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Press Release

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[Metro-North](#)

IMMEDIATE

Metro-North To Slash Parking Rates in West of Hudson Territory

Parking Fee Savings Make Metro-North Railroad Even More Attractive

Starting this fall, MTA Metro-North Railroad will slash parking fees at its West-of-Hudson stations to lower the cost of commuting and make the railroad an even better commuting option for residents of Orange and Rockland counties, MTA Chairman and CEO Thomas F. Prendergast and Metro-North President Joseph Giulietti announced today.

The one-year pilot program will offer a “12 for 1” annual parking permit, with 12 months of parking available for the cost of just one month – a 91% reduction. This reduces the cost of annual parking from \$235 to just \$20.

Daily meter parking fees also will be reduced by 55% from \$2.75 a day to \$1.25 a day. The reductions are included in the revised 2015 budget presented to the MTA Board for approval today.

“We expect this move will encourage new customers in Orange and Rockland counties to try our reliable and comfortable train service,” said Prendergast. “Metro-North service is an important asset for these fast-growing portions of our service area, and we are pleased to be able to offer these enhancements for our current and future customers there.”

“Metro-North is the most efficient and convenient way to get to Manhattan, and this change will save our customers money while also making commuting by train even more attractive,” said Giulietti. “This demonstrates our commitment to Orange and Rockland counties and to the many people there who can and do benefit from taking Metro-North to work and back.”

Metro-North has 2,674 permit spaces and 1,020 daily meter spaces at six stations on the Port Jervis Line and all three Pascack Valley Line stations.

The pilot, to begin November 1, 2014, makes Metro-North a more attractive travel option for customers from Orange and Rockland counties, who would otherwise find themselves stuck in traffic during long drives or uncomfortable bus commutes.

Port Jervis Line ridership tripled from 516,000 annual rides in 1984 to over 1.5 million annual rides in 2008, making it MNR’s fastest growing line, though ridership fell in the aftermath of the recession and heavy storm damage from Tropical Storm Irene. Ridership is rising again, up 4% since the beginning of 2014 alone. This parking fee reduction is intended to recapture some of the ridership lost in recent years.

On the Pascack Valley Line, ridership has increased by almost 50% since the institution of weekday off-peak and weekend service in 2007. So far this year, ridership is up 10% on the line, almost all in the discretionary, non-commutation market.

In addition, beginning in late 2015, Metro-North plans to initiate a new outbound, midday Port Jervis Line train to close a nearly three-hour service gap.

Both the parking fee reduction and the additional train were announced Monday as part of the MTA’s 2015 financial plan, which includes \$363 million in safety improvements, \$125 million in increased operations and maintenance costs and \$20 million in added service systemwide.