



STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 14, 2021

TO: Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors

FROM: Brent Bernegger, VP, Finance/CFO

SUBJ: TEMPORARILY MODIFYING THE FARE STRUCTURE TO INCLUDE CITY OF ELK GROVE FARES AND APPROVING AN ON-BOARD LIGHT RAIL DISCOUNT SINGLE RIDE FARE

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Attached Resolutions.

RESULT OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended actions will: (1) temporarily add new fares for certain services operated within the city of Elk Grove; and (2) establish the criteria for purchasing an On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Fare, which will only be accessible to individuals 65 and older who possess a California driver's license or California ID card as part of the contactless credit card payment demonstration onboard light rail vehicles.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fare changes proposed are included in the proposed FY 2021-2022 Operating Budget to be approved this evening.

DISCUSSION ON FARES RELATED TO THE ANNEXATION OF ELK GROVE

As part of the annexation agreement with the City of Elk Grove, SacRT agreed to incorporate fares charged by Elk Grove into the SacRT fare structure for a minimum of 6 months after annexation. Staff is recommending that the Elk Grove fares be adopted on a temporary basis and be valid only on routes that were operated by the City of Elk Grove prior to annexation, with the exception of the Elk Grove Transfer fare, which can only be purchased on service within the City of Elk Grove but will be valid system-wide. The proposed Resolution temporarily defines these routes as "Elk Grove Service". Elk Grove Service routes will be designated with an "E" prefix to the route number. For example, former route 10 in the City of Elk Grove will become route E10 in the SacRT schedule. The temporary approval will provide Staff the time necessary to analyze the impact of potential fare changes, garner customer feedback on the new fares and perform a Title VI analysis on any proposed permanent changes to SacRT's fare structure.

The fare structure instituted by the City of Elk Grove is similar to SacRT in that the City charged flat fares for single rides, daily passes and monthly passes, but the baseline fare amount and validity is different for each category. A summary of the fares and references to the routes that the fares will be valid on can be found in Table 1 below.

Table 1

<u>Fixed Route</u>	<u>Basic</u>	<u>Discount</u>	<u>Valid on Routes:</u>
Elk Grove Single Ride Fare	\$2.25	\$1.10	E10-E19 & E110-E116
Elk Grove Transfer Fare	\$0.50	NA	All SacRT services for 120 minutes
Elk Grove Daily Pass	\$6.00	\$3.00	E10-E19 & E110-E116
Elk Grove 10-Ride Pass	\$22.50	\$11.00	E10-E19 & E110-E116
Elk Grove 31-Day Local Pass	\$80.00	\$40.00	E110-E116 only
Elk Grove 31-Day Unlimited Pass	\$100.00	\$50.00	E10-E19 & E110-E116

<u>Paratransit (SacRT e-van)</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Valid on Services:</u>
SacRT e-van Single Ride Fare	\$3.50	e-van Only
SacRT e-van 10-Ride Pass	\$35.00	e-van Only
SacRT e-van 44-Ride Pass	\$150.00	e-van Only

Discount fares will apply to seniors, persons with disabilities, military personnel, and students, when applicable, only on the routes listed above. SacRT is proposing to expand the definition of student (K-12) to match the current SacRT fare structure rather than maintaining the existing Elk Grove definitions for these services age 5-18 for students). This will provide discounts to additional students who previously would have been subject to paying the full fare. Additionally, the RydeFreeRT program will be automatically extended to students who attend school or live within the city limits of Elk Grove beginning on July 1, 2021.

Currently SacRT does not offer a military discount. The City of Elk Grove required passengers to present an Armed Services identification to qualify for the reduced fare. SacRT will continue to honor this practice and accept reduced fare payment for military personnel who board routes previously operated by the City of Elk Grove (designated with an “E” prefix to the route number). The military discount will apply to the Elk Grove Single Ride, Elk Grove Daily Pass, Elk Grove 10-Ride Pass, Elk Grove 31-Day Local Pass and Elk Grove 31-Day Unlimited Pass only.

Elk Grove Transfer tickets can be purchased on Elk Grove fixed route services when a passenger purchases an Elk Grove single ride fare or uses a ride from their Elk Grove 10-Ride pass. The transfer ticket is valid for 120 minutes, while SacRT paper transfers are valid for only 90 minutes. Staff is recommending that the Board allow the 120-minute transfer window to stay in place temporarily as well as introducing a new benefit to Elk Grove transfer ticket holders that allows them to use the transfer ticket on all SacRT services during the validity period.

SacRT (SacRT GO) and the City of Elk Grove (e-van) currently each operate their own paratransit service. For a period of time following the annexation, SacRT will operate these services separately and will continue to honor e-van fares on e-van services. However, SacRT will be able to offer customers regional paratransit trips. Previously, paratransit passengers wishing to travel between the City of Elk Grove and the SacRT service area would have to book and pay for two trips, one on e-van and one on SacRT GO. Beginning on July 1 with the expansion of the service area, SacRT will be able to offer regional trips spanning further distances than before with a single booking and single fare (SacRT GO fares will apply).

