

Update on Fare and Toll Changes

Presentation to the MTA Board
July 30, 2025



Fares and tolls are core to the MTA's ability to provide service

In December, **the MTA Board approved 2025 Financial Plan** that included a standard fare and toll increase – originally scheduled for March.

Fares and tolls fund 40% of operating budget

Labor costs – wages, benefits, pensions – account for 70% of MTA operating expenses

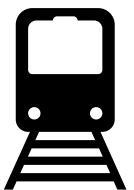


What does the fare and toll increase get riders?

- ✓ **More transit service in the peak and off-peak periods**
 - Service increases on 12 subway lines
 - More frequent local and express buses
 - 41% increase in LIRR service
- ✓ **Discounted fare products like fare capping, CityTicket, and reduced fares for seniors and people with disabilities**
- ✓ **A larger workforce that lets us run more service**
- ✓ **Reliable service performance**

Mass transit keeps New York affordable

Since 2013, the cost of food and housing have increased significantly more than the cost of transit.



**Subway /
bus ride**

16%



Food

56%

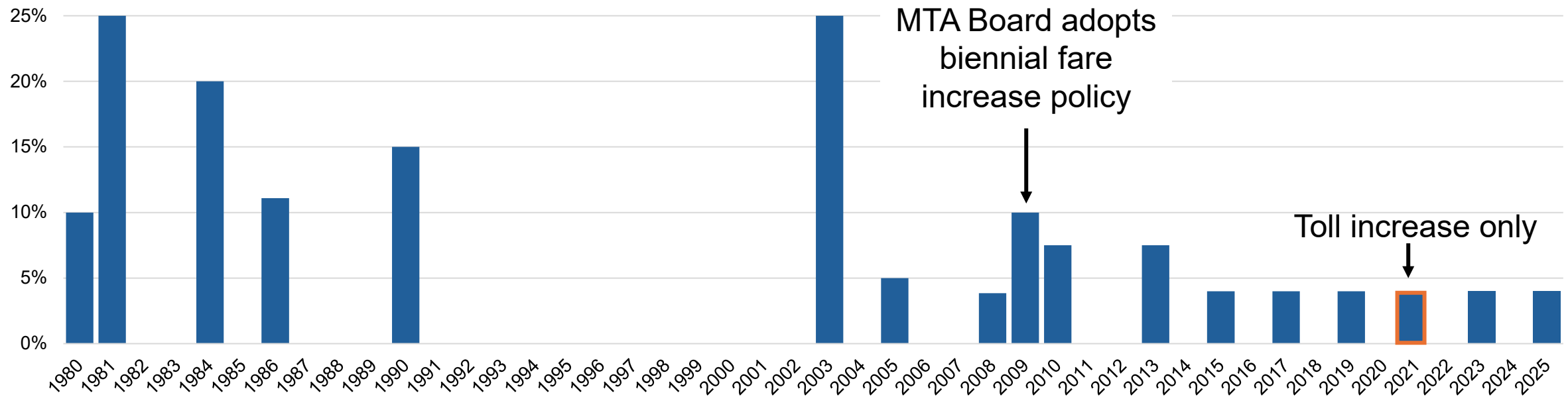


Housing

68%

Fare and toll increases are small and predictable

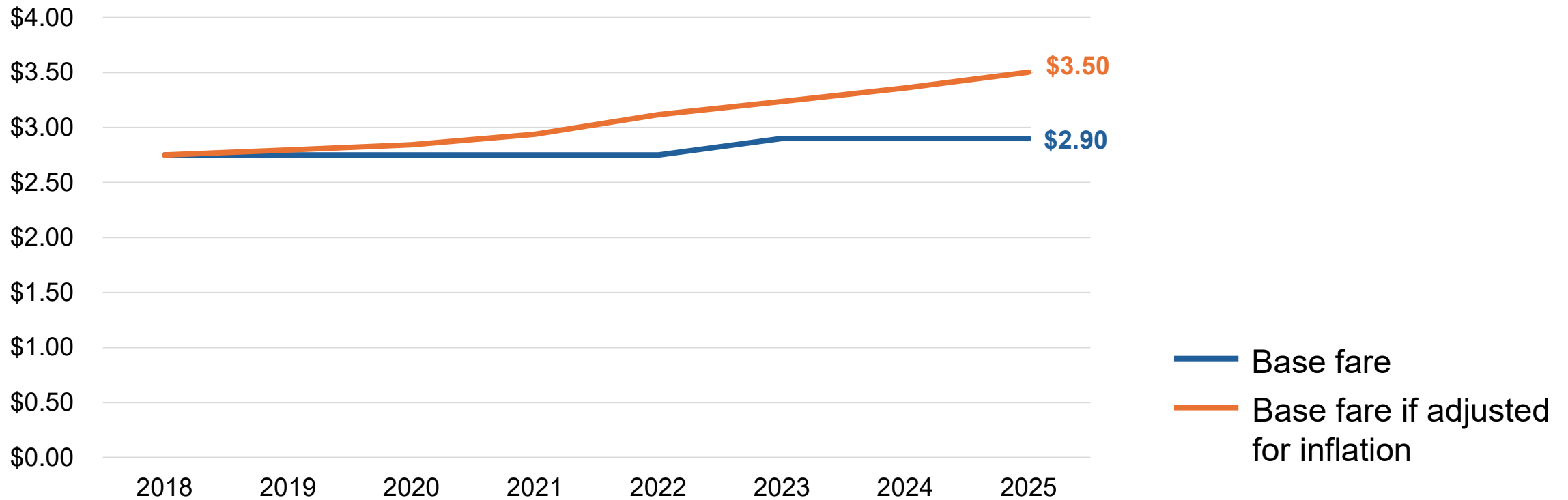
Fare & toll revenue increases since 1980



