



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance 19474

Proposed No. 2022-0205.2

Sponsors Upthegrove, Zahilay, Balducci,
Dembowski, Perry and Kohl-Welles

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to public transportation,
 2 revising rates of youth fare to zero; and amending
 3 Ordinance 13480, Section 2, as amended, and K.C.C.
 4 4A.700.010, Ordinance 12643, Section 12, as amended, and
 5 K.C.C. 4A.700.450 and Ordinance 17935, Section 6, as
 6 amended, and K.C.C. 4A.700.820.

7 **STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

- 8 1. K.C.C. 4A.700.010 provides for fares for regularly scheduled county
 9 public transportation service on buses, trolleys, transit vans, dial-a-ride
 10 vehicles and streetcars, including fares for adults, children, youth, seniors
 11 and persons with disabilities and low-income riders.
- 12 2. K.C.C. 4A.700.450 provides for the execution of agreements with
 13 public school districts to supply students with passes in connection with
 14 special school programs and ties the rates for such passes to the youth fare.
- 15 3. K.C.C. 4A.700.820 provides for fares for regularly scheduled county
 16 passenger ferry service, including fares for adults paying in cash or with a
 17 prepaid fare product, children, youth, seniors and persons with disabilities,
 18 and low-income riders.
- 19 4. The King County Metro Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, 2021-

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20 2031, as adopted by Ordinance 19367, includes a strategy to "Align fares
21 with other service providers, meet revenue targets, and advance equity
22 through Metro's income-based approach to fares."

23 5. The current youth fare is \$1.50 for buses, trolleys, transit vans, dial-a-
24 ride vehicles and streetcars, \$3.75 for the West Seattle water taxi route,
25 \$4.50 for the Vashon Island water taxi route and \$1.75 for paratransit
26 service. The youth fare is available to persons from six through eighteen
27 years old and person over eighteen years old who receive student passes
28 under K.C.C. 4A.700.450.

29 6. In March 2022, the Washington state Legislature passed a \$17 billion
30 transportation funding bill known as Move Ahead Washington. This
31 transportation investment legislation added a new section to chapter 47.66
32 RCW establishing a transit support grant program for the purpose of
33 providing financial support to transit agencies for operating and capital
34 expenses and requiring that to be eligible to receive grant funding from
35 this program a transit agency must have adopted a zero-fare policy that
36 allows passengers eighteen years of age and younger to ride free of charge
37 on all modes provided by the agency and must submit documentation of
38 this zero-fare policy by October 1, 2022.

39 7. King County area public schools begin the 2022-23 school year in
40 September of 2022. In order to facilitate disbursement of student passes,
41 any fare changes applicable to students must be effective by September 1,
42 2022.

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43 8. The Metro transit department's fund management policies for the public
44 transportation fund, as adopted by Ordinance 18321, provide that the
45 Metro transit department will recover at least twenty-five percent and will
46 maintain a target of recovering thirty percent of passenger related
47 operating costs from farebox revenues for bus service. Youth fares
48 account for approximately six percent of total farebox revenues.

49 9. The increased revenue provided from the Move Ahead Washington
50 transit support grant program would offset the reduction in fare revenue
51 from adopting a no-charge youth fare policy.

52 10. In recognition of the equity and social justice benefits of a zero-fare
53 policy for youth and to maintain the eligibility of the Metro transit
54 department to apply for transit support grants under the Move Ahead
55 Washington transportation investment program, the King County
56 executive and council support a zero-fare policy for youth.

57 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

58 SECTION 1. Ordinance 13480, Section 2, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.700.010
59 are hereby amended to read as follows:

60 A. Except as may otherwise be provided by ordinance, the following fare
61 categories and rates are established for regularly scheduled county public transportation
62 service on buses, trolleys, transit vans, dial-a-ride vehicles and streetcars:

Regular fare	\$2.75
Child fare	No charge

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Youth fare	(\$1.50) <u>No charge</u>
Seniors and persons with disabilities fare	\$1.00
Low-income fare	\$1.50

63 The fare categories and rates are subject to, and defined by, the following:

64 1. The child fare is available to persons up to six years old when accompanied by
65 a responsible person paying the proper fare as set forth in this chapter. Up to four children
66 may ride with each responsible person;

