

Proposed Changes to MTA Fares, Crossing Charges, and Related Policies

The MTA is beginning its biennial process for the review of its fares, crossing charges, and related policies. This review process has been in place since 2010. Hearings will be held on the dates and times noted below on proposed changes to MTA fares, crossing charges, and related policies. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the MTA will convene these hearings virtually on Zoom, with a livestream available on the MTA's 2020 Fare and Toll Hearing website, [new.mta.info/2020hearings](https://www.mta.info/2020hearings). The public is invited to comment on the proposed changes, which are summarized below and pertain, as applicable, to the fares of the Long Island Rail Road Company (LIRR), Metro-North Commuter Railroad Company (Metro-North), New York City Transit Authority (NYCT) and its subsidiary, the Manhattan and Bronx Surface Transit Operating Authority (MaBSTOA), the MTA Bus Company (MTA Bus), and the Staten Island Rapid Transit Operating Authority (SIR), and to crossing charges of the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority (MTA Bridges and Tunnels). Proposed fares also may be available through OMNY, the MTA's new fare payment system. The fare and toll proposals allow for a range of options to be considered; increases to fares or crossing charges may be less than the maximum amounts specified. Following the hearings, after considering public comment, the Boards of the MTA and its affiliated agencies will decide which potential fare and crossing charge adjustments and policy changes to adopt.

Space limitations prevent newspaper publication of each proposed fare, crossing charge, or policy. For more details on these potential changes, please visit [new.mta.info/2020hearings](https://www.mta.info/2020hearings), consult information posted at MTA stations and on digital display boards, or call the Public Hearing Hotline at (646) 252-6777.

Proposed Fare, Crossing Charge, and Policy Changes Under Consideration

Following the hearings, one or more of the proposed changes listed below could be adopted:

NYCT, MaBSTOA, MTA Bus, SIR

Fares for Subway (NYCT), Local Bus (NYCT, MaBSTOA, and MTA Bus), and SIR:

Base Single Ride Fare (currently \$3.00 for Single Ride Ticket, and \$2.75 for cash payment and Pay-Per-Ride MetroCard®):

- Eliminate Single Ride Ticket option, or maintain current Single Ride Ticket option.
- Maintain the existing base fare for cash payment, Pay-Per-Ride MetroCard and/or Single Ride Ticket, or increase the base fare for cash payment and/or Pay-Per-Ride MetroCard by up to 25¢, and/or increase the base fare for Single Ride Ticket by up to \$1.00.
- Eliminate on-board cash payment for single ride local bus fare, or maintain current cash payment option.

MetroCard Discount (currently not available):

- Maintain the current undiscounted base fare, or establish a reduced MetroCard fare reflecting a discount of up to 7% from the new base fare, for MetroCard purchases above an initial purchase threshold of up to \$6.00 plus any applicable fee for purchase of a new MetroCard (the "green fee").

Unlimited Ride MetroCard:

- Maintain the 7-Day Unlimited Ride, 30-Day Unlimited Ride, and 7-Day Express Bus Plus MetroCards, or eliminate one or more of the time-based passes. If any time-based pass is eliminated, eliminate other ticket types that include the eliminated time-based pass, including but not limited to the LIRR Atlantic Ticket Joint Weekly + 7-Day Unlimited Ride ticket, the discounted Mail & Ride Joint Monthly Railroad Pass + Unlimited MetroCard, and weekly and monthly UniTickets.
- In the event that the existing base fares for cash payment, Pay-Per-Ride MetroCard, and Single Ride Ticket are increased:
 - The price of a 7-Day Unlimited Ride MetroCard (currently \$33.00) may increase to up to \$34.75.
 - The price of a 30-Day Unlimited Ride MetroCard (currently \$127.00) may increase to up to \$134.00.
 - The price of a 7-Day Express Bus Plus MetroCard (currently \$62.00) may increase to up to \$65.50.
- In the event that the existing base fare for cash payment, Pay-Per-Ride MetroCard, or Single Ride Ticket is not increased:
 - The price of a 7-Day Unlimited Ride MetroCard (currently \$33.00) may increase to up to \$36.00.
 - The price of a 30-Day Unlimited Ride MetroCard (currently \$127.00) may increase to up to \$139.00.
 - The price of a 7-Day Express Bus Plus MetroCard (currently \$62.00) may increase to up to \$67.75.