- 4% biennial fare increases:**
- Avoids double-digit increases for customers
 - Addresses growth in expenses
 - Provides fiscal stability to ensure reliable public transit

Base fare increases have tracked below inflation

Base fare vs. inflation-adjusted base fare



Today's agenda

- 1 Proposed fare & toll rates
- 2 Ticketing policies on the commuter railroads
- 3 Fare policies on subways and buses

Proposed fare & toll rates

The proposed changes fund
improved transit service



Fare & toll rates

Proposed changes: New York City Transit

Subways, Local Buses, and Paratransit

Fare Product	Current	Proposed
Base fare	\$2.90	\$3
Reduced fare	\$1.45	\$1.50
12-trip fare cap (Subways and Local Buses)	\$34	\$36

Express Bus

Fare Product	Current	Proposed
Base fare	\$7	\$7.25
Reduced fare (off peak)	\$3.50	\$3.60
7-day	\$64 (pre-pay)	\$67 (fare cap)

Fare & toll rates

Proposed changes: LIRR & Metro-North

One-Way Peak	Average 4.4% increase (excluding City zones)
Monthly & Weekly	Average 4.4% increase (\$500 cap remains) Monthly fares still lower than pre-pandemic
CityTicket / Far Rockaway Ticket	Peak: \$7.25 Off-Peak: \$5.25 Peak CityTicket and Far Rockaway Ticket become permanent fare products All one-way tickets in the city zones reflect CityTicket prices or less

Fare & toll rates

Proposed changes: Bridges & Tunnels

E-ZPass, one-way passenger vehicle

Facility	Current	Proposed
RFK, Whitestone, Throgs Neck, Verrazzano Bridges Queens-Midtown, Hugh L. Carey Tunnels	\$6.94	\$7.46
Henry Hudson Bridge	\$3.18	\$3.42
Cross Bay* and Marine Parkway Bridges*	\$2.60	\$2.80

