

# MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # **002-2019**

**LETTER TO COMMISSION**

TO: Mayor Dan Gelber and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

*Eric Carpenter for JLM*

DATE: January 2, 2019

SUBJECT: **FY18/19 Transit Subsidy for City Employees**

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to inform the Mayor and City Commission of the Transit Subsidy Program being implemented for City employees. Beginning on February 1, 2019, employees wishing to use Miami-Dade Transit (Metrobus and Metrorail) to commute to work will receive a monthly pass fully paid by the City. The regular price for each monthly pass is \$112.50. However, through our participation in Miami-Dade County's Transit Corporate Discount Program, the City is eligible for the following discounted rates:

- Discount rate for monthly bus pass for groups of 4 to 99: \$101.25
- Discount rate for monthly bus pass for groups of 100 and larger: \$95.65

The goal of the City is to become less car-centric and decrease congestion on our roadways. To that end, the Transportation Master Plan adopted by the Commission on April 13, 2016 established a new modal hierarchy (corridor based) consisting of the following modes: (1) Pedestrians; (2) Transit/Bicycles/Freight; and (3) Personal Automobiles. Further, on July 25, 2018, the Commission adopted Resolution No. 2018-30407 approving potential Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies to reduce congestion within and connecting to Miami Beach. One of the approved TDM strategies is participation in the County's Transit Corporate Discount Program.

Currently, City employees who drive their personal vehicle to work are provided a 100% subsidy for parking at City-operated garages and lots adjacent to their worksite. This provides an economic incentive for employees to use their personal vehicles to commute to work which is inconsistent with the City's adopted Transportation Master Plan and TDM Initiative. Additionally, those employees who already use or are interested in using public transit to commute to work receive no subsidy to offset their commuting costs. Based on a previous survey of Miami Beach employees conducted by the South Florida Commuter Services, 346 surveyed employees would consider alternative modes of transportation and 80 employees in particular would consider transit services provided by Miami-Dade County to commute to work.

The transit subsidy is a step the City is undertaking to become less car-centric, offer employees an alternative mode of transportation, and also set an example for other Miami Beach employers to do the same. To encourage participation, the City is paying 100% of the cost of the monthly transit passes; **there is no cost to the employee for the monthly pass.** In exchange for the paid transit pass, employees enrolled in the Program will not drive their

personal vehicle to work or park in City-operated garages or lots. However, parking accommodations will be made on an as-needed basis for emergencies or other circumstances.

Enclosed is a Miami-Dade brochure with general information on the Corporate Discount Program. Employees can find information on transit routes and plan their trip by using the following link:

<https://www.miamidade.gov/transit/rider-guide.asp>.

Funding for this Program was approved in the Transportation Department's FY18/19 Operating Budget; and it will be managed and administered by the Transportation and Human Resources Departments. A citywide email will be sent in the next few days informing City employees of the Transit Subsidy Program and encouraging participation.

Should you have any questions regarding this transportation initiative, please contact José R. González, P.E., Transportation Director, via email at [josegonzalez@miamibeachfl.gov](mailto:josegonzalez@miamibeachfl.gov) or at 305.673.6768. The person in Human Resources for employees to contact will be Aime Rodriguez at [aimerodriguez@miamibeachfl.gov](mailto:aimerodriguez@miamibeachfl.gov) or at 305.673.7524.

Attachment

  
JLM/KGB/JRG/PS

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## OTHER BENEFITS

- Access to unique discounts from participating local businesses through the EASY Perks Program.
- Each EASY Card is protected against loss or theft.
- Stress-free commute.
- Mobile apps such as MDT Tracker app.



## BECAUSE EMPLOYEE SAFETY IS ALSO IMPORTANT

Transit riders participating in the CDP also get up to six free taxi rides a year by registering with the Emergency Ride Home (ERH) program, available seven days a week, 24 hours a day. For more information about ERH program visit [www.1800234ride.com/](http://www.1800234ride.com/)



**Language Assistance:** Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) is committed to providing information about its transit services to passengers with limited English as part of its non-discrimination program. MDT publishes route information in Spanish and Haitian Creole and offers assistance in both languages at our Call Center at 3-1-1 or 305-468-5900. For more information, call MDT's Office of Civil Rights & Labor Relations at 786-469-5486.

Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its programs or services. Auxiliary aids and services for communication are available with five days' advance notice. For material in alternate format (audiotape, Braille or computer disk), a signlanguage interpreter or other accommodations, please contact: Miami-Dade Transit, Office of Civil Rights and Labor Relations, 701 NW 1st Court, Suite 1700, Miami, FL 33136. Attention: Marcos Ortega. Telephone: 786-469-5225, Fax: 786-469-5589. E-mail: [mo7225@miamidade.gov](mailto:mo7225@miamidade.gov).

**Español:** El Departamento de Transporte Público de Miami-Dade (MDT, su sigla en inglés) está dedicado a proveer información sobre sus servicios a los pasajeros que no hablan inglés. MDT publica información sobre sus rutas de autobús en español y creole haitiano y ofrece asistencia en ambos idiomas en nuestro Centro de Llamadas en el 3-1-1 o 305-468-5900. Para más información, llame la Oficina de Derechos Humanos y Relaciones Laborales de MDT al 786-469-5486.

