PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Agenda Item No.

5B

=======================================	<u>A</u> ================================	GENDATIEM				
Meeting Date:	9908	[]	Consent	[]	Regular	
Department:	Palm Tran	[]	Ordinance	[X]	Public Hearing	
Submitted By:	Palm Tran					
Submitted for:	Palm Tran					
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I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt: an increase in the Palm Tran Connection fare paid by Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) eligible individuals whose income falls below the poverty line. The fare would increase from free (a zero fare) to \$2.00 a trip.

Summary: At the June 2008 budget hearing, the Board of County Commissioners reviewed Palm Tran's budget proposals, which included the elimination of the TD Fare Subsidy Program. Over 50% of Palm Tran Connection riders now ride for free and passenger fares from Connection services represent just 4% of the total cost of all Connection service. The Palm Tran Service Board has endorsed the budget proposal to increase the TD fare. The fare increase proposal would become effective October 1, 2008. Currently, TD eligible riders using Palm Tran Connection with incomes at or below the poverty level do not pay a fare. Palm Tran's proposed FY09 budget includes revenue that would be generated through the collection of these fares. <u>Countywide (DR)</u>

Background and Policy Issues: The current base fare for all individuals (excluding DOSS customers traveling to and from meal sites and TD eligible individuals whose income falls below the poverty line) riding Palm Tran Connection is \$3.00. The County has previously fully subsidized the fare for individuals with incomes below the poverty line (\$10,400 or less per annum for a single individual), and they have not paid any fare for Connection services. This was a County program (decision), not required by any Federal or State regulation. Our current policy and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regulations require that the Board of County Commissioners hold a public hearing to consider public input prior to making any fare increase. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive and consider input relative to eliminating the 100% subsidy. \$1.00 of the fare would continue to be subsidized. Notice of the public hearing was published in countywide publications, which documented the proposed change.

Attachments:

1. Notice of Public Hearing

Recommended By: Department Director	JJ217,2008 UDate
Approved By: <u>Additional Approved By:</u> Assistant County Administrator	7/29/08 Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2008	2009	2010	200-	200-
Grant Expenditures					
Operating Costs		(1,235,743)			
External Revenues		く 86,710			
Program Income (County)					
In-Kind Match (County)					
NET FISCAL IMPACT		(1,322,453)			
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)		-0-			

Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes X No _____ Budget Account No.: Fund <u>1340</u> Dep't. <u>540</u> Unit <u>5011</u> Object <u>various</u> Budget Account No.: Program _____ Reporting Category

Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact: Β.

C.

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments: With the fare increase from free to \$2.00, a reduction in trip costs is anticipated, due to fewer trips being taken. Α.

Awilhite 7.24.08 \$27/24/08 OFMB CN 12/108

Contract Dev. and Control

Legal Sufficiency: Β.

7/25/18 Assistant County Attorney

C. **Other Department Review:**

Department Director

REVISED 9/03 ADM FORM 01 (THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PALM TRAN FARE CHANGES PROPOSED FOR OCTOBER 2008

Notice is hereby given that Palm Beach County Board of Commissioners proposes to implement a modification to Palm Tran Connection's fare structure beginning on October 1, 2008 in regard to the fare paid by Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) eligible individuals whose income falls below the poverty line. The Proposal is to eliminate the current free (zero) fare, increasing the fare to a charge of \$2.00 per trip. This would provide eligible individuals with a \$1.00 subsidy per trip from the base fare of \$3.00. A Public Hearing has been scheduled for the purpose of receiving comments regarding the proposed changes. The Public Hearing will be held as follows:

DATE: Tuesday, August 19, 2008, 9:30AM LOCATION: 6th Floor, Commission Chambers, 301 N Olive Ave, West Palm Beach, FL 33401-4618

Interested parties or agencies may submit comments on (561-841-4360), by electronic mail (ptph@pbcgov.com) or in writing to (3201 Electronics Way, West Palm Beach, Florida 33407-4618). Comments will be received until 5:00PM Friday, August 15, 2008. Those completing a "comment card" prior to the hearing will be afforded the opportunity to be heard or submit written comments with respect to the proposed fare changes.