Staff is preparing an analysis to determine the best way to streamline the fare structure long-term and make it simpler to understand and use. Staff is planning to return to the Board prior to December 31, 2021, with recommendations to accomplish this, including a Title VI analysis of any fare changes proposed.

DISCUSSION ON CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS DEMONSTRATION (SENIOR AGE)

Staff has proposed a second Resolution that will allow for individuals 65 and older to obtain a discount fare when they use the contactless payment program soon to be available onboard light rail vehicles. Staff has partnered with the California Integrated Travel Program (Cal-ITP) to make this new technology possible. Cal-ITP is able to use Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) data to verify passenger age and therefore determine eligibility for age-based fares (senior fares) at the time of payment. However, the senior age that Cal-ITP is using differs from the Board-adopted definition of "Senior" in SacRT's fare structure, which is 62 or older. To qualify for the senior discount through the Cal-ITP system, passengers must be age 65 or older; therefore Staff is proposing that the Board establish a minimum age of 65 for the contactless credit card payment system only. Individuals wishing to obtain the discount must also pre-register with Cal-ITP and pay with a pre-registered credit card. The senior age will remain 62 for the remainder of SacRT's fare types. Staff is working with Cal-ITP to finalize the senior eligibility portal and will publicize the information when it is available.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-06-0073

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Regional Transit District on this date:

June 14, 2021

TEMPORARILY MODIFYING THE FARE STRUCTURE TO INCLUDE CITY OF ELK GROVE FARES

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

THAT, effective as of July 1, 2021, the following definitions are hereby temporarily added, to Section II, "Fare Structure Definitions" set out in Resolution No. 09-10-0174, as previously amended, continuing until December 31, 2021:

"Elk Grove Service means fixed route bus service that was formerly operated by the City of Elk Grove and is designated by the following fixed route numbers: E10, E11, E12, E13, E14, E15, E16, E17, E18, E19, E110, E111, E112, E113, E114, E115, E116, E117, E118, and E119."

"SacRT e-van Service means demand-response and paratransit service, complementary to the Elk Grove Service, provided to registered individuals (ADA certified), their companions, and personal attendants on a Transit Vehicle in revenue service within the city limits of Elk Grove and without a fixed origin and destination point that is booked by a customer in advance over the phone or through a ride booking application."

THAT, effective as of July 1, 2021, in addition to the Discount Fare classifications set out in Section IV of the Fare Structure, the following Discount classification is added for Elk Grove Service:

"Military Discount – the bearer of a current and valid Armed Services Identification whose picture is on the ID Card will be entitled to purchase Discount fares eligible for use on Fixed-route Elk Grove Service only as set out in Exhibit B-6.

THAT, effective as of July 1, 2021, in addition to the other Fares and Prepaid Fare types identified in Section IV and Section V of the Fare Structure, the following Fares and Prepaid Fares are temporarily added to the Fare Structure, continuing until December 31, 2021:

"Elk Grove Single Ride Fare -- the Applicable Fare for a single Ride on Elk Grove Service."

“Elk Grove Transfer – An Elk Grove Transfer that is purchased on Elk Grove Service is valid for 120 minutes beginning on the date and at the local time that the Transfer is purchased. Only a person that pays the Basic Fare or Discount Fare (as applicable) with either U.S. currency, a Fare Equivalent, or a Fare Ticket that has not been validated will be issued a Transfer upon payment of the price therefor. Individuals presenting a Prepaid Fare on electronic fare media are not eligible to purchase a Transfer.” for a period of 120 minutes after.”

“Elk Grove Daily Pass is valid for unlimited Rides on Elk Grove Service only during the validity period printed on the pass.”

“Elk Grove 10-Ride Pass is declining value Prepaid Fare that entitles the passenger to the equivalent of 10 Elk Grove Single Ride Fare tickets that is Validated for each use at the time of boarding.”

“Elk Grove 31-Day Local Pass holders are entitled to unlimited Rides for 31 days from the date the pass is first Validated on the following routes within Elk Grove Service: E110, E111, E112, E113, E114, E115, E116. ”

“Elk Grove 31-Day Unlimited Pass Holders are entitled to unlimited Rides for 31 days the date the pass is first Validated on all Elk Grove Service.”

“SacRT E-Van Single Ride Fare is the Applicable Fare for a single Ride on SacRT E-Van Service.”

“SacRT E-Van 10-Ride Pass - a declining value Prepaid Fare that entitles the passenger to the equivalent of 10 SacRT E-Van Single Ride Fare tickets that is Validated at the time of boarding.”

“SacRT E-Van 44 Ride Pass – a declining value Prepaid Fare that entitles the pass holder to the equivalent of 44 SacRT E-Van Single Ride Fare tickets that is Validated at the time of boarding.”

