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Coin upgrade option to end

Starting July 1, customers will no longer be able to use coins to upgrade their 7-Day or 31-Day Pass on a Go-To Card to a higher fare.

Customers should make sure their Go-To Card has stored value or they must pay their whole fare in cash.

The new fare policy would affect those who, for example, buy an \$85 31-Day Pass (valid for \$2.25 fare) but also occasionally ride an express bus during rush hour (a \$3.00 fare). For those customers, adding stored value on their Go-To Card is a convenient way to upgrade their fare.



Go-To Card + 7-Day/31-Day Pass + stored value = maximum flexibility

Here are easy ways to add value:

- [Online](#) with a credit card
 - By phone at 612-373-3333 with a credit card
 - By mail with a credit card. Call 612-373-3333 for a mail order form
 - At a rail ticket machine with cash or a credit card
 - At more than 40 retailers. Click [here](#) or call 612-373-3333 for locations.
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Is your organization involved with the Commuter Challenge?

There's still time for your organization to get involved with this year's Commuter Challenge.

From now through the end of June, your employees can sign up at mycommuterchallenge.org. Anyone can take the Commuter Challenge by replacing a drive-alone trip and instead ride the bus or train, bicycle, carpool, walk, telework or vanpool.

The Commuter Challenge is an easy way to encourage your employees to try smarter ways of getting to work.

Let us know if you're planning a commuter fair. We can provide ideas and promotional materials for your event (you also can download materials from this [website](#)).

Contact your [employer outreach specialist](#) for more information.

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We'll help beat the high costs of driving alone!

When the American Automobile Association (AAA) released its first *Your Driving Costs* report for motorists in 1950, driving a car 10,000 miles annually cost 9 cents a mile, and gasoline sold for 27 cents per gallon.

In its [2011 report](#) AAA estimated it now costs 58.5 cents per mile on average to own and operate an automobile — \$8,776 per year at 15,000 miles. This is a 3.4 percent increase over 2010. When AAA did its analysis for the latest report, however, gas was just \$2.88 a gallon!

Real savings can add up quickly for those who choose the bus or train. Consider some examples of daily savings for transit riders:

Cost comparison: Driving vs. riding Metro Transit

Roundtrip	Miles	Cost to drive (AAA)	Rush-hour fare	Savings/roundtrip
Northstar (Big Lake)	80	\$46.80	\$14.00	\$32.80
Route 467 (Lakeville)	42	\$24.57	\$6.00	\$18.57
Hiawatha LRT (28th Ave)	22	\$12.87	\$4.50	\$8.37
Route 16/50 (downtowns)	20	\$11.70	\$4.50	\$7.20

For your employees who don't live or work near transit routes, joining a carpool or vanpool may be the best option. We can help your employees find a rideshare partner with our online Rideshare Planner, and they can begin cutting their commute costs in half or more. We also have resources on bicycling and walking.

These days, it's natural that more people seek budget relief from the high costs of owning and operating a car. That's where we come in. Our [employer outreach specialists](#) can work with you and your employees to find the best transportation choice and help beat the high costs of driving alone!

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Get ready for Bike Walk Week

Are you looking for new ways to encourage your employees to bike or walk to work more often? Get involved in Bike Walk Week from June 4-12.

Bike Walk Week activities highlight the advantages of getting around without the use of a car. From better health and cleaner air to a fatter wallet, bicycling and walking are more than just leisure activities!

By registering for Bike Walk Week, you are pledging to make at least one trip with pedal power or on foot. Bike Walk Week activities will educate and encourage you to get around effectively on bicycle or by walking.

One of the highlights of the week is Bike Walk to Work Day on Thursday, June 9. Celebrations will be held at Hennepin County Government Plaza in downtown Minneapolis and Rice Park in downtown St. Paul. Come to the [after-work celebration](#) at REI Bloomington from 4:30-6:30 p.m. for a chance to win a fully equipped commuter bike!

Get more details about [Bike Walk Week events](#).

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