Fares for Express Bus (NYCT and MTA Bus):

- Maintain the current single ride express bus fare (currently \$6.75), or increase the single ride express bus fare to up to \$7.25.

Fares for Paratransit Services (currently \$2.75):

- In the event that the Base Single Ride Fare for Pay-Per-Ride MetroCard is increased, increase New York City Access-A-Ride one-way fares by up to 25¢.

MetroCard Fee:

- Maintain the current \$1.00 fee for a new MetroCard purchased at a subway station or MTA commuter rail station or from a MetroCard vending machine (the "green fee"), or increase the fee to up to \$3.00.

Walk-Up Reduced Fare:

- Eliminate option for eligible riders to show identification at ticket booth or on buses to obtain reduced fare (which would require riders to register for reduced fare benefit), or maintain the walk-up reduced fare option.

Discount Policies:

- Seniors/Customers with disabilities/Paratransit Zero Fare discount policies (except as otherwise noted) remain unchanged and will pertain to applicable fares as modified.

MTA Bridges and Tunnels

- Increase crossing charges for passenger vehicles to as much as \$6.70 for E-ZPass New York Customer Service Center (NYCSC) customers when using their properly mounted NYCSC E-ZPass tag.
- Different crossing charges will apply to non-NYCSC E-ZPass and Tolls by Mail customers, motorcycles, buses, and trucks, as well as to NYCSC E-ZPass customers when not using their properly mounted E-ZPass tag.
- Different crossing charges may apply by time of day and/or on predesignated Gridlock Alert Days.
- Bridges and Tunnels resident discounts and carpool plans and MTA rebate programs may be affected.

LIRR & Metro-North

Monthly, Weekly, and Other Ticket Types

- Increase monthly ticket prices up to 4.3%. Increase weekly ticket prices up to 5.9%. Increase fares in an amount from 0% to 11.2% on all other ticket types (including but not limited to City Ticket and Atlantic Ticket), with any increase greater than 6% held to a maximum increase of \$0.50 per trip.
- Alternatively, the Board may adopt a proposal to increase monthly ticket prices up to 4.3%, increase weekly ticket prices up to 5.9%, and increase fares in an amount from 0% to 16.7% on all other ticket types (including but not limited to City Ticket and Atlantic Ticket), but retain authority to offer revocable pilot programs or conduct field studies that provide discounts on some or all ticket types.

Other Fare and Policy Proposals:

- Special discounted fares, supplemental step-up, on-board fares, and ride extension fares may be subject to percentage increases higher than increases to base fares due to rounding.
- The new Elmont Station will be designated as an LIRR Zone 4 Station.
- Maintain current Mail & Ride Program distribution channels, or distribute Mail & Ride only through Mobile platform.
- Maintain current Mail & Ride discount for Joint Monthly Railroad Pass + Unlimited MetroCard (2%), or eliminate the Joint Monthly Railroad Pass + Unlimited MetroCard.

Alternate Flat Fare Proposal:

- Maintain current fare zone structure, or condense zone structure to two zones (a New York City Zone excluding the Far Rockaway Station, and a Suburban Zone comprising only Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Dutchess and Putnam Counties and the Far Rockaway Station) and three fares (travel within the City Zone, travel between the Suburban Zone and the City Zone, and travel within the Suburban Zone only), with no peak or off-peak travel price differential and no monthly discounts. For Metro-North, this proposal will not apply to the West of Hudson fare and zone structure. Under this proposal, other discounted fares will be maintained, and 10-trip tickets may be eliminated.

- Under this proposal, LIRR ticket prices would be up to the following amounts:

- One-way ticket prices would be up to: \$8.25 within the City Zone; \$14.50 for Suburban-City travel; and \$7.25 within the Suburban Zone.
- Monthly ticket prices would be up to: \$182.00 within the City Zone; \$318.00 for Suburban-City travel; and \$192.50 within the Suburban Zone.
- Weekly ticket prices would be up to: \$58.25 within the City Zone; \$101.75 for Suburban-City travel; and \$59.75 within the Suburban Zone.

