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Peters, Penny

From: Ginnetty, Eileen
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 10:23 AM
To: Cheung, Leland; Davis, Henrietta; Decker, Marjorie; Kelley, Craig; Maher, David; Reeves, Ken; Simmons, Denise; Toomey, Tim; VanBeuzekom, Minka
Cc: wcobham@yahoo.com
Subject: Forwarded to City Council on behalf of COA Board President William Cobham
Attachments: Transit Flyer (2-14) -MSAC.docx

Dear Cambridge City Councillors,

On behalf of all my fellow Board members of the Cambridge Council on Aging, I am writing to express our deep concerns for the MBTA's proposed fare hikes and bus service reductions.

They are proposing at least a 100% increase in fares for seniors for bus, transit and "The RIDE" (specialized wheelchair accessible rides.) This will create a great hardship for seniors. We ask you to advocate against these extreme fare raises. (please see chart below)

Sincerely,

William Cobham, Council on Aging Board President Yaw O. Adjei-Koranteng Patricia Burgess Mary Ann Dalton Maureen Harty Carmella Schipanii Edna Stamp

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MBTA Plan Targets Seniors, People with Disabilities and Students

Transit Mode	Current Fare	Proposed Fare	% Increase
Adult Local Bus	$1.25	$1.75	40%
Adult Subway	$1.70	$2.40	41.2%
Student/ Senior Monthly Pass	$20	$40	100%
Senior/Tap Bus	$0.40	$1.10	175%
Senior/ TAP Subway	$0.60	$1.50	150%
RIDE	$2.00 (One Way) $4.00 (Round Trip)	$4.50 (One Way) $9.00 (Round Trip)	125%
RIDE (Premium Service Area)	$2.00 (One Way) $4.00 (Round Trip)	$12.00 (One Way) $24 (Round Trip)	500%

250,000

STOP the MBTA Attacks on Seniors & People with Disabilities

The MBTA is facing a $161 million dollar deficit and has proposed **severe service cuts & fare increases** to close the gap - **targeting seniors, people with disabilities, and students for the most extreme fare increases**. The primary cause of the deficit is a large debt passed onto the MBTA by the Big Dig, not seniors and people with disabilities. Stop the attacks!

Together we say .....

NO Disproportionate Fare Increases! (see reverse side)

The MBTA has proposed general fare increase of 35%-43%. However, they have targeted students for fare increases of 76% - 100%, and Seniors and People with Disabilities for fare increases of 83% -500%!

NO Service Cuts!

The MBTA has proposed elimination of up to 101 bus lines, ferry service, many of the local "people carriers", and an end to weekend service on the E Line, Mattapan trolley, & Commuter rail. This would harm economic development, cut off service for many hospitals and senior housing developments, and cause disproportionate hardship for many low and moderate income families and individuals who rely on the MBTA to get to work, school, etc.

NO "Premium Service" for the Ride!

The MBTA has proposed a new "premium service" for the Ride for anyone who lives or needs to travel more than ¾ of a mile from a bus or train, change their pick up time, or schedule a same day trip. Thousands of seniors and people with disabilities will face a $24 roundtrip-500% increase for this service. We reject any redefinition of the ADA service area.

YES Real Revenue Solutions!

Legislators and the Governor must act with real revenue solutions to preserve the MBTA service and stop the unfair targeting of those who can afford it least.

Massachusetts SENIOR ACTION Council

For more information or to get involved call:
Massachusetts Senior Action Council at 617-284-1234.

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What you can do?

- Call the Governor (617-725-4005), tell him we need a real solution for the MBTA.
- Call your Legislator (617-722-2000), ask them to call Speaker DeLeo to say it's time for revenue
- Sign postcards, have your friends sign, telling the MBTA Board and Governor to find real solutions – stop targeting seniors and people with disabilities.
- Attend public hearings, rallies, and events and share how these changes will impact YOU!

Upcoming Events

Transportation Tuesdays: Join us at the State House to tell legislators and the Governor that we need revenue not devastating cuts. Call 617-284-1234 for details.

*******MBTA Public Hearing in Cambridge:****** Wednesday, February 29th from 6pm-8pm at the Citywide Senior Center (806 Mass. Ave)

MBTA Board of Directors Meeting/Rally – (Details to come –call 617-284-1234)
Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 1pm at the Transportation Building (Downtown)**

MBTA Board of Directors Meeting/Rally – Wed., April 4, 2012 at 1pm at Transportation Building

April 2012: MBTA Board Votes on the MBTA Proposal
July 1, 2012: Proposal is implemented.

***** Transportation available – call 617-284-1234 for availability*****

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