

Fee, Rates and Charges Bylaw – Transit Changes for Smart Fare**Report Purpose**

To seek Council approval on three readings of Bylaw 26-2021, A bylaw that proposes to amend Bylaw 3-2021, Fares, Rates and Charges, to accommodate the regional smart fare pilot.

Recommendation

1. THAT Bylaw 26-2021, a bylaw to amend Bylaw 3-2021, Fess, Rates and Charges, be given first reading.
2. THAT Bylaw 26-2021 be given second reading.
3. THAT Bylaw 26-2021 be considered for third reading.
4. THAT Bylaw 26-2021 be given third reading.

Our Prioritized Strategic Goals

Goal 1 - Build strong communities to support the diverse needs of residents

Goal 5 - Foster collaboration through regional, community and governmental partnerships

Goal 6 - Provide facilities and services that are available and accessible to residents

Report

The Smart Fare system is a modern electronic transit fare payment system for the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. Due to the Smart Fare pilot, the fee schedule for Strathcona County Transit needs to be updated. Approximately 500 adults (from all municipalities) will be participating in the pilot. The recommended changes are:

New Products

To align with our regional partners, several new products have been created. Prices were determined by using our current pricing and aligning with best practices by rounding to \$0.25 increments. They include:

- Standard Monthly Commuter Cap - due to fare-capping, customers will only pay up to a monthly maximum
- Standard Monthly Local Cap - due to fare-capping, customers will only pay up to a monthly maximum
- 1.5-Hour Commuter Pass
- 24-Hour Commuter Pass
- 1.5-Hour Local Pass
- 1.5-Hour Regional Pass
- 24-Hour Regional Pass
- Extended Use Media Card Fee
- Local to Commuter Transfers (Cash)
- Local to Commuter Transfers (PAYG)

Pay as You Go (PAYG)

With the introduction of smart fare, ticket books and monthly pre-paid passes will be phased out. In lieu of ticket books and pre-paid passes, PAYG will be introduced. With PAYG customers will pay for each trip until they reach the fare caps, once a cap is reached, additional rides are free. PAYG pricing was determined by using the price of one ticket and rounding to \$0.05.

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Director(s): Wade Coombs, Transit

Associate Commissioner: Gord Johnston, Community Services Division

Lead Department: Transit

Recommended Additions to the Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw:

Product	Rate	Comments
Standard Monthly Commuter Cap	\$108.50	Same price as Adult Commuter Monthly Pass
Standard Monthly Local Cap	\$54.25	Same price as Adult Local Monthly Pass
1.5-Hour Commuter Pass	\$6.25	Commuter Cash Fare rounded to \$0.25 to reflect best practices
24-Hour Commuter Pass	\$12.50	Day Pass rounded to \$0.25 to reflect best practices
1.5-Hour Local Pass	\$3.25	Local Cash Fare rounded to \$0.25 to reflect best practices
1.5-Hour Regional Pass	\$8.00	Negotiated at a regional level
24-Hour Regional Pass	\$16.00	Negotiated at a regional level
Extended Use Media Card Fee	\$6.00	Negotiated at a regional level
Local To Commuter Transfers (Cash)	\$3.10	Difference between local and commuter
Local to Commuter Transfers (PAYG)	\$2.35	Difference between local and commuter
PAYG Commuter Flat Rate	\$4.65	Price of one Adult Commuter Ticket
PAYG Local Flat Rate	\$2.30	Price of one Adult Local Ticket rounded to nearest \$0.05

Timing

These Smart Fare fee changes will take effect once the pilot is live; the current timeline is July 2021. Subsidized pass programs and remaining passenger profiles will need to be updated in January 2022 through the budget cycle.

Council and Committee History

June 8, 2021	Priorities Committee received an update on the Regional Smart Fare Project included changes needed to the Rates, Fees and Charges Bylaw as well as the Transit Bylaw.
June 12, 2018	Priorities Committee received an update on the Regional Smart Fare Project and the market research completed on the fare options being considered.
February 13, 2018	Priorities Committee received an update on the Regional Smart Fare Project and fare options being considered.

November 21, 2017	Priorities Committee received an update on the Regional Smart Fare Project.
June 6, 2017	Council approved a Capital Budget amendment to increase the Smart Fare budget.
December 8, 2015	Council approved the Smart Fare and Smart Bus project budget as part of the 2016 Capital Funding Plan.
September 23, 2014	Council formally endorsed the Regional transit grant submission for Smart Fare and Smart Bus technologies.
April 9, 2013	Council formally endorsed a joint application between the City of Edmonton, the City of St. Albert and Strathcona County to the provincial GreenTRIP program to help fund a Smart Fare system.

Other Impacts**Policy:** N/A**Legislative/Legal:** Section 8(c)(i) of the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. M-26 allows for the establishment of various fees and charges by bylaw or by resolution.**Interdepartmental:** Corporate Planning, Strathcona County Transit, Legislative and Legal Services**Master Plan/Framework:** N/A**Communication Plan**

Strathcona County Website and Smart Fare Communication Plan (various methods).

Enclosures

1. Smart Fare Changes to the Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw presentation
2. Bylaw 26-2021 – Amendment to bylaw 3-2021, Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw
3. Schedule A to Bylaw 26-2021