

Summary of Policy

The purpose of the Bicycle Locker Rental Policy is to enable the agency to provide secure bicycle lockers wherever possible in our system and implement adopted policies to maximize the utilization of existing bicycle lockers.

Bicycle parking is a key strategy in the Board adopted 2006 Metro Bicycle Transportation Strategic Plan (BTSP), 2003 Metro Parking Policy and is an element of the Draft 2008 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The BTSP states that the agency will encourage high quality bicycle parking at transit stations.

The agency provides bicycle parking spaces wherever Metro Rail goes. Two types of bicycle parking are being provided: racks for the casual user and lockers for the commuter who wants a reserved space. Bicycle racks do not offer the same level of security as a bicycle locker. In providing bicycle lockers at our transit hubs, riders are encouraged to store their bicycles at the station rather than taking them onto the train or driving to the station. Bicycle locker renters indicate in surveys that if they cannot securely lock their bicycle at the station, they would likely drive.

As rail ridership has increased so has bicycle use. The increasing use of bicycles on rail lines has accelerated the need for more secure bicycle parking at stations as train capacity has become a premium. As the agency endeavor to satisfy the demand indicated by the Bicycle Locker Waiting List by adding more lockers to the system, it becomes increasingly important to ensure effective utilization of the lockers through proper pricing. Flexibility is required in the fee structure to find the

right balance that guarantees the lockers are affordably priced, but still fully used.

In December 2008, the Board approved the increase of bicycle locker rental fee from \$15 semi-annually and \$25 annually to \$24 semi-annually with no annual lease option. The Board also approved the increase of bicycle locker rental fee with variable pricing of up to \$36 semi-annually at certain high demand stations with waiting lists. The Board delegated to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to raise bicycle locker fees by an amount not to exceed inflation to ensure that underutilized lockers are turned over more frequently.

Historical Perspective

In 1994, the first Bicycle Locker Rental program was established by the Board. The fees initially approved were \$25 for 3 months, \$45 for 6 months and \$70 for a year.

In 1996, a Bicycle Parking Survey was conducted. The survey results indicated that because racks were provided free of charge, they were well used. The lockers were underutilized. A consumer survey of rack users and bicycle boarding permit holders was undertaken to determine a price that might be more appealing to this market segment. The fees were reduced to \$9.00 for 3 months, \$15.00 for six months and \$25.00 for 12 months.

Last Board Action

December 4, 2008 – Bicycle Locker Rental Program

The Board approved on consent calendar

- A. Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to:

1. increase the bicycle locker rental fee from \$15 semi-annually/\$25 annually to \$24 semi-annually with no annual lease option;
 2. increase the bicycle locker rental fee with variable pricing of up to \$36 semi-annually at certain high demand stations with waiting lists; and
- B. Delegating to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to raise bicycle locker fees by an amount not to exceed inflation.

Attachment

See Related

Countywide Bicycle

Parking