



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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FURTHER INFORMATION:

Amanda Clelland
615-880-3932 (office)
615-330-4144 (cell)

WeGo Board to Vote on Service, Fare Change Recommendations *Public feedback informed revisions, Thursday's meeting will finalize*

NASHVILLE – WeGo Public Transit's Board of Directors (Nashville MTA) will meet Thursday, June 27, for a final discussion and vote on the service reductions and fare changes proposed by staff in May. These proposals were made to address the \$8.7 million operating budget deficit for the upcoming fiscal year.

Proposed service reductions would be a combination of rescheduling, rerouting, combining, and in some cases, eliminating routes that exceed a reasonable cost to operate. Public feedback over the past month of outreach informed some changes to the original proposals, including extending service hours on the 8th Avenue South to better serve the 100 Oaks area, the retention of Sunday service on the 25 Midtown, and the retention of midday service on the 77 Thompson Connector, among other adjustments. A full breakdown of revisions to the original proposals is available on WeGoTransit.com.

The fare increase being considered by the Board next week was proposed at \$1.85, but after considering public feedback is now \$2.00 per trip. Change cards, originally proposed to be eliminated on August 1, would now continue to be issued until December 31, 2020. The additional fare increase would help to generate funds to restore the aforementioned services deemed necessary to maintain due to the feedback received.

WeGo staff conducted a Title VI analysis on the proposed changes, which will be available on WeGoTransit.com early next week, prior to Thursday's meeting. Title VI is an analysis conducted by transit providers to ensure the impacts of service and fare changes are not discriminatory and are distributed equitably to minority and low income populations

At the upcoming meeting on Thursday, June 27, beginning at 1:30 p.m. the board will discuss and deliberate the final set of proposed fare and service changes. The Board meeting will follow at 2:30 p.m., with public comments being heard prior to the final vote. New meeting location information is as follows:

Music City Center
Room 103AB
201 5th Avenue South
Nashville, TN 37203

Members of the public are encouraged to sign up for WeGo's newsletter, follow them on social media, and visit WeGoTransit.com to get more information on the finalized service and fare changes. If approved, fare changes would go into effect August 1 and service changes would go into effect September 27.

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Editor's Note: To request this information in an alternative format, please call 615-862-5950 for an ADA Coordinator.