



Department Source: Public Works

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: August 3, 2020

Re: Amending Chapter 22-29 of the City Code to Establish Free Transportation Fares

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration an ordinance amending Chapter 22-29 of the City Code to establish free transportation fares for users of the GoCOMO Public Transit System.

Discussion

GoCOMO receives an annual Federal Transit Administration (FTA) operating grant that is matched by local funds from the transportation sales tax (TST). Since GoCOMO reduced its operations down to six (6) fixed routes in 2020, it has been able to manage the expenses between the operating grant and the TST contribution, excluding the revenues for the fares.

Since the March 2020 Emergency Declaration, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, GoCOMO has been operating fare free. During the 2021 budget preparation meetings, the City Manager was made aware of GoCOMO's ability to manage expenses with the current TST funding and operating grant and he is recommending a pilot project to continue fare free for the 2021 budget year. Therefore, staff is requesting Council authorize amending Chapter 22-29 to establish free transportation fares to include; regular fares, half fares, semester passes, semester pass discounts, downtown employee discount fares, and paratransit fares.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: none

Long-Term Impact: unknown

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Social Equity, Secondary Impact: Operational Excellence, Tertiary Impact: Economy

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Economic Development, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Legislative History

Date	Action
n/a	None

Suggested Council Action

Passage of the ordinance amending Chapter 22-29 of the City Code to establish free Transportation fares for the 2021 budget year as a pilot project.