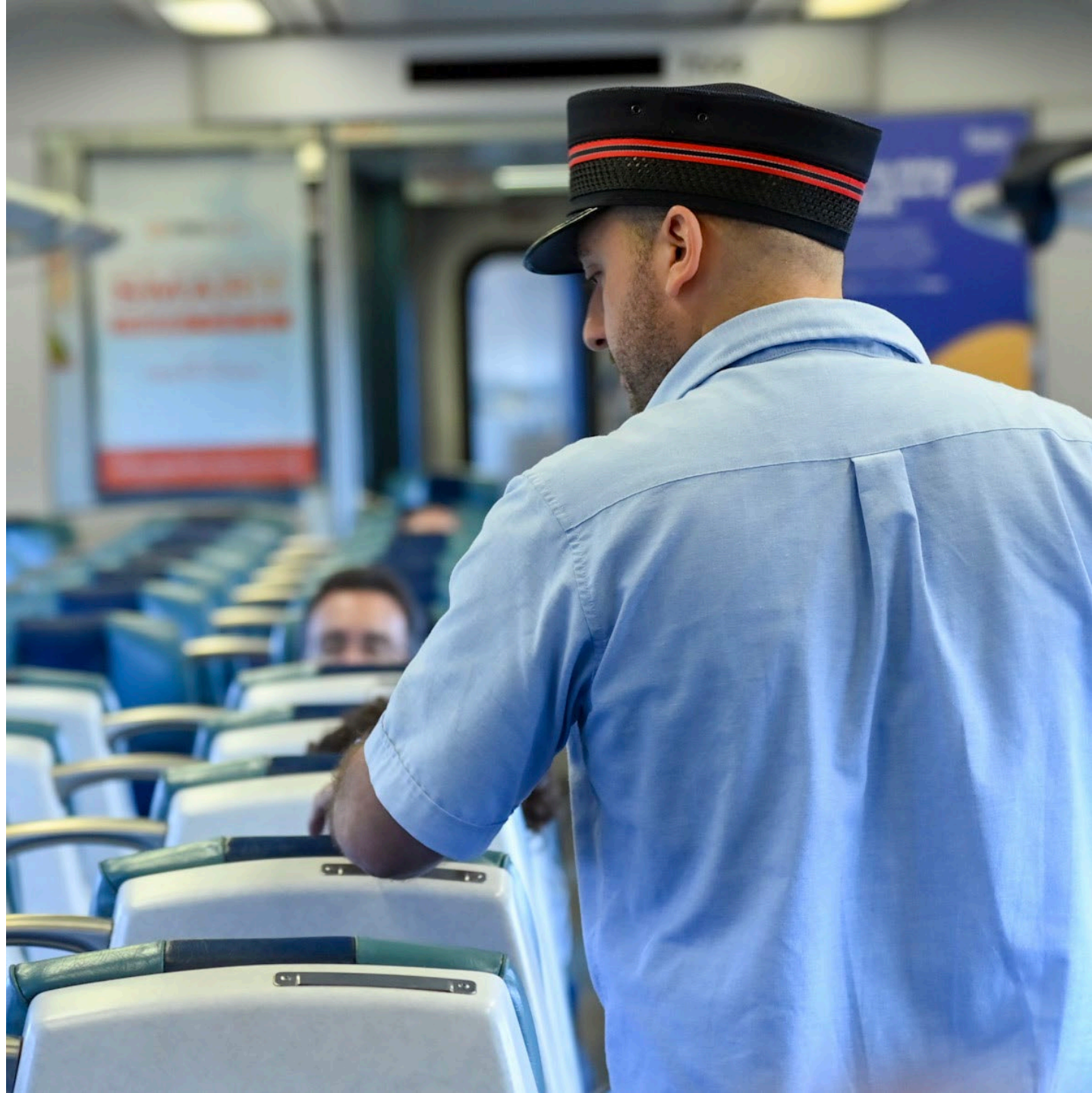
Staten Island residents can pay \$2.75 at the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge
Discounted tolls or a full rebate are available for Bronx residents at the Henry Hudson Bridge
and Queens residents at the Marine Parkway and Cross Bay Bridges

Tolls by Mail rates for passenger vehicles can be up to 60% higher than E-ZPass depending
on the facility

Ticketing policies on the commuter railroads

The proposed changes:

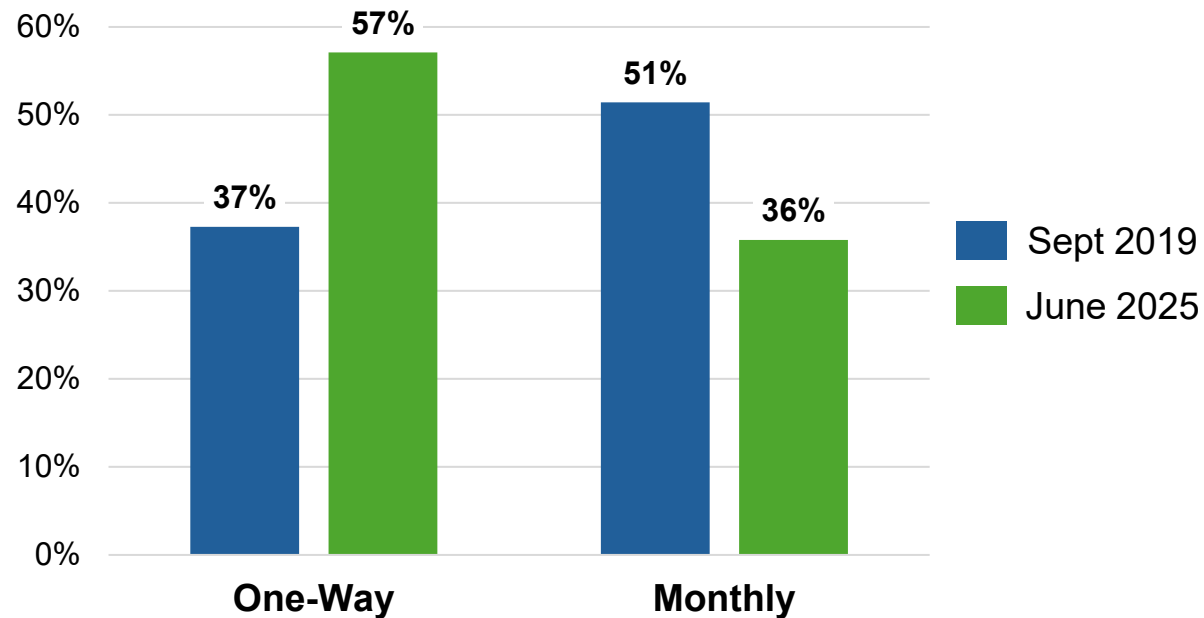
- ✓ Offer simplified fare products
- ✓ Speed up fare collection
- ✓ Tackle fare evasion



