

***Proposal to Lower ORCA
LIFT, Youth, Senior and
Disabled Fares on Sounder***

Board of Directors Meeting

10/22/2020

Why we are here

Requesting Board feedback on a proposal to lower ORCA LIFT, Youth, Senior and Disabled fares on Sounder.

Purpose of the Proposal

- Of all ST modes, Sounder has the smallest subsidies for reduced fares (ORCA LIFT, Youth, Senior and Disabled).
- This proposal would lower Sounder reduced fares to the same levels as Link and ST Express – simplifying fares.
- Reduced fare passengers could travel anywhere in the ST District, on any mode, for \$1.00 or \$1.50.

Current Sound Transit Fares

- Link and ST Express reduced fares are \$1.00 and \$1.50
- Sounder reduced fares range from \$1.50 to \$4.25

	Link	ST Express	Sounder
Adult	\$2.25-\$3.25	\$3.25	\$3.25 - \$5.75
ORCA LIFT & Youth	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$2.50 - \$4.25
Senior / Disabled	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.50 - \$2.75

Proposal Lowers Reduced Fares

- ORCA LIFT / Youth fares would be discounted 54-74%
- Senior / Disabled fares would be discounted 69-83%

	Link	ST Express	Souder
Adult	\$2.25-\$3.25	\$3.25	\$3.25-\$5.75
ORCA LIFT & Youth	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$2.50 - \$4.25 \$1.50
Senior & Disabled	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.50 - \$2.75 \$1.00

Revenue, Farebox Recovery and Ridership Impacts

Revenue Loss of \$300,000 annually (2019 data)

- This is 1.7% of Sounder fare revenue
- This is 0.3% of ST's \$97 million systemwide fare revenue

Farebox Recovery Rate 0.5% lower

- Reduces farebox recovery from 31.2% to 30.7%. (Sounder farebox recovery policy is 23%)

Annual Ridership 20,000 higher (0.4% increase)

Proposed Timeline

Assuming positive public input and no disparate or disproportionate equity impacts:

- Board Briefing: October 22
- Public Comment Period: November 19 - December 4
- Public Hearing: December 3
- Board Action: December 17
- Implementation: March 1

Thank you.



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