HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ORDINANCE _____

BILL 54 (2025)

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO PUBLIC TRANSIT.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to simplify, update, and amend certain sections of Chapter 15B, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("*Public Transit*"), as they pertain to the fare structure for the Multimodal Municipal Transportation System.

SECTION 2. Section 15B-2.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("*Fare structure*"), is amended by adding the following definitions to subsection (a) in a manner that maintains the alphabetical order of the subsection, to read as follows:

"***Individuals with Extremely Low Income.*** Individuals who qualify for a fare plan under § 15B-2.10."

SECTION 3. Section 15B-2.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("*Fare structure*"), is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) Except as otherwise provided in this article, the following fares apply to every passenger using the city bus system and the city rail system, and every passenger riding the city bus system and the city rail system shall pay the applicable fare set forth in this table:

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[~~FARE STRUCTURE TABLE~~

	~~Cash~~	~~Fares Paid Using City Payment Card (CPC) Only~~				~~Special Event~~
~~Passenger Category~~	~~Single Ride Fare~~	~~Single Ride with 2.5-Hour Capped Fare with Free Transfers Between Bus, Rail, and Paratransit Systems~~	~~Daily Pass or Maximum Capped Fare~~	~~Monthly Pass or Maximum Capped Fare~~	~~Annual Pass~~	~~Single Ride Fare-Special Event~~
~~Adult~~	~~$3~~	~~$3~~	~~$7.50~~	~~$80~~	~~$880~~	~~$6.25~~
~~Youth~~	~~$1.50~~	~~$1.50 with programmed CPC~~	~~$3.75 with programmed CPC~~	~~$40 with programmed CPC~~	~~$440 with programmed CPC~~	~~$6.25~~
~~Child~~	~~$0~~	~~$0~~	~~$0~~	~~$0~~	~~$0~~	~~$0~~
~~Senior Citizen (Non-Hawaii Resident)~~	~~$1.25 with valid CPC ID~~	~~$1.25 with programmed CPC~~	~~$3 with programmed CPC~~	~~Not applicable~~	~~Not applicable~~	~~$6.25~~
~~Senior Citizen (Hawaii Resident)~~	~~$1.25 with valid CPC ID~~	~~$1.25 with programmed CPC~~	~~$3 with programmed CPC~~	~~$20 with programmed CPC~~	~~$45 with programmed CPC~~	~~$6.25~~

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~~[FARE STRUCTURE TABLE~~

	~~Cash~~	~~Fares Paid Using City Payment Card (CPC) Only~~				~~Special Event~~
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~~Person with a Disability Under ROH § 15B-2.2 (Non-Hawaii Resident)~~	~~$1.25 with valid CPC ID~~	~~$1.25 with programmed CPC~~	~~$3 with programmed CPC~~	~~Not applicable~~	~~Not applicable~~	~~$6.25~~
~~Person with a Disability Under ROH § 15B-2.2 (Hawaii Resident)~~	~~$1.25 with valid CPC ID~~	~~$1.25 with programmed CPC~~	~~$3 with programmed CPC~~	~~$20 with programmed CPC~~	~~$45 with programmed CPC~~	~~$6.25~~
~~Medicare Cardholders (Non-Hawaii Resident)~~	~~$1.25 with valid Medicare Card ID~~	~~$1.25 with programmed CPC~~	~~$3 with programmed CPC~~	~~Not applicable~~	~~Not applicable~~	~~$6.25~~
~~Medicare Cardholders (Hawaii Resident)~~	~~$1.25 with valid Medicare Card ID~~	~~$1.25 with programmed CPC~~	~~$3 with programmed CPC~~	~~$20 with programmed CPC~~	~~$45 with programmed CPC~~	~~$6.25~~

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[~~FARE STRUCTURE TABLE~~

	~~Cash~~	~~Fares Paid Using City Payment Card (CPC) Only~~				~~Special Event~~
~~Passenger Category~~	~~Single Ride Fare~~	~~Single Ride with 2.5-Hour Capped Fare with Free Transfers Between Bus, Rail, and Paratransit Systems~~	~~Daily Pass or Maximum Capped Fare~~	~~Monthly Pass or Maximum Capped Fare~~	~~Annual Pass~~	~~Single Ride Fare-Special Event~~
~~Paratransit Eligibility ID Holders~~	~~$1.25 with valid paratransit ID~~	~~$1.25 with programmed CPC~~	~~$2 with programmed CPC~~	~~$6 with programmed CPC~~	~~$35 with programmed CPC~~	~~$6.25~~
~~Personal Care Attendant (PCA)~~	~~$0 when performing PCA service~~	~~Not applicable~~	~~Not applicable~~	~~Not applicable~~	~~Not applicable~~	~~$6.25~~]

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	FARE PAID IN CASH	FARE PAID USING CITY PAYMENT CARD (CPC) ONLY			
Passenger Category	**Single Ride**	**2-Hour Pass**	**24-Hour Pass**	**Monthly Pass**	**Annual Pass**
Fixed Route (TheBus and Skyline)	Cash Fare Only (No Transfer)	Capped Fare or Prepaid Pass	Capped Fare or Prepaid Pass	Capped Fare or Prepaid Pass	Prepaid Pass
	Bus Only	HOLO Card	HOLO Card	HOLO Card	HOLO Card
Adult	$3.25	$3.00	$7.50	$90.00	$990.00
Youth	$1.75	$1.50	$3.75	$45.00	$495.00
Reduced Fare [1]	$1.75	$1.50	$3.75	Hawaii Residents Only $20.00 [2]	Hawaii Residents Only $50.00 [2]

[1] Reduced fare open to Senior Citizens, Persons with a Disability under § 15B-2.2, Paratransit Eligibility ID Holders, and Individuals with Extremely Low Incomes as described under § 15B-2.10.
[2] Deeply discounted fares open only to Hawaii residents who are Senior Citizens, Persons with a Disability under § 15B-2.2, Paratransit Eligibility ID Holders, and Individuals with Extremely Low Incomes as described under § 15B-2.10."

