



**Massachusetts Bay
Transportation Authority**

Fare Increase Proposal

January 28, 2019

Why Raise Fares?



- Industry best practice is modest increases at regular intervals
 - MBTA continues to focus on own-source revenue and cost controls
 - Proposal is consistent with inflation in the Boston area over past 3 years
 - Supports equitable compensation for our workforce
- Enables further investments to increase service
 - Silver Line 3, new early-morning/late-night bus service
 - Additional commuter rail service
- Maintains additional capital funding source for near-term customer-facing improvements; examples of projects supported by last fare increase:
 - Vehicles for The RIDE
 - Additional funds to help completely replace Red Line fleet
 - Accessibility improvements to bus stops and commuter rail stations



- State law permits the MBTA to raise fares at most every two years and a maximum of 7% for each fare product
 - Last time the MBTA raised fares was July 1, 2016
 - Proposed increase to take effect July 1, 2019
- Proposal averages 6.3% increase across all MBTA fares
 - Estimated to increase FY20 fare revenue by \$32 million, or 4.5%
 - Model estimates ridership loss of 1.3%
- Proposal passes Title VI equity analysis
 - Relative increase in average fare for minority riders is 98% of the increase for all riders
 - Relative increase in average fare for low-income riders is 93% of the increase for all riders



- Each MBTA fare raised less than 7%
- A few fares not changed or will decrease as part of simplification of the fare structure in advance of AFC 2.0
 - Cash bus fare remains at \$2 to avoid impacting dwell times caused by cash in the farebox; cash/CharlieTicket fares will be eliminated in AFC 2.0
 - Outer Express fares held constant to move toward merging Inner and Outer Express bus
 - Reduced fares on express bus changed to half of CharlieCard fare from half of cash fare
 - Hingham/Hull fare to Logan reduced to match fare to Boston in order to avoid tap in/tap out on ferries in AFC 2.0

Key Fares



CharlieCard fares	Current	Proposed	Absolute Increase	Percent Increase*
Adult Local Bus	\$1.70	\$1.80	\$0.10	5.9%
Adult Rapid Transit	\$2.25	\$2.40	\$0.15	6.7%
LinkPass	\$84.50	\$90.00	\$5.50	6.5%
7-Day LinkPass	\$21.25	\$22.50	\$1.25	5.9%
Senior/TAP/ Student Pass	\$30	\$32	\$2	6.7%

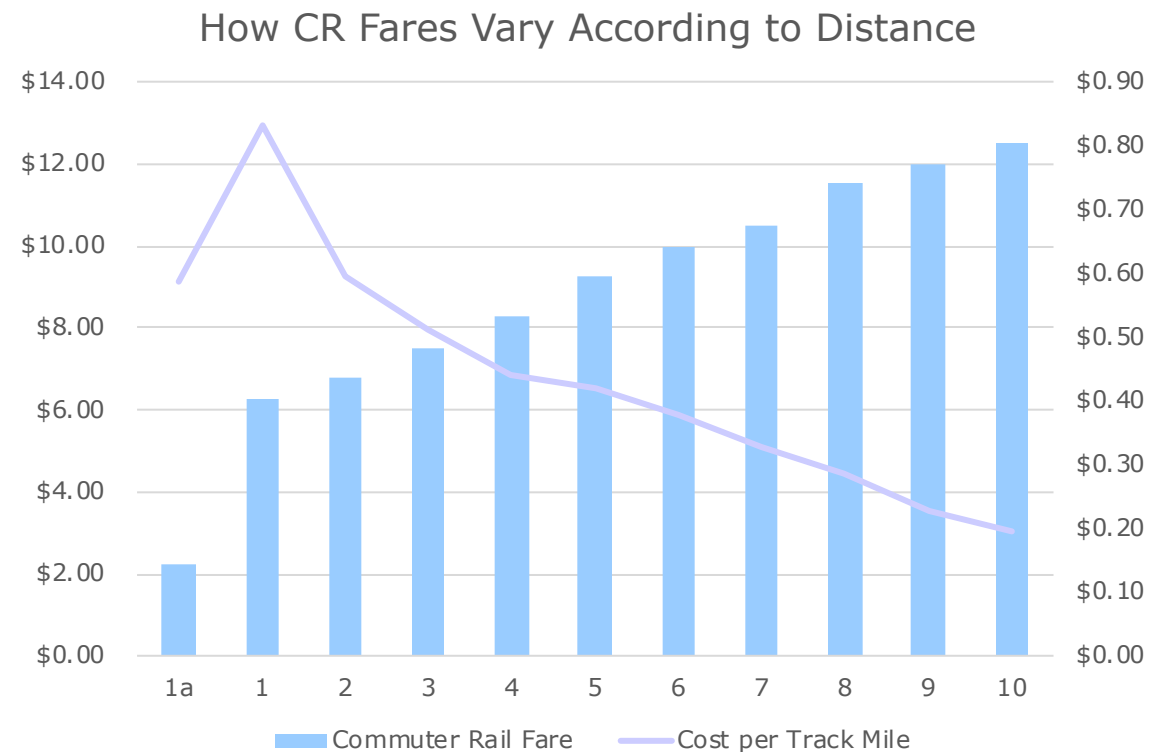
Example Commuter Rail Fares	Current	Proposed	Absolute Increase	Percent Increase
Zone 1 Ticket	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$0.25	4.0%
Zone 1 Pass	\$200.25	\$214.00	\$13.75	6.9%
Zone 4 Ticket	\$8.25	\$8.75	\$0.50	6.1%
Zone 4 Pass	\$263.00	\$281.00	\$18.00	6.8%
Zone 8 Ticket	\$11.50	\$ 12.25	\$0.75	6.5%
Zone 8 Pass	\$363.00	\$388.00	\$25.00	6.9%

*Increase percent varies due to constraints of rounding

Addressing Gap between Zone 1A and Rest of the Zones



- For historical reasons, a large gap exists between Zone 1A and the rest of the zones
- At the direction of the Legislature, the MBTA is conducting a commuter rail zone study examining:
 - Where bus and rapid transit act as a substitute for commuter rail service, travel time differences
 - Competitiveness with driving times and parking pricing
 - Population and jobs around stations, where interzone fares will increase demand
 - Option to introduce a new zone





- The MBTA's existing fare collection system limits changes to the commuter rail zone structure; commuter rail tickets and passes are purchased on existing Fare Vending Machines with limited options on screens

Opportunities created with new fare collection system

- **Medium term:** Exploring options for Day 1 of AFC 2.0 including a new zone between Zone 1A and Zone 1
- **Long term:** After AFC 2.0 and completion of Rail Vision, consider larger changes to CR zone structure to match future service model



- Details of the proposal posted at mbta.com/fareproposal
 - online comment form and look-up table for all fares
- Public comment period until Feb 28, 2019
- Public hearing on the fare proposal
February 27, 2019 at 6:30 pm
State Transportation Building, 10 Park Plaza, Boston
- Public comment and information also available at MBTA Coordinated Community Meetings throughout February 2019
- Proposed FMCB vote as part of preliminary FY20 budget on March 11, 2019