

SOUTHEASTConnections

RTD Proposes a Fare Increase for January 2009

September 2008



RTD will hold public hearings in September for January 2009 Proposed Fare Changes

The Regional Transportation District (RTD) will hold a series of public hearings in September to discuss a fare increase proposed for January 2009 due to increased fuel prices and shortfalls in sales tax revenues. It is proposed that Local, Express and Regional cash fares increase by approximately 14 percent.

Some of the proposed changes to fares are listed in the table below.

Fare Category	Current Fares	Proposed 2009 Fares
Cash Fares		
Local	\$1.75	\$2.00
Express	\$3.00	\$3.50
Regional	\$4.00	\$4.50
Monthly Passes		
Local	\$60.00	\$70.00
Express	\$108.00	\$128.00
Regional	\$144.00	\$164.00

Sixteen public hearings have been scheduled from September 8 through September 18. The public is invited to attend a public hearing on the proposed changes in RTD's fare structure for 2009. If you cannot attend one of the public hearings, you may email your comments to farecomments@rtd-denver.com or fax them to 303.299.2008. Comments will be summarized and reported to the RTD Board of Directors. All comments must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 19, 2008, to be included in the summary.

For more information visit www.rtd-denver.com or call 303.299.6000.

-Provided by RTD and the South I-25 Urban Corridor TMA

Douglas County Road Improvements

Douglas County Road and Bridge crews will construct improvements to the intersection of Highway 67 and Rampart Range Road beginning Sept. 8, 2008.

The project will removed approximately 7 feet of material from the intersection of those two roads to improve sight distance on Highway 67. The affected areas will be paved after completion of the earthwork.

Currently, there is extremely limited sight distance for vehicles turning from Highway 67 onto Rampart Range Road, a popular access point to the Pike National Forest.

During earthwork operations on Highway 67, traffic will be delayed for up to 15 minutes, therefore, alternate access routes are recommended from September 8 through approximately September 25 2008.

This project is a cooperative effort between Douglas County, the National Forest Service and the Colorado Department of Transportation. Any questions can be directed to the Douglas County Operations Division at 303.660.7480.

-Provided by Douglas County





TRIP Totals Savings of as Many as 15,000 Commuter Miles per Day

Traveling on RTD buses, light rail, or call-n-ride Trip to Work participants are helping local communities save up to 17,530 commuter miles daily. Transit Rider Incentive Program (TRIP) users purchase monthly passes at a 50% discounted rate, which in turn decreases the money spent on gas and reduces the amount of pollution emitted into the air every day. The hazardous air pollutant (HAP) diesel emission is being greatly reduced by TRIP and its users.

According to the Centennial Community Profile, provided by DRCOG, Centennial has accumulated an average of over 1,762,166 commuter miles per day. Under the U.S. Census Bureau, 51.6% of the Centennial workforce, located in Arapahoe County, commutes into Centennial.

“We as a company are pleased at the opportunity to promote the Trip to Work Program as part of our green initiative. It is very refreshing to see our employees take responsibility for reducing their personal carbon footprint, and I have no doubt that this program has introduced a number of single-occupancy-vehicle commuters to the convenience and personal rewards of mass transit,” says Sara McLaughan of TW Telecom’s administrative services department.

Monthly TRIP passes are available to employees working in the Southeast Urban corridor. During its first seven months, 4,344 riders have decided to participate in the program and of those approximately 1,000 had never before purchased a monthly RTD pass. Represented by the South I-25 Urban Corridor TMA, TRIP, partnered with RTD, is dedicated to “going green” while making it convenient and cost efficient for the employees of the Southeast Urban Corridor.

-Provided by 360 Media

Eco Pass Rate Hike Moves Forward Small business employers likely to lose Eco Pass

Hundreds of companies in the Denver Metro area participate in the Regional Transportation District’s (RTD) current Eco Pass program. In August, RTD’s 15-member Board of Directors heard suggested fare changes for 2009 from their staff, including changes to the Eco Pass program.

The **Eco Pass** program allows employers to purchase annual RTD passes for their employees. The proposed change will:

- Introduce a 50-employee minimum for eligibility to participate in Eco Pass programs.
- Increase per employee rates by 14 percent in every category in accordance with the overall proposed fare increase.
- Increase per employee rates by additional five percent in every rate category due to program ridership increases.
- Implement a \$5.00 skyRide fee from all stops except Stapleton and 40th/Airport and SLA D contracts.
- Implement changes to Eco Pass Master Contracts to permit contributions by employees.

Additionally, the **Neighborhood Eco Pass** faces changes:

- Increase per household rates by 14 percent in every rate category in accordance with overall fare increase.
- Increase per household rate by additional five percent in every rate category due to program ridership increases.
- Implement a moratorium on new or expanded Neighborhood Pass contracts until Smart Card data is available.
- Implement a \$5.00 skyRide fee from all stops except Stapleton and 40th/Airport.

The RTD Board of Directors voted to allow the proposed changes to be opened to public comment. Residents and employers are encouraged to do so either by attending a public meeting or sending comments to RTD at farecomments@RTD-Denver.com. For more information visit www.rtd-denver.com or call 303.299.6000.

-Provided by 360 Media and RTD
SoutheastConnections.com