SECTION 4. Section 15B-2.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("*Fare structure*"), is amended by amending subsection (l) to read as follows:

"(l) The department may establish special reduced term passes for periods of seven days or less at fares provided in this subsection rather than a fare established under subsection (b). Reduced term passes will be valid for riders of all ages. The three-day pass shall be sold at $20, and the seven-day pass will be sold at [~~$35~~] $45. The three-day pass will be valid for 72 hours after the initial tap on a fare validator. The seven-day pass will be valid for 168 hours after the initial tap on a fare validator."

SECTION 5. Section 15B-2.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("*Fare Structure*"), is amended by adding new subsections (m) and (n) to read as follows:

"(m) The director may establish a special events single ride fare for special events such as concerts, athletic events, and other large community events where non-scheduled transit service is provided.

(n) The director may establish a special single ride fare for transportation to and from the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport."

SECTION 6. Section 15B-2.10, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, is amended to read as follows:

"§15B-2.10 Transit fares for individuals with extremely low incomes.

(a) Individuals who have received an eligibility letter from the Social Security Administration for benefits under the Supplemental Security Income program are eligible for the reduced transit fare upon the presentation of the Supplemental Security Income eligibility letter to the department.

(b) Individuals whose household incomes meet the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development guidelines for households with extremely low income within the city for the applicable household size, may also qualify for the reduced transit fare through application to the department of community services. The department of community services shall be responsible for the intake and processing of applications, determination of eligibility, and communication of an applicant's eligibility to the department.

(c) The director of community services shall determine the eligibility of the individual for the reduced transit fare established under this section upon review and verification of an application to qualify for the fare. The application form must be prescribed and furnished by the director of community services. The director of community services may require proof of age, total household income, and household size, and proof may include but will not be limited to true copies of personal income tax returns, bank statements, or other financial records. The director of community services may require authorization from the household to enable the director of community services to fully verify household income. The director of community services shall determine whether an applicant qualifies for the reduced transit fare within 60 days of receipt of the completed application, and the decision of the director of community services will be final. The determination of eligibility will remain in effect for the period from the date of approval through the ending of the fiscal year on June 30.

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(d) [~~Eligible individuals may receive a city payment card programmed with fares as follows:~~

~~(1) A single ride fare of $1.25;~~

~~(2) A daily maximum capped fare of $3;~~

~~(3) A monthly maximum capped fare of $20; and~~

~~(4) A prepaid fare of $45.~~

~~The reduced fares specified in this subsection are not applicable for rides on the city paratransit system or for the special events service.~~] Eligible individuals may receive a city payment card programmed with reduced fares as specified in §15B-2.1. The eligible individual must use the programmed city payment card to pay the reduced fare for rides on the city bus and city rail systems; provided that, the reduced fare is not applicable when fares for special event services are charged or for rides on the city paratransit system.

(e) The department of community services may adopt rules in accordance with HRS Chapter 91 to implement this section.

[~~(f) Availability of this program is limited to a city subsidy of $1,500,000 per fiscal year, unless additional appropriations of general funds or noncity funds are approved.~~]"

SECTION 7. Section 15B-4.5, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("*Fare*"), is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) *Single fare.*

(1) Any person issued a paratransit eligibility identification card under §15B-4.3 and any person accompanying the ADA paratransit eligible individual shall pay a fare of [~~$2.25~~] $2.50 per person per one-way passenger trip either in cash, by coupon, or by city payment card programmed for the paratransit fare, except as provided in § 15B-2.6. Revenues from the fare will be deposited into the transportation fund.

(*rest of unamended subdivisions of subsection (b)*)"

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SECTION 8. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New material is underscored. When revising, compiling, or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the Revisor of Ordinances need not include the brackets, the material that has been bracketed and stricken, or the underscoring.

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ORDINANCE _____
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SECTION 9. This ordinance takes effect on January 1, 2026.

INTRODUCED BY:

Tommy Waters (br)

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

JUL 22 2025
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

_____
Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this _____day of _____, 20 ____.

_____
RICK BLANGIARDI, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu

Report Title:

Chapter 15B, Article 2, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021; Public Transit Fares; Islandwide Fare Structure; Fixed Route Transit Fares; Deeply Discounted Fares for Eligible Hawaii Residents; TheHandi-Van, TheBus, Skyline; HOLO Card; Department of Transportation Services ("DTS"); Oahu Transit Services, Inc. ("OTS").

Description:

Amends certain provisions of Chapter 15B, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("ROH"), related to the fare structure for Oahu's Multimodal Municipal Transportation System. Authorizes the DTS Director to establish special single ride fares for: (a) special events such as concerts, conventions, sports or athletic competitions, and other large community events where non-scheduled transit service is provided; and (b) transportation to and from the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport. Increases prices charged for certain passenger categories as shown in the amended fare table in Section 15B-2.1(b), ROH. Establishes a $0.25 cash premium above the HOLO card single ride fare to incentivize the use of the HOLO card. Establishes one reduced fare price for Senior Citizens, Persons with a Disability under § 15B-2.2, Paratransit Eligibility ID Holders, and Individuals with Extremely Low Incomes as described under §15B-2.10. Restricts eligibility for deeply discounted fares only to Hawaii residents. Takes effect on January 1, 2026.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.