

Metro Citizens' Advisory Council

DRAFT: CAC Position/comments on Fare Restructuring; March 7, 2014

CAC members present: Vice Chair Wright, Secretary Kravitz, Banash, Clarke, Conrad, Rosen, Seal, Shidler & Weissman

The CAC is supportive of Option 1 with the following adjustments and comments;

- **Keep the fare structure simple** at all times of the day, every day, eliminate any off-peak fare structure.
- **Expand timed transfer window from 90 minutes to two hours** to match U.S. peer agencies as well as better configure the current usage by our regular longer distance transit users.
- **Suggest including a 3 day pass** for tourists and working class transit users to provide an affordable means to use the expanding Metro system. TAP cards can be commemorative in nature to show images and destination in Los Angeles County.
- **Enable the purchase of TAP cards and loading additional value for fares on buses.** Seek acceptance of credit cards in the future (as many parking meters already do). Additional boarding time would be balanced by fewer cash fare transactions.
- Given the strategy of the fare restructuring is to increase TAP card sales, distribution and usage; **Metro should make a stronger effort in making the sale of TAP cards and multi-day passes more accessible to both existing and potential new riders** by having TAP cards sold at all supermarkets and drugstores like it is done at other US peer agencies like Chicago CTA, San Francisco Muni.
- Though generally supportive of the need for a modest fare increase, **this should not be the panacea to the fiscal stability of the agency.** Other indicators to measure fiscal stability need to be studied and analyzed and publicized more widely. Such indicators excess revenue vehicle capacity, measurement of cost effectiveness and service efficiencies by modes, routes, frequency and operating division should be agendized and analyzed on a regular basis so the MTA board, service sector members and CAC members can be sufficiently informed prior to future fare restructuring and in the annual budgeting process.