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2   NASSAU COUNTY BUS TRANSIT COMMITTEE

3   November 20, 2025

4   6:30 p.m.

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7   PUBLIC MEETING

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9   A P P E A R A N C E S:

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11   BOBBY K. KALOTEE, Chairperson

12   DAWN FALCO, Committee Member

13   JACLENE D'AGOSTINO, Committee Member

14   ANN MARIE REARDON, Committee Member

15   DANIEL ALTER, Committee Member

16   GEORGE MARTINEZ, Committee Member

17   SHAHRIAR VICTORY, Committee Member

18   JOEL BERSE, Committee Member

19   RICHARD CLOLERY, Committee Member

20   PATRICK GALLAGHER, Deputy County Attorney

21

22   JACK KHZOUZ, NICE CEO

23

24

25   DEBRA SMITH, Court Reporter

1   Transit Committee Meeting

2   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Counsel, you are here. Are

3   you ready?

4   COUNTY ATTORNEY GALLAGHER: I'm ready.

5   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Okay.

6   (The meeting begins at 6:35 p.m.)

7   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Since we are ready, please,

8   if you can be kind enough -- good evening -- turn your

9   phone to silence -- you don't have to turn it off --

10   because this is very important.

11   I call the meeting to order. As our attorney

12   always, in every meeting, advise and remind us, make sure

13   make a roll call. So, I will start with Shahriar Victory.

14   MEMBER VICTORY: Shahriar Victory.

15   MEMBER BERSE: Joel Berse.

16   MEMBER D'AGOSTINO: Jacqueline D'Agostino.

17   MEMBER FALCO: Dawn Falco.

18   MEMBER REARDON: Ann Marie Reardon.

19   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Bobby Kalotee.

20   MEMBER ALTER: Good evening, everyone. Daniel

21   Alter.

22   MEMBER MARTINEZ: George Martinez.

23   MEMBER CLOLERY: Richard Clolery.

24   ATTORNEY GALLAGHER: We have a quorum.

25   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Not only do we have a quorum,

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2   everybody is in attendance. Thank you so much.

3   Before the president of the NICE will give a

4   presentation, I want to applaud his and his staff's hard

5   work in the last two, three days. Myself and our counsel

6   and the county's office had many questions back and forth

7   to the president, and he was -- correct me if I'm wrong --

8   so responsive, making every effort for the best interest

9   of the public, but also to the NICE and our

10   administration, that no stone left unturned before we make

11   any decisions.

12   I personally want to applaud and thank you and

13   your staff to -- even last-minute question -- to make

14   every effort to see how we can avoid, or how we can be

15   minimized, but you cannot be more minimized than where we

16   are. As part of our responsibility, the contract with MTA

17   or other agencies that Nassau County have, we must live by

18   those obligations, looking at every avenue. Mr. Khzouz,

19   as well us, made every effort to make the best interests

20   in mind is the public that we serve. And I want to say

21   thank you so much, and to your staff.

22   MR. KHZOUZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I

23   appreciate the intro.

24   Today, we're going to accomplish a few different

25   things. We've got a few different resolutions we have to

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2   pass by the board.

3   We're going to talk about our first-quarter

4   performance, we're going to talk about OMNY and where we

5   are there, we're going to talk about the fare increase,

6   and then any other odds and ends that come up.

7   MEMBER CLOLERY: When will be --

8   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Excuse me, let him present

9   and do not interrupt. You ask the chair, and then we will

10   address to you, and then you can ask questions.

11   Until he finish presenting, please no one

12   interrupt.

13   MEMBER CLOLERY: I'm sorry.

14   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: No, that's okay. You don't

15   have to be sorry. That's okay. Let the president present

16   what he have to present before you interrupt or ask a

17   question. Thank you so much.

18   MR. KHZOUZ: Every quarter, we produce a score

19   card of our performance, and these are key performance

20   indexes that the county DPW has set for us throughout the

21   years. We adjust those performance indicators as we

22   progress in our performance.

