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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

MTA Board Approved Free Transfer Between Westchester County Bee Lines Bus Service and New York City Transit Subway, Buses and Railway Starting in April

During its January 31 meeting, the MTA Board approved a tariff change establishing reciprocal free transfers between Westchester County Bee-Line Bus Service (Westchester Bus) and New York City Transit buses, subways and Staten Island Railway. Westchester Bus will also use the Automated Fare Collection system and will begin accepting MetroCard for fare payment beginning on April 1, 2007.

At the same time, Westchester Bus will adopt a fare structure that, with minor exceptions, will be consistent with the system-wide fare structure in the MTA region including: a \$2.00 local and \$5.00 express bus fare acceptance; Reduce-Fare MetroCard; acceptance of all unlimited-ride passes that are accepted by NYCT; free bus-to-bus transfers; and transfer between Westchester Bus and other regional operators.

"This is an important step in the MTA's ongoing efforts to create a seamless transportation system in the MTA region," said MTA Executive Director/CEO, Elliot Sander. "We are very pleased that Westchester residents can now enjoy the benefits of the MetroCard."

The Westchester County Bus System provides local and limited bus service throughout Westchester County, and an express route, the BxM4C from White Plains to Manhattan. Many routes also serve the northern Bronx providing connections with NYCT subway stations and local bus routes.

"MetroCard's arrival in Westchester on April 1 is great news for all who ride the Bee-Line buses," Westchester County Executive Andy Spano said. "It's easy to use, costs less and best of all it expands the travel opportunities around the county and in and out of New York City."

"We're excited that our Bee-Line riders will soon have the same convenience and discounts that millions of people in the metropolitan area have enjoyed with MetroCard for many years," he said.

The reciprocal free transfers will offer:

- Westchester Bus and local and express bus customers using MetroCards can transfer for free within two hours to NYCT subway, Staten Island Railway (SIR), Roosevelt Island Tram (Tram), or a regional bus service.
- Westchester Bus Express bus using value-based MetroCards can transfer for free within two hours to any regional express bus.
- Westchester Bus local service customers using value-based MetroCards can transfer within two hours to any regional express bus upon payment of a \$3.00 step-up charge (\$4.00/\$1.50 Peak for senior/disabled) when boarding the express bus.
- Subway, SIR, Tram, or regional local and express bus customers using value-based MetroCards can transfer for free within two hours to Westchester Bus express service.
- Regional express bus customers using value-based MetroCards may transfer for Free within two hours to Westchester Bus express service.
- Subway, SIR, Tram, or regional local bus customers using value-Based MetroCards can transfer within two hours to hours to Bee-Line bus service upon payment of a \$3.00 step-up charge (\$4.00 peak/\$1.50 off peak for senior/disabled customers) when boarding the Westchester express bus.
- Westchester Bus local bus customers paying cash must pay an additional \$0.25 (\$0.10 for senior/disabled customers) for an electronic paper transfer valid within two hours on any local bus.
- Regional local bus customers paying cash may transfer for free within two hours to any Bee-Line local bus with an electronic paper transfer issued from the regional local bus farebox.
- Westchester Bus express buses will not issue or accept paper transfers.
- Transfers will not be available between Westchester Bus and PATH trains or JFK AirTrain.