Ticketing policies on the commuter railroads

More customers today are using mobile ticketing and one-way tickets than they were before the pandemic

Share of trips taken



71%

Ticket sales from TrainTime

55%

Mobile tickets activated only
when the conductor arrives

Ticketing policies on the commuter railroads

► Customers will no longer need to activate one-way tickets

- All mobile tickets will auto-activate upon purchase
- Tickets will remain valid for 4 hours

Benefits

- Simplifies the user experience
- Speeds up the ticket validation process
- Eliminates customers ability to reuse tickets on a later trip

Ticketing policies on the commuter railroads

► A reduced fare product will be available 24/7 for seniors, people with disabilities, and people on Medicare

- A reduced fare ticket will be valid at all times, even in the morning peak
- Maintain the 50% discount on reduced fares

Benefits

- Simplifies the customer experience
- Reduces onboard transactions
- Reduces the fare for many customers in the AM peak

Ticketing policies on the commuter railroads

► Customers can buy a Day Pass for unlimited travel

- Valid until 4 a.m. the next day.
- Weekday pass: 10% discount on the price of two peak one-way tickets
- Weekend passes: Price of two off-peak tickets

Benefits

- Ideal for the day-tripper and remote worker with occasional in-office days
- Simplifies the user experience
- Allows for additional stops enroute and may encourage new, hop-on / hop-off discretionary travel

Ticketing policies on the commuter railroads

► After 10 trips, you'll automatically get an 11th ticket for free

- Available on TrainTime only
- All trips need to be taken within 2 weeks between the same zones
- Free trip can be used in peak or off-peak

Benefits

- Ideal for the hybrid commuter, offering a more flexible fare
- Discount available with any combination of peak or off-peak trips
- Avoids need to pre-pay for 10 tickets to receive a discount

Ticketing policies on the commuter railroads

► Recurring late mobile ticket purchasers will be subject to a surcharge, just like onboard paper tickets

- TrainTime customers who repeatedly buy their tickets just before the conductor arrives will be penalized after an escalating series of warnings
- On-board surcharge will increase by \$2

Benefits

- Reduces onboard conflict and helps crews move more quickly through the train
- Avoids punishing new or infrequent customers

Fare policies on subways and buses

The proposed changes unleash the convenience and flexibility of tap-and-go



Fare policies on subways and buses

Tap-and-go is a win for customers and the MTA

- More convenient and financially-flexible
- Rewards frequent travelers with free trips every week
- Saves taxpayer dollars with fewer vending machines to repair, less cash to handle, fewer fare products to produce and distribute
- Easier to enforce fare payment
- Makes possible new ways to reward frequent customers and provide promotions



Fare policies on subways and buses

- ▶ **Make the 7-day rolling fare-cap permanent**

Customers will always get the best weekly fare without the burden of pre-paying

- ▶ **Expand fare capping to Express Bus customers**

Frequent Express Bus customers will always get the best weekly fare

- ▶ **Retire the prepaid 7-Day, 30-Day, and Express Bus Plus unlimited passes**

Putting money back in commuters' pockets and ending the era of "use-it-or-lose-it"

- ▶ **Accept cash only at card vending machines and thousands of OMNY retailers**

Tap-and-go required for fare payment on subway, local and express bus

Public hearings and next steps



Next steps

July	Issue the Public Notice online and in stations Public comment portal opens
August 19, 20	Hybrid public hearings
September	Feedback sessions at transit hubs
Fall 2025	MTA Board votes on the proposed changes
January 2026	New fare and toll rates go into effect MetroCards will no longer be sold
Later in 2026	MetroCard will no longer be accepted Tap-and-go required for subways and buses; coin no longer accepted on local buses The \$1 OMNY card fee promotion will end; price will increase to \$2