



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Metropolitan Planning • Public Transportation & Operations • Engineering & Construction

Metropolitan Planning Organization of Washoe County, Nevada

May 21, 2018

AGENDA ITEM 3.7

TO: Regional Transportation Commission

FROM: David F. Jickling
Director of Public Transportation and
Operations



Lee G. Gibson, AICP
Executive Director

SUBJECT: UNR/TMCC Transit Pass Rates

RECOMMENDATION

Approve a reduction in the cost of the 2018-2019 University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Wolf Pass and Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) Lizard Pass from \$230.00 to \$147.00; authorize the Executive Director to execute the negotiated agreements.

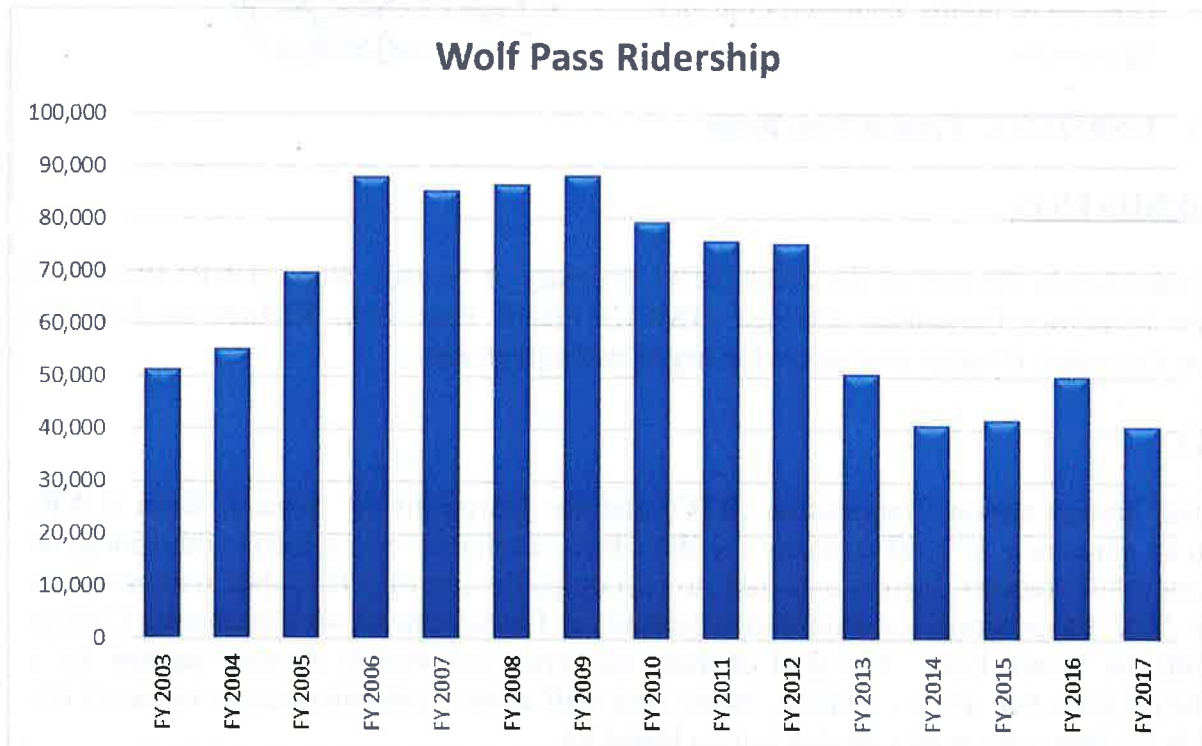
SUMMARY

The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) and the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) entered into an agreement in 2002 to create the Wolf Pass, a reliable, cost-effective transportation alternative for UNR students, faculty and staff, to encourage the use of RTC public transportation services. In 2012, the program was extended to students at Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) with the Lizard Pass. The goal of these two programs was to develop support for a campus-wide program that allows students, faculty and staff to have unlimited access to transit (U-Pass) through implementation of a modest tuition based fee.

Throughout the first few years of the program the Wolf Pass was priced similarly to the least expensive “Blue” parking permit offered by UNR. As the recession exerted itself in 2010 RTC began to raise the cost of the Wolf Pass and, as a result, participation fell off dramatically. Today the Wolf Pass costs nearly twice as much as the cheapest parking permit.

Cost per Semester	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Wolf Pass	\$25	\$55	\$65	\$65	\$65	\$75	\$85	\$120	\$180	\$195	\$230	\$230	\$230	\$230	\$230
Blue Permit	\$45	\$55	\$65	\$55	\$75	\$85	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125

In part due to the large cost differential that exists between the Wolf Pass and a Blue Parking Permit, student interest in the program has fallen off considerably. Staff recommends reducing the cost of the Wolf Pass and Lizard Pass to encourage greater student participation. It is hoped that a lower fee will better position the RTC and the two schools for promoting a U-PASS program timed to coincide with the RTC RAPID extension to UNR. In a previous survey of all students who purchased a parking pass or Wolf Pass, 39% indicated a willingness to pay a semester fee for unlimited access to the RTC RIDE system. That is the ultimate goal of the U-PASS program.



FISCAL IMPACT

The RTC will budget approximately \$2,000 in FY 2019 for the production and printing of the passes. UNR and TMCC contribute \$14,000 each toward the subsidy of the program and provide all pass sales revenue to the RTC.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS BY BOARD

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|----------------|--|
| April 20, 2012 | Approved Wolf Pass program for 2012-2013 and extended it to TMCC |
| March 21, 2008 | Approved Wolf Pass program for 2008-2009 school year |
| March 16, 2007 | Approved Wolf Pass program for 2007-2008 school year |
| March 17, 2006 | Approved Wolf Pass program for 2006-2007 school year |
| March 19, 2004 | Approved Wolf Pass program for 2004-2005 school year |
| April 18, 2003 | Approved Wolf Pass program for 2003-2004 school year |

ADVISORY COMMITTEE(S) RECOMMENDATION

There are no advisory committee recommendations pertaining to this agenda item.