MTA Board, RTA Board approve adjustments to bus fares
Changes to take effect January 6, 2012

NASHVILLE – The Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) Board of Directors voted today to approve a 10-cent increase in the basic cash fare and a 20-cent increase in the AccessRide cash fare. The prices of unlimited ride passes and other multi-ride fare media also have been adjusted proportionally. The changes will take effect on January 6, 2012.

The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Board of Directors voted Wednesday to approve a 50-cent increase in its regional express bus fare. The price of a 20-ride R&R pass increases to $70 and other multi-ride fare media also have been adjusted proportionally. The changes will take effect on January 6, 2012.

MTA has not adjusted its fares in nearly four years, but increasing healthcare costs, fuel and related operating costs are the reasons for the fare changes. The authority uses 1.7 million gallons of diesel fuel each year. RTA has not adjusted its fares in several years.

“We are committed to providing high quality, cost-efficient services and want to avoid cutting services,” MTA/RTA CEO Paul J. Ballard said. “It is necessary to make these modest increases.”

To gain input regarding the proposed changes to the fare structure, MTA and RTA held four public hearings in November. Customers had the opportunity to attend the meetings and/or provide comments by phone, through written correspondence, fax or e-mail.

During the public hearings, information also was shared on proposals for adding more trips to the 91X Franklin/Brentwood Express and 95X Spring Hill Express route schedules. However, due to funding issues, additional trips will not be added at this time.

A chart of the new bus fares is listed on the next page.