23   I want to say a couple of things about the

24   performance chart. Number one, all our performance -- key

25   performance indicators are driven by what our passengers

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2   want, not what we want as an operator, not what the county

3   executive wants, but what our passengers want. So, it's

4   very important to us culturally that we look at everything

5   that we do through the eyes of our riders.

6   Now, obviously, me being one of them, I want

7   everything. I want a bus every five minutes. I want

8   buses where I want to go. But in general, that's how we

9   try to run the operation.

10   The team here represents our leadership group

11   and our operational supervisory group. They're the folks

12   that actually run the service every day. So, they own

13   these performance indicators. So, every quarter we

14   produce the score card; we present it to the board and to

15   the county, to the county legal, to DPW, and they get to

16   judge us on how we do here.

17   There are incentives and damages assigned to

18   each one of these KPIs. I want to remind everybody that

19   there's actually no real money changing hands here. It's

20   more a point of pride. Even when I see a negative number

21   on here, I'm like, ugh. You know, ugh, it's 5,000. It's

22   5,000 nothing, but it still means that we did not hit our

23   goal.

24   So, we've got two different classifications:

25   Fixed route and our Paratransit service. Two different

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2   services. On-time performance on the Paratransit side for

3   the third quarter, that does capture back-to-school and

4   back-to-school traffic and everything that happens in

5   September. We hit about 89 percent on-time performance.

6   Our goal is somewhat low -- it's 75. We've got to change

7   that. But it did earn an incentive for the year. We're

8   running ahead again.

9   Right now, our on-time performance -- I just saw

10   it -- it's just shy of 92 percent. So, quite a leap up

11   there. And to remind everybody on what that means, that

12   means a bus has about a five-minute window. It could be

13   one minute early or five minutes late. So, six minutes

14   really, that's the parameter that we have to hit to be on

15   time. So, very, very important for us to hit that number.

16   Missed pullouts, what does that mean? Missed

17   pullouts mean, on our ramp here, if the bus does not pull

18   out within that one to five minutes, that means the bus

19   did not pull out on time.

20   We cannot perform service throughout the day if

21   we leave late or if we don't have a driver or if the bus

22   mechanically won't start. Those are all issues that

23   impede our bus pullout on time that affects how we did

24   there. We had barely any missed pullouts at all --

25   .03 percent. It doesn't really give us an incentive; it

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2   just means that we really didn't really have any.

3   Accidents, I'm glad to report that our

4   accident -- as you can see, our accident ratio over time

5   has continued to drop. I'm very, very happy about that.

6   It keeps our drivers and the public safe.

7   Again, we travel a million miles a month with

8   these vehicles, so a million miles a month and 50 percent

9   of our vehicles go into Queens. Think about Jamaica

10   traffic, think about Far Rockaway traffic, Flushing

11   traffic. So, again, we're expected to probably have

12   accidents. We need to minimize those. So, that's on the

13   fixed route side.

14   On the Paratransit side, our Paratransit clients

15   there expect a different level of service. Inmer, our

16   director of Paratransit, is here tonight. Our calls

17   answered ratio, our clients call to make a reservation for

18   a bus. So, a bus -- a small bus comes to their address

19   and picks them up and takes them to any address within the

20   service area. So, they have to make a reservation.

21   So, calls answered ratio. How many times --

22   well, I should say, what's the percentage of calls that

23   are picked up where we don't have a hangup? A lot of

24   times people call. After a minute or two, they'll just

25   hang up.

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2   So, what we want to do is answer their calls as

3   quickly as we can, depending on the call volume. Again,

4   we did a pretty good job -- 93 percent, or 92.3 percent.

5   So, not bad. Again, I'd like to see it at 95, but I know

6   Inmer is working on that.

7   On-time performance, a little shyer than I want,

8   but again, September is a heavy traffic and heavy request

9   on-demand time. We're at 81 percent there. On-time

10   performance goal is 85. I think we're about there now, so

11   we've recovered quite a bit.

12   Remember, this is a pickup and dropoff, pickup

13   and dropoff, pickup and dropoff as we go, so it may take a

14   client up to 15 minutes to get on the vehicle. So, it

15   takes a long time sometimes to load the vehicle.