- Under this proposal, Metro-North ticket prices would be up to the following amounts:

- One-way ticket prices would be up to: \$12.00 within the City Zone; \$14.75 for Suburban-City travel; and \$8.00 within the Suburban Zone.
- Monthly ticket prices would be up to: \$262.00 within the City Zone; \$329.00 for Suburban-City travel; and \$175.00 within the Suburban Zone.
- Weekly ticket prices would be up to: \$83.75 within the City Zone; \$105.25 for Suburban-City travel; and \$54.25 within the Suburban Zone

UniTicket and One-Way Connecting Fares:

- Increase weekly connecting fares for Hudson Rail Link by up to 50¢, for Haverstraw-Ossining Ferry by up to 50¢, and for Newburgh-Beacon Ferry by up to 25¢.
- Increase monthly connecting fares for Hudson Rail Link and Haverstraw-Ossining Ferry by up to \$1.75, and for Newburgh-Beacon Ferry by up to 50¢.
- Increase weekly fare for connecting local NYC bus service (NYCT, MaBSTOA and MTA Bus) by up to 50¢, and monthly fare by up to \$2.50.
- Increase one-way connecting fares for the Haverstraw-Ossining Ferry and Newburg-Beacon Ferry by up to 25¢, increase one-way fare for Hudson Rail Link by up to 25¢, and increase Seniors/Customers with disabilities/Paratransit Zero Fare by up to 15¢.
- Increase weekly fare for Nassau Inter-County Express (NICE) UniTicket by up to 75¢. Increase monthly fare for NICE UniTicket by as much \$3.00.
- If NYCT time-based passes are eliminated, the proposal would be to eliminate corresponding monthly and/or weekly UniTickets.

Virtual Public Hearings

Registering for the Virtual Public Hearings

To register to speak at a virtual public hearing, please register online at [new.mta.info/2020hearings](https://www.mta.info/2020hearings) or call the Public Hearing Hotline at (646) 252-6777. Telephone agents are available from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. (all times Eastern) daily. Registration for each virtual public hearing will open on November 23, 2020 at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. the day before the scheduled hearing. All comments will be transcribed and made part of the permanent record of these hearings.

Joining the Virtual Public Hearings

If you are registered to speak, you may join the Zoom webinar at the scheduled hearing time either online or by phone following these instructions:

Join Zoom Online: To access the Zoom meeting online, visit the website: <https://mta-info.zoom.us/j/84115931743> (You can also go to zoom.us/join and enter the Webinar ID 841 1593 1743)

Join Zoom By Phone: To access the Zoom meeting by phone, please call 1-877-853-5247 (toll-free). Then enter Webinar ID 841 1593 1743, followed by the pound (#) sign.

View-Only Online: Members of the public who wish only to view the hearings may access the event live at [new.mta.info/2020hearings](https://www.mta.info/2020hearings).

Virtual Public Hearing Format

You must pre-register to speak at a virtual public hearing. Oral comments are limited to two (2) minutes for each speaker. Hearings are scheduled for three hours, but each public hearing will accept registrants until there are 240 minutes (4 hours) of public speaker comments scheduled. In the event that the hearing reaches the scheduled capacity (240 minutes of scheduled comments), speakers who have not previously spoken at another 2020 fare and toll virtual public hearing will be given priority in speaking order.

MTA subject matter experts will also be available during the hearings to answer written questions relevant to the proposals being considered. To submit questions during the hearings, you must join the hearing through the Zoom online platform. You may submit questions at any other time in the ways listed below (see "Additional Ways to Comment or Request Information").

Virtual Public Hearing Dates and Times, Registration Periods

Tuesday, 12/1/2020

Registration Period: 11/23/2020 at 10 a.m. – 11/30/2020 at 5 p.m.
Hearing begins 5:30 p.m.

Monday, 12/7/2020

Registration Period: 11/23/2020 at 10 a.m. – 12/6/2020 at 5 p.m.
Hearing begins 5:30 p.m.

