



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 25, 2008

New fares and service changes effective in July

NASHVILLE – Effective Tuesday, July 1, 2008, Nashville MTA bus and AccessRide fares will increase and five MTA bus routes and the Night Owl service will be eliminated.

Last month, the MTA board of directors approved a 25-cent increase in the basic cash fare and a 50-cent increase in the AccessRide cash fare. The prices of unlimited ride passes and other multi-ride fare media also will increase proportionally due to a budget shortfall caused by high diesel fuel and related operating costs.

The MTA uses more than 1.7 million gallons of diesel fuel a year to operate its buses and vans. Based on current fuel prices and anticipated costs for the next 12 months, an extra \$2 million is needed for fuel alone.

After carefully considering all possible options and reviewing a report that summarized comments from the five MTA public hearings in May as well as other written comments, the MTA board of directors approved the increase to avoid more severe service cuts.

On June 17, the Metro Council passed the new Metro operating budget, which included \$18.4 million in Metro subsidy for the MTA. This money allows MTA to continue to operate AccessRide and a total of 35 routes, including three routes that were scheduled for elimination and/or service reductions.

“We are pleased that the Administration and Metro Council worked with us to restore a portion of the services that were scheduled for elimination,” MTA CEO Paul J. Ballard said. “We appreciate their support and those of our riders who attended the public hearings, sent letters, emails, or called us to discuss the many benefits of public transit in our community. We will continue to provide high quality transportation services with the available funding.”

The routes to be eliminated on July 1 include:

**1 Vine Hill
13 Sylvan Park
16 Madison/Old Hickory**

**31X Harpeth Valley Express
45X Oak Hill Express
Night Owl**

Discussions regarding the reductions were based on productivity, including route ridership and revenue generation, which MTA utilized during the budget process.

On Sunday, July 6, 2008, seven MTA bus schedules will change because some of the eliminated routes were interconnected with other routes. The routes with adjustments are listed below.

**2 – Belmont
8 – 8th Avenue South
14 – Whites Creek
17 – 12th Avenue South**

**28 – Meridian
35X – Rivergate Express (effective July 1)
44 – MTA Shuttle**

- more -

MTA will begin distributing its Summary of Changes flyer for the routes with service changes this week at the Information Booth on the Downtown Transit Mall on Deaderick Street between 4th and 5th Avenues North, the MTA Customer Care Office at 130 Nestor St., the main library on Church Street, City Hall and at other locations around town. The new schedules also will be available on the MTA Web site at www.nashvillemta.org by Friday, June 27, 2008.

For detailed information, customers should review the Summary of Changes flyer or call MTA Customer Care at (615) 862-5950 from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on weekdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays, and 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. Customers also may access bus schedule information 24/7 through our Trip Tuner Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system by calling (615) 862-5950.

A detailed summary of the adjustments and a chart of the new fares are included for your reference.

New MTA Fares Effective July 1, 2008

		Types of Fares	New Fares
<i>Fixed Route</i>	Cash Fares		
		Local Fare	\$1.60
		Reduced Fare Seniors, people w/ disabilities	\$.80
		Youth Fare	\$1.05
		Express Fare	\$2.10
	Multi-Ride Fare Cards		
		20-Ride Local	\$28.50
		20-Ride Discounted Pass Seniors, people w/ disabilities	\$15.00
		20-Ride Express	\$38.00
	Unlimited Ride Passes		
	<i>All-Day</i>		
		All-Day	\$4.80
		All-Day Discounted Fare Seniors, people w/ disabilities	\$3.00
		All-Day Youth	\$3.30
	<i>31-Day</i>		
		31-Day	\$78.00
		31-Day Discounted Pass Seniors, people w/ disabilities	\$40.00
		31-Day Youth	\$55.50
	<i>7-Day</i>		
		7-Day	\$22.00
		7-Day Youth	\$14.75
	Special Fares		
		AccessRide	\$3.20
	10-Ride AccessRide	\$32.00	



July 2008

Summary of Changes

The following routes will be eliminated effective **Tuesday, July 1, 2008**. Please call Customer Care at (615) 862-5950 or go online to www.nashvillemta.org for alternate route information.

1 – Vine Hill
13 – Sylvan Park
16 – Madison/Old Hickory

31X – Harpeth Valley Express
45X – Oak Hill Express
Night Owl

The elimination of some of the above bus routes caused changes to the routes below because some of them were inter-connected. The following information includes system changes effective **Sunday, July 6, 2008**. Please call Customer Care at (615) 862-5950 or go online to www.nashvillemta.org for complete schedule and route information. The schedules will be available on the MTA Web site beginning Friday, June 27, 2008. Printed schedules will be available the following week.