16   So, again, missed pullouts, just like we talked

17   about before, the difference here is this is an on-demand

18   service. We never miss a trip. If you have a

19   reservation, there will be a bus there. So, we don't miss

20   anything there.

21   Again, accidents, great performance on

22   accidents. Very, very proud of that. Inmer and his staff

23   did a great job. And then productively, how many

24   passengers do we get on a vehicle per hour?

25   We talked a little bit about this last time, so

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2   just to be consistent, that is a balancing game. The more

3   folks we can put on a bus and group them together, the

4   more efficient that ride is, the better use of taxpayer

5   money goes into that ride. But also, the ride tends to

6   take a little longer, and client satisfaction tends to

7   drop. So, we're always kind of balancing the efficiency

8   versus client perception of what they think the ride

9   should be. So, that's always a balancing act for us.

10   So, that's basically the performance. The third

11   quarter tends to be our dip. That's the trend for 15

12   years now. That's seems to be the dip. We recover very

13   quickly, and we're kind of back on track. So, I just

14   wanted to bring that up.

15   The other big thing, the big thing in our

16   project planning this year is OMNY. We have talked about

17   it a couple of times now. We have one of the readers.

18   It's not plugged in, but it's on the back counter. The

19   signs around all have OMNY QR codes. You can flash a QR

20   code, learn more about OMNY.

21   We've have been preparing for OMNY now -- this

22   is year three preparing for OMNY. We have a whole team.

23   Erika is part of that team. Sadash (phonetic) is part of

24   that team. Jason. Jawad. And we have a whole back end

25   team on it. They are installing the readers as we speak.

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2   The system currently is -- our target to go live

3   is January 4th. So, right around the corner. So, at that

4   point, riders will be able to use their smartphone, their

5   smartwatch, a smart credit card or debit card, or the OMNY

6   card. I think Richard has one here that I gave him a

7   little earlier that you can load. So, that's all going on

8   right now.

9   We are doing -- we've got street teams out there

10   deployed, educating passengers on how to use it. There

11   are links everywhere. There's signs. I think we have --

12   I'm going to ask Erika this question: How many signs do

13   we have out there?

14   MS. RICHARDS: A hundred twenty-five at

15   individual stops, and that does not include major depots,

16   such as Great Neck, Jamaica, Hempstead, Freeport,

17   Hicksville.

18   MR. KHZOUZ: Mineola.

19   MS. RICHARDS: Mineola.

20   MR. KHZOUZ: It's kind of all over. So, this is

21   our major, major push both on the technology, the

22   financial, and the communications side.

23   So, operationally, the next step is really to

24   educate all our drivers on how it works, educate the

25   public, and make sure that we are updating that education

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2   week by week by week by week by week. So, by the time

3   December 31st gets here, we turn the page to January 4th,

4   the goal is always, did we interact, did we engage with

5   everyone on all the different things?

6   Now, our buses will still take cash. We'll

7   still take GoMobile. We will still take MetroCard. The

8   fare box is still going to be there. Now, MetroCards are

9   going away from Rosa Parks and different retailers in

10   December. We coordinated it now since our last talk. The

11   machine is supposed to go away on the 31st now. So, we

12   don't have this big gap. On the 31st, it goes away. The

13   4th, the new OMNY starts. So, that big gap that we all

14   kind of went, ooh, that's a little awkward, is hopefully

15   going to be gone.

16   Some of that is moving still. The retailers

17   that we have in Rosa Parks will sell the cards also.

18   Plus, there's a link on our website where you can see a

19   map of all the retailers in Nassau County that sell cards,

20   okay?

21   So, that's what's going on with OMNY. We're

22   excited about it. I think it's going to be a great

23   benefit to our riders. We're the first non-MTA agency

24   that will have it. Right behind us will be the Bee-line

25   in Westchester, then they'll go to, I think, Transit Link,

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2   the transit system that runs across the Mario Cuomo

3   Bridge.

4   So, the other thing we are here to talk about

5   really is the fare increase proposal. So, back in end of

6   September, the MTA approved a 10-cent fare increase. So,

7   I want to explain this to everybody so it's relatively

8   clear in the impact.