67 2. The youth fare is available to persons from six through eighteen years old and
68 persons over eighteen years old who receive student passes under K.C.C. 4A.700.450;

69 3. The senior and persons with disabilities fare is available to persons who apply
70 for and receive a regional reduced fare permit. The permits are available to persons at least
71 sixty-five years old and persons with disabilities as provided in the regional reduced fare
72 permit program authorized under K.C.C. 28.94.255;

73 4. A person with a disability who has been issued an “attendant ride free” permit
74 by the department may be accompanied by an attendant, who is not required to pay a fare;
75 and

76 5. The low-income fare is available to persons who apply for and are determined
77 to meet the threshold eligibility requirements for the low-income transit fare program
78 authorized under K.C.C. 4A.700.490 and receive a valid low-income transit fare product.

79 B. A fare in subsection A. of this section is paid when a person pays the
80 appropriate amount in cash or presents an appropriate pass, transfer or other fare payment
81 media established under and used in accordance with this chapter.

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82 C.1. Regional and institutional passes, in various single-trip value denominations
 83 and for various effective periods, may be issued and sold in accordance with the terms of
 84 an agreement approved by the council and entered into with other public transportation
 85 providers in the region. Institutions include employers, groups of employers, educational
 86 institutions, transportation management associations and other organizations. The effective
 87 periods, single-trip values and prices for the regional and institutional passes shall be
 88 established by the agreement. A valid regional or institutional pass may be presented an
 89 unlimited number of times during its effective period as full or partial payment of the
 90 applicable fare. To the extent the single trip value of the regional pass is not sufficient to
 91 cover the applicable fare, the rider shall pay the difference in cash or from an electronic
 92 stored value product, such as e purse.

93 2. For institutions entering into an annual institutional pass agreement, the
 94 following schedule of calculations shall determine the cost of the annual agreement for
 95 ~~((King County Metro's))~~ the Metro transit department's portion of the agreement:

First twelve months:	$TR \times \text{baseline trips}$
Second twelve months:	$(TR \times \text{baseline trips}) + [(TR \times \text{added trips}) \times 1/3]$
Third twelve months:	$(TR \times \text{baseline trips}) + [(TR \times \text{added trips}) \times 2/3]$
Fourth twelve months (and subsequent ((12)) <u>twelve-</u> month periods):	$(TR \times \text{baseline trips}) + (TR \times \text{added trips})$

96 For purposes of this formula, "added trips" means those trips taken during the prior
 97 twelve months, determined either from surveys or electronic counting of actual institutional
 98 pass use, that exceed the number of baseline trips established at the execution of the

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99 institutional pass agreement. Electronic counts of one month or more will be annualized
100 and used in lieu of survey results if available.

101 For purposes of this formula, "baseline trips" means the estimated number of transit
102 trips taken by the contracting party's covered population of students, employees or others,
103 or any combination thereof, in the twelve months preceding execution of the institutional
104 pass agreement. Baseline trips may be adjusted on an annual basis to account for changes
105 in the number of eligible employees.

106 For purposes of this formula, in the event a party terminates or does not renew an
107 institutional pass agreement, any subsequent institutional pass agreement entered into with
108 that party shall be priced as if in the "fourth twelve months and thereafter" category.

109 For purposes of this formula, "trip revenue" or "TR" means the weighted average
110 fare per trip determined by the department.

111 D. The rate of fare for paratransit service shall be \$1.75 per trip and \$63.00 for a
112 monthly pass, except that a no-charge youth fare shall be available to persons from six
113 through eighteen years old and persons over eighteen years old who receive student
114 passes under K.C.C. 4A.700.450.

115 E. The rate of fare for customized bus service to residents of Center Park, a facility
116 of the Seattle Housing Authority located at 2121 - 26th Avenue South, Seattle, is equal to
117 the paratransit fares specified in subsection D. of this section.