“Validated” – for purposes of Elk Grove Service, Validated means either: (1) the insertion of a Pass into a Bus fare box to fix the date of first use of the Pass; or (2) the insertion of a Pass into a Bus fare box to confirm its continued validity and, as applicable, to deduct a Ride from a declining value Pass type.

THAT, effective as of July 1, 2021, in addition to the fares set out in Exhibit B-5 to the Fare Structure (as adopted by Resolution 19-03-0038) the fares set out in the attached Exhibit B-6 will be in effect for a six-month period, ending December 31, 2021.

STEVE MILLER, Chair

A T T E S T:

HENRY LI, Secretary

By: _____
Tabetha Smith, Assistant Secretary

Exhibit B-6
Effective beginning 7/1/2021 until 12/31/2021

Elk Grove Only Fares	
Elk Grove Service Fares¹	
Elk Grove Single Ride	\$2.25
Elk Grove Single Ride – Electronic Fare Media (valid for 120 minutes on Elk Grove Service) ⁸	\$2.25
Elk Grove Discount Single Ride	\$1.10
Elk Grove Discount Single Ride - Electronic Fare Media (valid for 120 minutes on Elk Grove Service)	\$1.10
Elk Grove Transfer ²	\$0.50
Elk Grove 10 Ride Pass ³	\$22.50
Elk Grove Discount 10-Ride Pass ³	\$11.00
Elk Grove 31 Day Local Pass ⁴	\$80.00
Elk Grove 31 Day Discount Local Pass ⁴	\$40.00
Elk Grove 31 Day Unlimited Pass ⁵	\$100.00
Elk Grove 31 Day Unlimited Discount Pass ⁵	\$50.00
SacRT E-Van Fares⁶	
SacRT E-Van Single Ride	\$3.50
SacRT E-Van 10 Ride Pass	\$35.00
SacRT E-Van 44 Ride Pass	\$150.00

¹ Elk Grove service fares are limited to Elk Grove service only (routes E10-E19 & E110-E116)

² Noted Elk Grove fares include a 120 minute transfer window rather than the 90 minutes available on other SacRT services.

³ Elk Grove 10 ride and discount 10 ride passes are valid for the equivalent of 10 Elk Grove Single Ride fares

⁴ Elk Grove 31 day local passes are valid for 31 days from the date of activation and only valid on routes E110-E116.

⁵ Elk Grove 31 day unlimited passes are valid for 31 days from the date of activation and are valid on all Elk Grove Service routes only.

⁶ SacRT E-Van fares are valid on paratransit services offered strictly within the city limits of Elk Grove.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-06-0074

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Regional Transit District on this date:

June 14, 2021

TEMPORARILY AUTHORIZING AN ON-BOARD LIGHT RAIL DISCOUNT SINGLE RIDE FARE TICKET

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 09-10-0174, the Board of Directors amended and restated the Fare Structure for fixed-route service; and

WHEREAS, SacRT desires to implement on a temporary basis, a new discount fare type available only after boarding a light rail vehicle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

THAT, in addition to the other Fare types identified in Resolution No. 09-10-0174, a new Fare entitled "On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Fare" is hereby established on a temporary basis for a six-month period from the date of public launch of a contactless payment demonstration program.

THAT, a passenger may Pay for the On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Ticket using a SacRT-approved contactless payment device on board a Light Rail Vehicle.

THAT, the On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Ticket will consist of the card or phone used to purchase the Ticket combined with records verifying the purchase, which must remain in the passenger's possession for the duration of their Ride.

THAT, a passenger is only eligible for the On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Ticket if they are age 65 or older and have completed the online discount application process for the contactless payment program.

THAT, the Fare for an On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Ticket will be the Discount Single Ride Fare set forth in Resolution No. 19-03-0038.

THAT, the On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride ticket will be deemed validated at the time of purchase, as documented by credit/debit card, or purchasing records, will be valid for a duration of 90 minutes, and may be used for multiple rides on light rail only until the expiration of the validity period.

THAT, in order to establish Proof of Fare Payment as required by the Prohibited Acts Ordinance, a passenger purchasing an On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Ticket must, upon request, provide (a) the purchasing credit or debit card or other requested contactless payment information; and (b) identification documenting compliance with the Discount eligibility requirements to fare enforcement personnel to verify the validity of the On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Ticket.

THAT, if fare enforcement personnel are unable to determine (a) that an On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Ticket has been purchased; (b) that the On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Ticket is still valid; or (c) that the passenger is eligible for a Discount Single Ride Ticket purchase, a passenger may be cited for failure to possess valid fare.

THAT, in the event of a conflict between this Resolution and Resolution No. 09-10-0174, as previously amended, this Resolution will govern as to the terms of use of the On-Board Light Rail Discount Single Ride Fare.

THAT, in all other respects, Resolution No. 09-10-0174, as previously amended, remains in full force and effect.

STEVE MILLER, Chair

A T T E S T:

HENRY LI, Secretary

By: _____
Tabetha Smith, Assistant Secretary