9   So, with the MetroCard and now with OMNY, we

10   have an agreement that allows our customers to transfer

11   into the New York City system free. They get a free

12   transfer. That includes MTA bus and subway. But we have

13   to be aligned on the fare structure.

14   If we're not aligned on the fare structure, what

15   happens? Anybody traveling into New York City -- for us,

16   that's about 25,000 passengers a day -- will have to pay

17   an additional fare to New York City, to the MTA, okay,

18   because the MTA has no way to collect a lower fare and

19   then charge us back that fare. It's just -- it's overly

20   complicated for two systems to manage. So, those systems

21   have to be in sync.

22   So, that's the fare policy that's been here for

23   30 years, it's the fare policy we took over, and it's now

24   the fare policy going forward.

25   So, the fare -- the proposed fare increase is a

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2   dime -- 10 cents. So, here's the way it charts out. For

3   an adult, fare goes from $2.90 to $3. For senior, it goes

4   up a nickel, to $1.50. Disabled goes up a nickel.

5   Student fare does not change. Child fare does not change.

6   Transfers do not change. There's the transfers from HART

7   to Long Beach; they don't change. The single-ride ticket

8   goes up 25 cents, from $3.25 to $3.50. The 7-day

9   unlimited ride goes up a dollar for that group. The

10   30-day unlimited ride is discontinued. We're going to

11   talk about that in a second. Then there's a 20-pack. It

12   goes up $2. Paratransit stays the same.

13   So, the advantage of OMNY for our passengers --

14   and it's part of what we're going to talk about in a

15   second here as the Title VI -- part of the mitigation

16   efforts is, we get to be automatically opted in to what's

17   called "fare capping." So, automatically. You used to

18   have to buy an unlimited MetroCard. Now you don't need to

19   do that.

20   If you use OMNY, you are automatically opted in,

21   which means after the 12th tap in a 7-day rolling period,

22   every ride after that is free. So, that's an extra added

23   benefit to our riders, all our riders now. There's no

24   opt-out or opt-in. I don't have to put -- the big benefit

25   to that really is, I don't have to put down $127 up front.

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2   I can pay as I go if I want. So, that's a big deal.

3   Again, some of our riders say a lot of times

4   it's hard to put down 127 bucks out of their pocket in one

5   big shot. But if they use the same fare medium, if they

6   use the same credit card, the same smartphone, anything

7   that's attached to that fare at the same time, they get

8   credit for it every time.

9   We'll allow everybody to ask questions.

10   Ms. Falco, you've got a furrowed brow. I've

11   known you for a long time. I know what that means. We'll

12   try to answer them as we go forward. There's a lot of --

13   there are a lot of business rules to OMNY. But Nassau

14   County has smart people. We can do it. I know we can.

15   So, any time we have a fare increase or a

16   reduction in service or an increase in service that's more

17   than 25 percent of the hours or miles, we have to produce

18   under the FTA what's called a Title VI study. A Title VI

19   study basically just insures that we are not targeting or

20   affecting a certain type or group of people differently

21   than the general population.

22   So, we did the Title VI survey. The conclusion

23   was there was no disparate impact. It's been handed out

24   in your books. It's been online. That sort of thing.

25   So, it is something that once we get there, I'll ask for

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2   your approval on that and acceptance of the Title VI

3   study.

4   The other mitigation that we use besides fare

5   capping is, we do have a not-for-profit that we work

6   with -- United Way -- and a program called "Everyone Rides

7   NICE." The parent company, Transdev, funded this through

8   a partnership, again, with the county. And, in general,

9   we've given away about $900,000 worth of free rides,

10   tickets to the agencies that United Way works for.

11   For example, Nassau County Community is one of

12   the biggest benefactors of that. They have students who

13   can't afford a bus ride. They give them bus tickets to

14   get to school. So, it's usually for training, school,

15   it's for food banks if they need help getting their

16   associates there. So, that happens every year.

