason to have a special board meeting. A few valid reasons for calling a special meeting:

- an urgent matter needs to be dealt with before the next regular meeting
- there is a proposal to amend bylaws
- adopting or amending special rules of order
- amending or rescinding something that was previously adopted

E. GRTA transit use for Charter Vehicle – discussion and approval

Professor Keith Camacho of UCLA, for Asian-American Studies Department, wants to bring out a Guam travel study program in July, 2018. He is inquiring as to the use of one or two public vehicles to use as a charter.

XI. **Public Comment** – 15 minutes total

Lyn Tydingco, paratransit rider and Lou Mesa, parent of paratransit rider, reported issues with the phone system at Kloppenburg, Enterprises, Inc. The new system informs the caller that they are on a waiting slot number but when the slot comes up sometimes the caller is prompted to leave a voice mail. Another time, it will prompt the caller to press star to speak to an operator but when doing so the voice prompts to leave a voicemail.

Brad Kloppenburg, Vice President/Director of Operations of KEI stated they would monitor the new phone system to rectify the new issues arising from the new system.

Rodney Calimlim, paratransit rider, is suggesting if KEI would separate phone lines. One dedicated to scheduling and another dedicated to dispatching services.

Brand Kloppenburg stated that they would look into the matter where all phone lines will be utilized prompting caller to press a number for a certain division.

Tom Manglona, paratransit rider, reports a phone company issue rather than a GRTA phone issue. Another rider, Lyn Tydingco, cleared this to him.

Other riders made comments, which can be heard on the November 21, 2017 recording.

XII. **Executive Session**

No Executive session

XIII. **Adjournment**

GRTA Board member Andrew Tydingco moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:12pm. Seconded and carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Penni Gates

GRTA Board Secretary

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PRESS RELEASE

December 20, 2017
Contact: Enrique Agustin, Executive Manager, (671) 300-7260

GRTA Raises Fares with the Help of the Advisory Fare Committee

The Guam Regional Transit Authority (GRTA) staff and management are pleased to announce that after 37 years, the public transit has finalized an increase of fares. Fares will be effective Sunday, July 1, 2018.

This has been a long process, when GRTA first conducted its three public hearings on November 2016 for the proposal to increase fares, the ridership were not happy. GRTA heard the outcry and the fare advisory committee was created. GRTA applauds the committee which were made up of both Fixed and Paratransit riders as well as advocates for people with disabilities.

The committee recommended rates that were much more reasonable to the ridership. On Tuesday, November 21, 2017 the Board of Directors voted to pass the fare committee's proposed fares with the condition that the fares will be evaluated every two years and not wait until the next 37 years. Mr. Agustin, Executive Manager stated, "we appreciate all the hard work the committee has done with looking at our first proposal and coming up with a compromise that works for both GRTA and the riders instead of shooting down a fare increase altogether because we did need to raise rates. I also thank the Board for passing this increase as it is necessary for our improvement, but doing it as equitable as possible."

The increase will assist with necessary upkeep of the transit facilities as well as budget income that may go to maintenance issues or procuring additional bus stop signs. Projected revenue will not exceed $500,000.00.

Should there be any inquiries regarding the increase, please contact Enrique Agustin, Executive Manager at 671-300-7260. For general inquiries, call the GRTA office at 671-475-4616.

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Pictured: GRTA Board of Directors, Fare Advisory Committee, Self-advocates in Action (SinA), and Riders take a picture in spirit of raising the bus fares at an equitable rate, a win-win for all. (L-R): Enrique Agustin, Executive Manager; David Arentz, Board Member; Clifford Wooten, SinA; Lourdes Mendiola, SinA; Virginia Mendiola; Lisa Ogo, SinA; Erlinda Tydingco, SinA; Rodney Calimlim, Rider; Lourdes Mesa, SinA; Andrew Tydingco, Board Member; Mayor Louise Rivera, Board Chair; Marlon Molinos, Rider Finia Kachita, Rider; Vice-Mayor Frank Benavente, Board Member. Not pictured: Tom Manglona, Rider and Roy Rosario, SinA (deceased).