Monday, 12/14/2020

Registration Period: 11/23/2020 at 10 a.m. – 12/13/2020 at 5 p.m.
Hearing begins 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, 12/3/2020

Registration Period: 11/23/2020 at 10 a.m. – 12/2/2020 at 5 p.m.
Hearing begins 10 a.m.

Wednesday, 12/9/2020

Registration Period: 11/23/2020 at 10 a.m. – 12/8/2020 at 5 p.m.
Hearing begins 5:30 p.m.

Monday, 12/21/2020

Registration Period: 11/23/2020 at 10 a.m. – 12/20/2020 at 5 p.m.
Hearing begins 10 a.m.

Virtual Satellite Hearings

Virtual Satellite Hearing Format

Members of the public may also register to provide comments at virtual satellite hearings on the dates and times listed below. At virtual satellite hearings, comments will be recorded, transcribed, and made part of the permanent record of these hearings, but there will be no question-and-answer period. Please note there is a two-minute time limit for each individual's recorded satellite hearing comments

Registering for Virtual Satellite Hearings

You must pre-register to speak at a virtual satellite hearing. To register to speak at a satellite hearing, please register online at [new.mta.info/2020hearings](https://www.mta.info/2020hearings) or call the Public Hearing Hotline at (646) 252-6777. Telephone agents are available from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Registration for each virtual satellite hearing will open on November 23, 2020 at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. the day before the scheduled hearing.

Joining the Virtual Satellite Hearings

If you are registered to speak, you may join the Zoom webinar at the scheduled hearing time either online or by phone following these instructions:

Join Zoom Online: To access the Zoom meeting online, visit the website: <https://mta-info.zoom.us/j/84115931743> (You can also go to zoom.us/join and enter the Webinar ID 841 1593 1743)

Join Zoom by Phone: To access the Zoom meeting by phone, please call 1-877-853-5247 (toll-free). Then enter Webinar ID 841 1593 1743, followed by the pound (#) sign.

Virtual Satellite Hearing Dates and Times, Registration Periods

Wednesday, 12/2/2020

Registration Period: 11/23/2020 at 10 a.m. – 12/1/2020 at 5 p.m.
Time: 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 12/8/2020

Registration Period: 11/23/2020 at 10 a.m. – 12/7/2020 at 5 p.m.
Time: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Additional Ways to Comment or Request Information

To submit comments or for additional information, you may contact us at [new.mta.info/2020hearings](https://www.mta.info/2020hearings), call the Public Hearing Hotline at (646) 252 6777, or send a letter to MTA Government & Community Relations, Re: Fares & Crossing Charges Virtual Public Hearing, 2 Broadway, New York, NY 10004. Telephone agents are available from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

Accessibility and Language Assistance Services

 At the virtual public and satellite hearings, CART Captioning and American Sign Language services will be available.

 Members of the public who are deaf or hard of hearing can use their preferred relay service or the free 711 relay service, and then ask to be connected to the Public Hearing Hotline at (646) 252-6777 to speak with an agent.

 Members of the public who are blind or have low vision can request accommodations on or before December 14, 2020, by submitting a request online at [new.mta.info/2020hearings](https://www.mta.info/2020hearings) or by calling the Public Hearing Hotline at (646) 252-6777.

Members of the public who do not have access to a computer or who do not have access to the Internet can listen to each of the hearings by calling the Zoom meeting at 1-877-853-5247 (toll-free). Then enter Webinar ID 841 1593 1743, followed by the pound (#) sign.

If language assistance or any other accommodations are required, please submit a request at least three business days before the scheduled hearing date in one of the following ways: online at [new.mta.info/2020hearings](https://www.mta.info/2020hearings), by calling the Public Hearing Hotline at (646) 252-6777, or by sending a letter to MTA Government & Community Relations, Re: Fares & Crossing Charges Virtual Public Hearing, 2 Broadway, New York, NY 10004. For those who timely request language assistance, the MTA will provide translated information on the hearing process and ensure that any public comments received in a language other than English are translated, included in the hearing transcript, and summarized for the MTA Board.



Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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