



AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Transportation

CM/ DCM/ ACM: Mario Canizares

DATE: November 14, 2017

SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion and provide direction regarding Denton County Transportation Authority fare schedules to include reduced fares for low income residents.

BACKGROUND

As part of the October 24, 2017, City Council Meeting a request was made to determine whether a fare structure is feasible that may assist low income residents in accessing the public transportation system. Denton County Transportation Authority's (DCTA) current rate schedule does include reduced rates:

Local 2-Hour Standard Fare	\$3.00	Local Day Pass Standard Fare	\$6.00
Local 2-Hour Reduced Fare	\$1.25	Local Day Pass Reduced Fare	\$2.50

Reduced is available for seniors (65+), persons with disabilities, Medicare cardholders and students (Ages 5-18, students over the age of 14 require a valid high school or DCTA issued ID). Students attending colleges with physical campuses within Denton County are eligible to participate in the University Pass Program (proof of enrollment is required).

DCTA has policies and procedures in place to verify medical disabilities and to verify the age of riders. However, DCTA is not currently positioned to determine who may be considered economically disadvantaged and therefor qualify for a low-income fare. In visiting with DCTA management, DCTA confirmed they have been working with Denton-based social agencies, and with member cities, to sell discounted passes through DCTA's Non-Profit Discount Program. This program provides Denton County-based non-profit organizations a 25% discount on local and regional passes for bus and train service. This program is similar to the program currently in place with the Denton Independent School District (DISD) whereby the City of Denton and DISD share the cost of purchasing reduced fare tickets based on student volume along Route 4. Students who qualify for the program, as verified through Ryan High School (RHS) staff, are provided passes by school officials. This program provides an alternative transportation option to students living within two miles of RHS and may otherwise have to walk along McKinney Street to get to school.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Commissions)

N/A

STRATEGIC PLAN RELATIONSHIP

The City of Denton's Strategic Plan is an action-oriented road map that will help the City achieve its vision. The foundation for the plan is the five long-term Key Focus Areas (KFA): Organizational Excellence; Public Infrastructure; Economic Development; Safe, Livable, and Family-Friendly Community; and Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship. While individual items may support multiple KFAs, this specific City Council agenda item contributes most directly to the following KFA and goal:

Related Key Focus Area: Safe, Liveable & Family-Friendly Community
Related Goal: 5.5 Provide alternative modes of transportation

EXHIBITS

1. Agenda Information Sheet

Respectfully submitted:
Mark Nelson
Director of Transportation