



# Subsidy Impact of the Discontinuation of Medicaid Transportation Services in the District of Columbia

*Presented to the Board of Directors:*

**Customer Service, Operations, and Safety  
Committee**

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# Background

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- Rising Medicaid transportation costs prompted the District to approach Metro to explore options in June 2007
- Metro assisted in transitioning Medicaid recipients to the Metrobus and Metrorail systems
- Many Medicaid customers receive a higher level of service than MetroAccess can provide





# Cost Impacts

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- **900** paratransit applications have been received within the last month from organizations referred by the District
- The District's transportation system cost is approximately \$17 per trip
- At an average cost of \$38 per trip, and with most paratransit customers taking an average of 9 trips per month, the subsidy impact could exceed **\$4.1 million**





# Next Steps

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- Promote Medicaid customers' use of fixed-route system and supplement with increased travel training where possible
- Promote use of SmarTrip cards with SmartBenefits
- Work with District to continue funding of Medicaid transportation for those customers who cannot use Metrobus or Metrorail

