



Fares & Fare Media

COAST staff conducted an analysis to understand the impact of the proposed system on the cost to ride and made recommendations for adjustments to the fare structure in the Fall of 2019. These recommendations were ultimately approved by the Board of Directors, after incorporating the suggestion for a new multi-ride Half Fare punch ticket, on December 18, 2019.

In crafting the fare considerations, COAST sought as simple and consistent a fare structure as possible while ensuring Route 43 Newington / Portsmouth was not disproportionately affected by its separation from the regional routes to Strafford County.

Route Alignment

Several COAST routes are interlined in the current system. This means a single bus drives two routes, and some customers ride through to the second route without changing buses.

Currently, Route 40 and 41 are interlined and customers do not pay a second fare to ride through from one to the other if they stay on the bus.

Currently, Route 1 and 33 are also interlined, and customers do pay a second fare to ride through from one to the other on the same bus.

In the proposed system, Routes 12, 13 and 14 are all proposed to be interlined with a single fare to board even when riding through from one route to another. The same is also true between Routes 42 & 44. All other routes are proposed to not be interlined, with a fare charged at each boarding. This is designed to maximize simplicity.

Current Fare Structure (prior to June 29, 2020)

COAST's current system requires a new fare be paid each time someone makes a connection to a new route, except for the interlined trolley routes.

The base cash fare is \$1.50, with a \$7.00 fare for Clipper Connection routes. There are a variety of discounted multi-ride pass options available.

Those qualifying for half-fare, based on age or disability, are charged \$0.75 instead of the base cash fare.

Approved New Fare Structure

Customers will be charged the base fare (or Half Fare, if qualified) when boarding any route and will not be charged again so long as they are on the same vehicle.

A free transfer will be offered between Routes 13 and 43 or 14 and 43. Customers traveling solely along the 43 Newington /Portsmouth route, or connecting to it from bus routes other than 13 and 14, will continue to pay as they would today for the equivalent trip.

Base Cash Fare	\$1.50
Half-Fare (based on qualifying age or disability)	\$0.75
Free Transfers	Between Routes 13 & 43 and Routes 14 & 43
Children Under 5	Free
15-Ride Punch Tickets	\$20.00
24-Ride Half Fare Punch Ticket *NEW*	\$20.00
Monthly Pass	\$52.00 (applies to all routes)

Cost per Ride by Route (cash fare)

	Base	Half-Fare
Route 1 Dover / Somersworth / Berwick	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 6 Farmington / Rochester	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 12 Rochester / Somersworth / Dover	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 13 Dover / Portsmouth	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 14 Rochester / Dover / Portsmouth	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 33 Dover Whittier St. /County Complex	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 34 Dover Knox Marsh Road	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 40 Islington / Borthwick Trolley	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 41 Lafayette Trolley	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 42 Pease Shuttle	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 43 Newington / Portsmouth	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 44 Portsmouth City Hall / Kittery / PNSY	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 100 Somersworth / Berwick / Kittery / PNSY	\$1.50	\$0.75
Route 7 OD *	\$1.50-\$3.00	\$0.75-\$3.00

* Route 7 On Demand fares are based on whether the pickup and drop off are at designated stops. No changes to the existing fare structure currently used on this service are proposed to change.