



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance 19854

Proposed No. 2024-0310.1

Sponsors Zahilay

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to public transportation,
 2 revising the rate for regular fare; amending Ordinance
 3 19474, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.700.010 and
 4 establishing an effective date.

5 **STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

6 1. K.C.C. 4A.700.010 provides for fares for regularly scheduled county public
 7 transportation service on buses, trolleys, transit vans, dial-a-ride vehicles, and
 8 streetcars, including fares for adults, children, youth, seniors and persons with
 9 disabilities and low-income riders.

10 2. The current regular fare is \$2.75 for buses, trolleys, transit vans, dial-a-ride
 11 vehicles, and streetcars.

12 3. The King County Metro Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, 2021-2031,
 13 as adopted by Ordinance 19367, includes a strategy to "Align fares with other
 14 service providers, meet revenue targets, and advance equity through Metro's
 15 income-based approach to fares."

16 4. Beginning in August 2024, Sound Transit's regular flat fare will be \$3.00 for
 17 Link light rail.

18 5. The Metro transit department's fund management policies for the public
 19 transportation fund, as adopted by Ordinance 18321, provide that the Metro

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20 transit department will recover a share of operating costs from farebox revenues
 21 for bus service. Fare revenue currently falls below this recovery target.

22 6. As part of an income-based approach to fares, the Metro transit department
 23 offers a reduced low-income fare available to persons who apply for and are
 24 determined to meet the threshold eligibility requirements for the low-income
 25 transit program authorized under K.C.C. 4A.700.490 and receive a valid low-
 26 income transit fare product.

27 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

28 SECTION 1. Ordinance 19474, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.700.010
 29 are hereby amended to read as follows:

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

Regular fare	((\$2.75) <u>\$3.00</u>)
Child fare	No charge
Youth fare	No charge
Seniors and persons with disabilities fare	\$1.00
Low-income fare	\$1.00

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

52 C.1. Regional and institutional passes, in various single-trip value denominations
53 and for various effective periods, may be issued and sold in accordance with the terms of
54 an agreement approved by the council and entered into with other public transportation
55 providers in the region. Institutions include employers, groups of employers, educational
56 institutions, transportation management associations, and other organizations. The
57 effective periods, single-trip values, and prices for the regional and institutional passes shall
58 be established by the agreement. A valid regional or institutional pass may be presented an
59 unlimited number of times during its effective period as full or partial payment of the

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60 applicable fare. To the extent the single trip value of the regional pass is not sufficient to
61 cover the applicable fare, the rider shall pay the difference in cash or from an electronic
62 stored value product, such as e purse.

63 2. For institutions entering into an annual institutional pass agreement, the
64 following schedule of calculations shall determine the cost of the annual agreement for the
65 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 twelve-month periods):	$(TR \times \text{baseline trips}) + (TR \times \text{added trips})$

66 For purposes of this formula, "added trips" means those trips taken during the prior
67 twelve months, determined either from surveys or electronic counting of actual institutional
68 pass use, that exceed the number of baseline trips established at the execution of the
69 institutional pass agreement. Electronic counts of one month or more will be annualized
70 and used in lieu of survey results if available.

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

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

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

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

85 E. The rate of fare for customized bus service to residents of Center Park, a facility
86 of the Seattle Housing Authority located at 2121 - 26th Avenue South, Seattle, is equal to

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87 the paratransit fares specified in subsection D. of this section.

88 SECTION 2. This ordinance takes effect September 1, 2025.


Ordinance 19854 was introduced on 10/1/2024 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/19/2024, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Signed by:

E76CE01F07B14EF...
Dave Upthegrove, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

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

APPROVED this _____ day of 12/2/2024, _____.

Signed by:

4FBCAB8196AE4C6...
Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None

Certificate Of Completion

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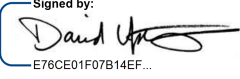
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Dave Upthegrove
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 Chair
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 Clerk of the Council
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 King County Executive
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