

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 18, ARTICLE 4, SECTION 18-90 OF THE HAWAI‘I COUNTY CODE 1983 (2016 EDITION, AS AMENDED), RELATING TO FARES FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HAWAI‘I:

SECTION 1. Findings and purpose. The Hawai‘i County Council, in amending Section 18-90, of the Hawai‘i County Code 1983 (2016 Edition, as amended), seeks to temporarily suspend the fares for all mass transit fixed routes and paratransit services until December 31, 2023. The amendment establishes a temporary suspension of fares for all riders using the mass transit service owned, maintained, or operated by the County, except County-contracted shared-ride services, County-operated curb-to-curb van services operated by the Department of Parks and Recreation, and County-operated non-fixed bus services provided in partnership with non-profit organizations. The County Mass Transit Agency has received grant funds from the State of Hawai‘i, through its Department of Transportation as a subrecipient to the United States Department of Transportation, through its Federal Transit Administration. The grant funds received will be used by the Mass Transit Agency to cover the operational costs of the temporary suspension in services until December 31, 2023. The amendment is made in an effort to remove barriers to riding public transit, boost and rebuild ridership, and keep frontline employees and riders safer and socially distanced from each other by eliminating the exchange of fares.

SECTION 2. Chapter 18, article 4, section 18-90, of the Hawai‘i County Code 1983 (2016 Edition, as amended), is amended to read as follows:

“Section 18-90. Fares.

- (a) Unless otherwise provided for in this section, every person using the mass transit service owned, maintained or operated by the County shall be charged a \$2 cash one-way fare.
- (b) Discounted fares for senior citizens, person with a disability and students. The following persons shall be charged a \$1 cash one-way fare:
 - (1) Senior citizens age sixty and older after providing proof of age from a valid state ID card, County of Hawai‘i senior ID card, driver’s license, birth certificate or passport;
 - (2) A person with a disability with a valid, “Person With Disability Identification Card” issued by the County of Hawai‘i; and
 - (3) Students (through college) with a valid school identification card.

- (c) Fare prepayment discounts.
 - (1) All tickets for travel can be prepurchased at a discount of twenty-five percent off the scheduled cash fare by purchasing a sheet of ten tickets for \$15 per sheet with no expiration date (“Ten Ride Discount Sheet”).
 - (2) Senior citizens age sixty and older may prepurchase a sheet of ten tickets for \$7.50 per sheet with no expiration date (“Ten Ride Discount Sheet”), after providing proof of age from a valid state ID card, County of Hawai‘i senior ID card, driver’s license, birth certificate or passport.
 - (3) A person with a disability may prepurchase a sheet of ten tickets for \$7.50 per sheet with no expiration date (“Ten Ride Discount Sheet”), with a valid, “Person With Disability Identification Card” issued by the County of Hawai‘i.
 - (4) Students (through college) may prepurchase a sheet of ten tickets for \$7.50 per sheet with no expiration date (“Ten Ride Discount Sheet”), with a valid school identification card.
 - (5) A monthly bus pass fare plan may be purchased at a cost of \$60 for unlimited rides on all routes. Monthly passes shall be valid through the last calendar day of each month with no grace period.
 - (6) Senior Citizens age sixty and older may purchase a discounted monthly bus pass offered at a cost of \$45 for unlimited rides on all routes, after providing proof of age from a valid state ID card, County of Hawai‘i senior ID card, driver’s license, birth certificate or passport. Monthly passes shall be valid through the last calendar day of each month with no grace period.
 - (7) A person with a disability may purchase a discounted monthly bus pass offered at a cost of \$45 for unlimited rides on all routes, with a valid, “Person with Disability Identification Card” issued by the County of Hawai‘i. Monthly passes shall be valid through the last calendar day of each month with no grace period.
 - (8) Students (through college) may purchase a discounted monthly bus pass offered at a cost of \$45 for unlimited rides on all routes, after providing a valid school identification card. Monthly passes shall be valid through the last calendar day of each month with no grace period.
 - (9) The Ten Ride Discount Sheet, the monthly pass, and any pilot program pass must be purchased directly from the mass transit agency or its designated representative.
- (d) Fare waived for children under the age of five.
All fares for travel by children under the age of five shall be waived.
- (e) Paratransit service fares.
Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the fare for a trip charged to an ADA paratransit eligible user of the complementary paratransit service shall not exceed twice the fare that would be charged to an individual paying full fare (i.e., without regard to discounts) for a trip of similar length, at a similar time of day, on the entity’s fixed route system:
 - (1) A one-way paratransit rider fare shall be twice the fare of the current full fare (e.g. without any discounts) on the fixed-route system;
 - (2) The fares for individuals accompanying ADA paratransit eligible individuals, who are provided service under section 37.123 (f) of the ADA, shall be the same as for the ADA paratransit eligible individuals they are accompanying; and
 - (3) A personal care attendant shall not be charged for complementary paratransit service.