El Condado de Miami-Dade ofrece igualdad de acceso y de oportunidades en el empleo y no practica la discriminación por discapacidad, en sus programas o servicios. Los dispositivos y servicios de ayuda auditiva para la comunicación están disponibles previa solicitud, con cinco días de anticipación. Para obtener materiales en formato alternativo (cinta de audio, Braille o disco de computadora), para solicitar un intérprete del lenguaje de las señas u otros servicios similares sírvase llamar a: Transporte de Miami-Dade, Oficina de Derechos Civiles y Relaciones Laborales, 701 NW 1st Court, Suite 1700, Miami, FL 33136. Atención: Marcos Ortega. Teléfono: 786-469-5225, Fax: 786-469-5589. Correo electrónico: [mo7225@miamidade.gov](mailto:mo7225@miamidade.gov).

**Kreyòl Ayisyen:** Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) angaje li a bay pasaje ak konesans limite an Anglè yo tout enfòmasyon sou sèvis transpò piblik nan lang pa yo. MDT pibliye enfòmasyon sou trajè otobis yo an Espanyòl ak an Kreyòl Ayisyen epi li bay asistans nan toude lang yo nan Sant Repons nou an 3-1-1 oswa 305-468-5900. Pou plis enfòmasyon, rele Biwo Dwa Sivik ak Relasyon Travay MDT la nan 786-469-5486.

Konte Miami-Dade bay aksè ak opòtinite egal ego nan anplwa epi li pa fè diskriminasyon baze sou enfi mite nan pwogram li yo ak sèvis li yo. Aparèy ak sèvis komunikasyon pou moun ki pa tande/wè byen yo disponib ak yon preyavi senk jou. Pou jwenn dokiman nan lòt fòm (tep odyo, Bray oswa disk konpit), sèvis yon entèprèt ki pale lang siy oswa lòt akomodasyon, tanpri kontakte: Miami-Dade Transit, Biwo Dwa Civil ak Relasyon Travay, 701 NW 1st Court, Suite 1700, Miami, FL 33136. Atansyon: Marcos Ortega. Telefòn: 786-469-5225, Faks: 786-469-5589. Imel: [mo7225@miamidade.gov](mailto:mo7225@miamidade.gov)

[www.miamidade.gov/transit](http://www.miamidade.gov/transit)

INFORMATION : INFORMACION : ENFOMASYON  
 311 OR 305.468.5900 (TTY: 305.468.5402)



@GOMIAMIDADE

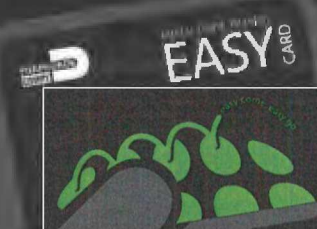


MDT TRACKER • EASY PAY MIAMI



# CORPORATE DISCOUNT PROGRAM

[cdp.miamidade.gov](http://cdp.miamidade.gov)



DRIVE LESS. LIVE MORE.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

**Appreciation and rewards = higher productivity.** That's the secret formula for many successful businesses. Add the success formula to yours by providing commuting saving benefits through the Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) Corporate Discount Program (CDP). More than 200 employers in Miami-Dade County are already offering this great benefit to their employees.

The CDP offers a reduced price 1-Month Pass, which includes unlimited rides on Metrorail and Metrobus, including all express routes. The Regional 1-Month Pass includes the same benefits plus unlimited rides on Tri-Rail, servicing West Palm to Miami.



# Three easy steps to DISCOUNTS.

## 1. QUALIFY

Any private, public, or non-profit organization qualifies for the Department of Transportation and Public Works **CORPORATE DISCOUNT PROGRAM** with four or more participating employees.

## 2. ENROLL

It's easier than ever! Now employers can enroll and manage the CDP online at [cdp.miamidade.gov](http://cdp.miamidade.gov)

## 3. SAVE!

### 1-MONTH CORPORATE DISCOUNT PASS

4 – 99 Participating employees **\$101.25** (10% off)

100 + Participating employees **\$95.65** (15% off)

### 1-MONTH REGIONAL CORPORATE DISCOUNT PASS

4 – 99 Participating employees **\$135.00**

100 + Participating employees **\$130.00**

The Corporate EASY Card is automatically reloaded every month with a 1-Month Pass as long as the employee remains enrolled in the program.



## THREE WAYS TO SAVE WITH PRE-TAX DOLLARS

- Employee pays for the entire cost of the monthly pass with pre-tax, set-aside dollars from their salary.**
  - There's no income tax on these set-aside dollars, so it's a tax-free transit benefit.
  - The set-aside dollar amount is also reflected as a reduction of taxable salary, so employees pay less income tax.
- Employer pays for the entire cost of the monthly pass through a tax-deductible subsidy.**
  - The employer receives an equivalent federal

income tax deduction.

- Employees don't have to report this option as taxable income because it's considered a fringe benefit.
- Employer and employee share the cost of the monthly pass, both paying for it with pre-tax dollars.**
    - It's a win-win situation!

*Participants who take Metrorail can save even more by also purchasing their \$11.25 monthly Metrorail parking permit with pre-tax dollars.*