118 SECTION 2. Ordinance 12643, Section 12, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.700.450
119 are hereby amended to read as follows:

120 The executive is authorized to execute agreements with public school districts to
121 supply students with passes in connection with special school programs (~~(, but the price~~

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122 ~~for passes under the agreements shall be established at a rate of thirty six times the youth~~
 123 ~~fare in K.C.C. 4A.700.010 for each month in which these passes are valid, and the passes~~
 124 ~~shall be regional passes as defined in K.C.C. 4A.700.010)).~~

125 SECTION 3. Ordinance 17935, Section 6, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.700.820 are
 126 hereby amended to read as follows:

127 A.1. Except as may otherwise be provided by ordinance, the following fare
 128 categories and rates are established for regularly scheduled passenger ferry service:

One-Way Water Taxi Fares	West Seattle Water Taxi Route	Vashon Island Water Taxi Route
Cash fare	\$5.75	\$6.75
Regular prepaid fare	\$5.00	\$5.75
Child fare	No Charge	No Charge
Youth (prepaid) fare	(\$3.75) <u>No Charge</u>	(\$4.50) <u>No Charge</u>
Senior and persons with disabilities fare	\$2.50	\$3.00
Bicycle fare	No Charge	No Charge
Low-income fare	\$3.75	\$4.50

129 2. The fare categories and rates are subject to, and defined by, the following:

130 a. All fares shall be established only for a one-way trip;

131 b. All fares shall be rounded up to the next whole twenty-five cent
 132 increment;

133 c. The cash fare is determined by adding a fifteen-percent surcharge to the
 134 regular prepaid fare and applies to cash and ticket purchases;

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135 d. The regular prepaid fare is established as the base rate for persons
136 nineteen years old and older using ORCA prepaid fare media;

137 e. The child fare is available to persons five years and under when
138 accompanied by a parent, guardian or other person aged sixteen or older and paying the
139 proper fare as set forth in this chapter;

140 f. The youth (~~prepaid~~) fare is available to persons from six through
141 eighteen years old and persons over eighteen years old who receive valid student pass
142 transit-fare products under K.C.C. 4A.700.450(~~(The youth prepaid fare shall be twenty-~~
143 ~~five percent less than the regular prepaid fare))~~);

144 g. The senior and persons with disabilities fare is available to persons who
145 apply for and receive a regional reduced fare permit. The permits are available to persons
146 at least sixty-five years old and persons with disabilities as provided in the regional
147 reduced fare permit program authorized under K.C.C. 28.94.255;

148 h. A person with a disability who has been issued an "attendant ride free"
149 permit as authorized under K.C.C. 4A.700.010 may be accompanied by an attendant, who
150 is not required to pay a fare;

151 i. A person who has paid fare may bring a bicycle onto a water taxi at no
152 additional charge, up to the water taxi's bicycle capacity; and

153 j. The low-income fare is available to persons who apply for and are
154 determined to meet the threshold eligibility requirements for the low-income transit fare
155 program authorized under K.C.C. 4A.700.490, when effective, and receive a valid low-
156 income transit fare product. The low-income fare shall be twenty-five percent less than
157 the regular fare.

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158 B. A fare in subsection A. of this section is paid when a person pays the
159 appropriate amount in cash or presents an appropriate pass, transfer or other fare payment
160 media established under and used in accordance with this chapter.

161 SECTION 4. This ordinance takes effect September 1, 2022.

Ordinance 19474 was introduced on 6/7/2022 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/26/2022, by the following vote:


Yes: 9 - Balducci, Dembowski, Dunn, Kohl-Welles, Perry, McDermott, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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7E1C273CE9994B6...
Claudia Balducci, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

8DE1BB375AD3422...
Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of 8/4/2022, _____.

DocuSigned by:

4FBCAB8196AE4C6...
Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None

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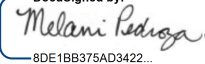
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Required hardware and software

Operating Systems:	Windows® 2000, Windows® XP, Windows Vista®; Mac OS® X
Browsers:	Final release versions of Internet Explorer® 6.0 or above (Windows only); Mozilla Firefox 2.0 or above (Windows and Mac); Safari™ 3.0 or above (Mac only)
PDF Reader:	Acrobat® or similar software may be required to view and print PDF files
Screen Resolution:	800 x 600 minimum

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