- (f) Shared-ride fares.
 Shared-ride program coupons may be purchased by the public through the mass transit agency and its designated coupon sales outlets in accordance with the following schedule:

Coupon Price	
Single coupon	\$6
5 coupon book	\$15 (\$3 per coupon)
10 coupon book	\$25 (\$2.50 per coupon)
15 coupon book	\$30 (\$2 per coupon)

For one-way travel limited to a maximum of nine miles under the shared-ride program the fare to be collected is set out in fare schedule A in section 18-92.

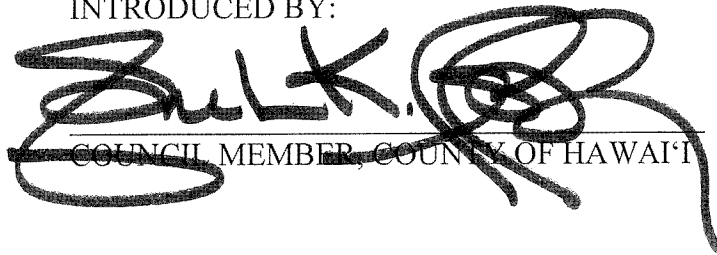
- (g) Promotional fares.
- (1) The purpose of this subsection is to provide lower bus fares when a new route or service is provided or to boost ridership on established routes.
 - (2) The transit administrator may establish fares on a temporary basis for a period not to exceed one hundred and eighty calendar days for bus routes and services.
- (h) Suspension of fares; non-applicability to some services; terminates December 31, 2023.
- (1) All fares established by this section shall be suspended fifteen days after the effective date of this ordinance. Riders boarding and alighting any mass transit service owned, maintained, or operated by the County, shall ride free of charge.
 - (2) This subsection shall not apply to County-contracted shared-ride services, County-operated curb-to-curb van services operated by the department of parks and recreation, or County-operated non-fixed bus services provided in partnership with non-profit organizations.
 - (3) The suspension of fares shall automatically terminate on December 31, 2023, unless extended by the council.
 - (4) Each year, no later than July 30 after the close of the fiscal year, the mass transit administrator shall provide a report to the council regarding the performance of the mass transit system, including passenger trips carried by route, comparison to the prior year and any other service performance data requested by the council to evaluate the suspension of fares prescribed by this subsection."

SECTION 3. New material is underscored. In printing this ordinance, the underscoring need not be included.

SECTION 4. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval; provided that on December 31, 2023, unless otherwise amended prior to December 31, 2023, subsection 18-90(h) shall be repealed and section 18-90, Hawai'i County Code (2016 Edition, as amended), shall be reenacted in the form in which it read on the day prior to the effective date of this ordinance.

INTRODUCED BY:


COUNCIL MEMBER, COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

B/R

_____, Hawai'i
Date of Introduction:
Date of 1st Reading:
Date of 2nd Reading:
Effective Date:

REFERENCE Comm. 568