The changes are as follows:

2 – Belmont

- This route now runs every 35 minutes during peak times and every 70 minutes during off-peak times. **This route has several time changes. Please see the pocket schedule for complete details.**

6 – Lebanon Road

- On school days only, the bus arriving downtown at 7:11 a.m. now continues to East Literature Magnet School.
- On school days only, the bus leaving downtown at 3:26 p.m. now begins service at Head Magnet School.

8 – 8th Avenue South

- Evening weekday service to downtown will no longer travel via Route 17 12th Avenue South. **This route has several time changes. Please see the pocket schedule for complete details.**

14 – Whites Creek

- The 9:15 p.m. and 10:15 p.m. Saturday buses from downtown will no longer travel via route 28 Meridian to Gatewood Avenue and Dickerson Road. These buses will now travel from the Downtown Transit Mall to Whites Creek and North 1st.

This route has several weekday time changes. Please see the pocket schedule for complete details.

17 – 12th Avenue South

- Evening weekday service to downtown will no longer travel via route 8 8th Avenue South. It will now travel to downtown on 12th Avenue South via Lealand and 10th Avenue.

22 – Bordeaux

- A new Park-n-Ride has been added at Temple Baptist Church, which is located at 3810 King's Lane.
- On school days only, the 7:18 a.m. and 7:35 a.m. buses leaving downtown now continue on to Creswell Middle Arts Magnet School. There will no longer be a morning bus at the Nance Arena Landport traveling to Creswell. Two buses will continue to serve the school in the afternoon.

24X – Bellevue Express

- On school days only, the bus arriving downtown at 7:05 a.m. now continues on to Meigs Magnet School.

26 – Gallatin Road

- On school days only, the bus leaving downtown at 3:24 p.m. now begins service at Martin Luther King Magnet School at 3 p.m., continues to the Nance Arena Landport for student transfers at 3:15 p.m., then departs Shelter A at 3:24 p.m.

28 – Meridian

- The Saturday bus leaving Oakwood and Bullock at 12:06 p.m. now leaves five minutes later at 12:11 p.m., stops at Lischey and Edwin at 12:20 p.m., Douglas and Lischey at 12:24 p.m., Cleveland and Meridian at 12:28 p.m. and arrives downtown at 12:42 p.m.
- Two p.m. Saturday trips to downtown have been added. A bus now leaves Lischey and Edwin at 9:31 p.m., stops at Douglas and Lischey at 9:42 p.m., Cleveland and Meridian at 9:47 p.m. and arrives downtown at 10:01 p.m. A bus now also leaves Lischey and Edwin at 10:28 p.m., stops at Douglas and Lischey at 10:33 p.m., Cleveland and Meridian at 10:38 p.m. and arrives downtown at 10:52 p.m.
- Two p.m. Saturday trips from downtown have been added. A bus now leaves downtown at 9:15 p.m., stops at Cleveland and Meridian at 9:25 p.m., Lischey and Edwin at 9:31 p.m. and arrives at Douglas and Lischey at 9:37 p.m. A bus now also leaves downtown at 10:15 p.m., stops at Cleveland and Meridian at 10:23 p.m., Lischey and Edwin at 10:28 p.m. and arrives at Douglas and Lischey at 10:33 p.m.

This route has several time changes. Please see the pocket schedule for complete details.

35X – Rivergate Express

- An additional Park-n-Ride has been added at the Goodlettsville Kmart, which is located at 230 Long Hollow Pike.
- This route will no longer travel to Hendersonville due to the fact the RTA contract will expire on June 30. The end of the line will now be at the RiverGate Park-n-Ride.
- Changes to this route go into effect on Tuesday, **July 1, 2008**.

44 – MTA Shuttle

- The weekday bus leaving downtown at 8:15 a.m. now leaves five minutes earlier at 8:10 a.m.
- A new weekday trip leaving MTA at 4:23 p.m. has been added.

93 Music City Star West End Shuttle

- The bus which leaves 21st and Wedgewood at 3:47 p.m. now begins service at 3 p.m. at East Literature Magnet School and then travels to 21st and Wedgewood.



Editor's Note: To request this information in an alternative format, please call 862-5950 and ask to speak with MTA's ADA Coordinator.