GRTA Fare Structure Comparison		
Description	**Current**	**New Fares Effective July 1, 2018**
Regular One-Way	$1.00	$1.50
Discounted One-Way	$0.35	$0.50
Regular Day Pass	$3.00	$4.00
Discounted Day Pass	$1.00	$1.50
Regular Week Pass	$15.00	$20.00
Discounted Week Pass	$5.00	$7.50
Regular Month Pass	$55	$65
Discounted Month Pass	$20	$25
Discounted Rates are for Senior Citizens, Students (under 18 years old), and Paratransit I.D. holders. Children 5 years old and under are free.		

###

Bus fares will increase on July 1, 2018

Pacific Daily News, news@guampdn.com **Published 4:48 p.m. ChT Dec. 20, 2017 | Updated 4:49 p.m. ChT Dec. 20, 2017**



(Photo: Courtesy Guam Regional Transit Authority)

For the first time in 37 years, Guam Regional Transit Authority fares will increase, according to a notice from the agency.

Here's a look at current fares and new fares, which will take effect on July 1, 2018:

- Regular one-way fares, currently $1, will increase to $1.50;
- Regular day pass, currently $3, will be $4;
- Regular week pass, now $15, will be $20;
- Regular month pass, now $55, will be $60;
- Discounted one-way, now 35 cents, will be 50 cents;
- Discounted day pass, now $1, will be $1.50;
- Discounted week pass, now $5 will be $7.50;
- Discounted month pass, now $20 will be $25.

Discounted rates apply to senior citizens, students under 18 and people with a paratransit ID. Children under 5 ride free.

In raising the rates, the committee agreed to evaluate them every two years going forward.

Agency officials said the increase is necessary for the upkeep of the transit facilities as well as maintenance issues and purchasing more bus stop signs. Revenue is not projected to exceed $500,000, according to the notice.

Read or Share this story: http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/12/20/bus-fares-increase-july-1-2018/967951001/

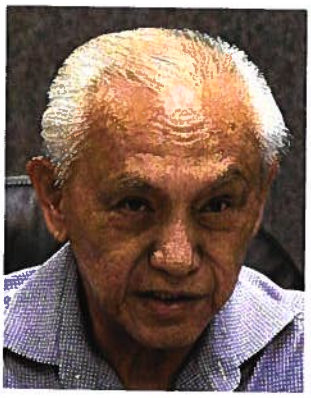
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PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO

https://www.postguam.com/news/local/mass-transit-riders-to-pay-more-next-year/article_86c13848-e563-11e7-bd75-27365e470ae9.html

Mass transit riders to pay more next year

Andrew Roberto | The Guam Daily Post Dec 21, 2017



Rick Agustin

An increase in fares will affect all riders of the Guam Regional Transit Authority public transportation system starting on July 1, 2018.

Fare structure comparison

Here's how the fares will change, effective July 1, 2018:

- Regular one-way: $1 to $1.50
- Discounted one-way: 35 cents to 50 cents
- Regular day pass: $3 to $4
- Discounted day pass $1 to $1.50
- Regular week pass: $15 to $20
- Discounted week pass $5 to $7.50
- Regular month pass: $55 to $65
- Discounted month pass: $20 to $25

In a release yesterday, GRTA officials said its board of directors approved the fare increase on Nov. 21.

The largest increase in price will be felt by riders who purchase month-long passes on regular rates. The regular month pass jumps by $10, from $55 to $65 per pass.

A regular one-way ride will cost 50 percent more, from $1 to $1.50.

'We did need to raise rates'



GRTA officials stated in the release the fare increase will "assist with necessary upkeep of the transit facilities" and "may go (toward addressing) maintenance issues or procuring additional bus stop signs."