

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 821

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served May 29, 1968

Order To Institute Investigation)
of Devices and Practices for)
Driver Safety on Buses of D. C.)
Transit System, Inc.)

Docket No. 178

By Order No. 820, served May 21, 1968, we ordered a general investigation in this matter and scheduled the matter for hearing on June 4, 1968. That Order was supplemented on May 23, 1968, by Order No. 820(a), wherein we stated that any new reasonable means of fare collection would be considered; moreover, we directed the staff to prepare and present to the Commission at the hearing, or "sooner if possible," a report and recommendation on this subject.

On Saturday, May 25, the staff met with an officer of D. C. Transit and discussed with him a new method of collecting fares. This method, described in the staff report attached hereto as Appendix "A", would be used on night service and would eliminate the need of the operator to carry cash -- or any legal tender. The company has informally replied to the staff report. The principal problem it raised is whether or not the method outlined would be acceptable to the riding public. As an alternative, it has stated that it would be willing to limit the amount of cash carried by operators during night hours to the very minimal amount of \$10.00.

In order to fully explore all aspects of the staff and company proposals, we feel they should be fully considered in open hearing. Therefore, under the powers conferred upon us by Article XII, Section 13(b), we are ordering the company to show cause why the staff proposal should not be adopted. Since night service continues to be curtailed, time is of the essence. Accordingly, the hearing is being scheduled for Thursday, May 30, 1968, at 2:00 P.M. This is adequate notice to the company under the circumstances; the basic concept -- and indeed, most of the details -- was conveyed to them several days ago, and the necessity for immediate restoration of this vital transportation service requires prompt action.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That a hearing be, and it is hereby, scheduled for Thursday, May 30, 1968, at 2:00 P. M., in the Commission's Hearing Room, 1815 North Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, Virginia, to consider the staff method of collecting fares.

2. That D. C. Transit be, and it is hereby, directed to appear and show cause why the staff fare collection proposal should not be adopted and prescribed.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION:



MELVIN E. LEWIS
Executive Director

APPENDIX A

WMATC STAFF REPORT ON A METHOD OF COLLECTING FARES
SO THAT OPERATORS NEED CARRY NO CASH OR LEGAL TENDER

Physical equipment required: 1 - hand punch for each operator
2 - pad of scrip (drawing attached)
3 - self-sealing, prenumbered envelopes (3" x 3")

Availability of equipment: Item 1 above is already in the hands of the operators; Item 2 is available from Globe Ticket Co. on 4 days' notice; Item 3 - available locally.

Description of the method: (Example)

Patron gives 30¢ to operator.

Operator tears off coupon, folds on perforation, and punches hole in "amount received" at 30¢; also punches hole in "amount of fare" at 27¢. By folding the coupon, he has validated both halves of the ticket.

Operator gives one half to patron, who can turn it in at a company outlet and get 3¢ for it.

Operator puts other half, with the 30¢, into envelope and presses it shut, and drops it into the fare box.

(The operator has been charged with the prenumbered scrip and envelopes; his manifest will show the numbers used when he turns in.

If the operator is robbed of his scrip, the serial numbers are known and will be listed at each redemption office.

In the Counting Room, a minimal procedure would be to run a tape of the fares punched and then run the cash thru the counter; the difference would be the "float" outstanding.)

NOTE: No provision for sale of tokens or interline tickets on the bus. This is of reduced significance if the use of scrip is limited to certain hours. This plan will work 24 hours a day, but if it begins at 6:00 P.M., it will involve 943 D. C. Transit buses and 139 W. V. & M. buses; if it begins at 7:00 P.M., 503 D. C. Transit buses and 52 W. V. & M. buses; and if it begins at 8:00 P.M., 309 D. C. Transit buses and 28 W. V. & M. buses.

Size: 7" x 5 1/2"
 Stock: Safety Paper
 Pre-numbered

000000		FARE COUPON		000000	
AMOUNT RECEIVED		AMOUNT RECEIVED		AMOUNT RECEIVED	
1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	5.00	6.00
7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00
13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00	17.00	18.00
19.00	20.00	21.00	22.00	23.00	24.00
25.00	26.00	27.00	28.00	29.00	30.00
31.00	32.00	33.00	34.00	35.00	36.00
37.00	38.00	39.00	40.00	41.00	42.00
43.00	44.00	45.00	46.00	47.00	48.00
49.00	50.00	51.00	52.00	53.00	54.00
55.00	56.00	57.00	58.00	59.00	60.00
61.00	62.00	63.00	64.00	65.00	66.00
67.00	68.00	69.00	70.00	71.00	72.00
73.00	74.00	75.00	76.00	77.00	78.00
79.00	80.00	81.00	82.00	83.00	84.00
85.00	86.00	87.00	88.00	89.00	90.00
91.00	92.00	93.00	94.00	95.00	96.00
97.00	98.00	99.00	100.00		

SEE BACK FOR
 INFORMATION
 ON REDEMPTION

perforated

perforated