17   And in general, we give about 50,000 -- 45 to

18      $50,000 a year to everyone -- to United Way through

19   Everyone Rides NICE. So, that's, again, another

20   mitigating factor to a fare increase. Again, it helps

21   ease the pain a little bit.

22   So, with that, Mr. Chairman, that's what I have

23   on my agenda. It's a pretty short and sweet agenda, but

24   that's what I've got. Thank you.

25   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Thank you so much. Because

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2   the reason it became short and sweet because this is -- it

3   took three meetings, public, because we try to make every

4   effort that everyone aware of it, and we follow all the

5   guidelines under the federal, state, to run the NICE. And

6   I greatly appreciate that. I did have my hand in front of

7   me, so I may add, if you give me one more minute before we

8   go anywhere.

9   Approval of the minutes. We're supposed to do

10   it before you, and since I would like to have it, since

11   you all received the minutes, who had attended, who didn't

12   attended, I'm sure your members received that, and if

13   there is no question, I'd like to have a motion to approve

14   the minutes.

15   MEMBER REARDON: I do have a concern with the

16   minutes from July.

17   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Let's have a motion first.

18   MEMBER REARDON: Okay.

19   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Once we have a second, then

20   you can ask that question.

21   MEMBER REARDON: Okay.

22   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: So, we'll put it officially

23   on the record.

24   MEMBER REARDON: Okay.

25   MEMBER ALTER: I'll second the motion.

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2   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: We have to make a motion

3   first.

4   MEMBER ALTER: I'll make a motion.

5   MEMBER FALCO: I will second.

6   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Okay. The former chair and

7   the distinguished member, Dawn Falco, made the second.

8   Is there a question on the table?

9   MEMBER REARDON: Yes. The minutes that were

10   posted for July did not have me present in the meeting,

11   which is, you know -- which is a concern, because I was

12   obviously present. Is there a way to amend the minutes?

13   MR. KHZOUZ: Thank you, Ms. Reardon. Let me

14   clarify. Our stenographer is taking -- she is literally

15   just taking the notes, the transcribing. There are no

16   actual minutes to approve because the board is not taking

17   minutes, okay?

18   So, what I would respectfully recommend,

19   Mr. Chairman, is that someone takes very simple notes,

20   then that can be sent to us. We will then put them in as

21   minutes.

22   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Thank you. But as the Chair,

23   I want to add in, since Member has the question, it will

24   be added as of today, even to the previous meeting that

25   our member was present, even if the add-on was left by the

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2   steno. And I will make sure that's corrected. Not only

3   corrected in the same time, but you made a suggestion --

4   it's a very good suggestion -- I will make sure that next,

5   even though we have it on the video -- the gentleman does

6   such a good job -- we're going to have our own recorded

7   meeting, our own staff, and we will take our own minutes.

8   That way, there is no -- we will depend on ourselves. But

9   I thank you for the suggestion. It's very important.

10   If there is no other question about the minutes,

11   after we --

12   MEMBER BERSE: Mr. Chairman, may I make a motion

13   we accept the minutes as corrected?

14   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Okay.

15   MEMBER BERSE: That's usually what's done after

16   a correction.

17   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: I have two lawyers --

18   three -- four lawyers, plus I have to solve with my first

19   motion. So, I will disregard the first motion then, then

20   I will take this motion, right?

21   ATTORNEY GALLAGHER: I think you can do both,

22   yes.

23   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: I'm going to add in Mr. Joel

24   Berse's motion.

25   MEMBER D'AGOSTINO: I second.

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2   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: So, there's two motions on

3   the table. So, we're going to take on both motions.

4   All in favor, say "Aye."

5   (Members respond in the affirmative.)

6   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Oppose?

7   (No response.)

8   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Abstention?

9   (No response.)

10   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: It is unanimous on both

11   motions, am I right? Do I have to take one more time the

12   vote on it? So, it's unanimous. Thank you very much for

13   accepting and drafting that.

14   Now, we have a question from the board to the

15   president. Please make it short. It's a short question.

16   And when he's giving an answer, don't interrupt him in the

17   middle of it. We greatly appreciate it. Go ahead.

18   MEMBER CLOLERY: Hi. I need to ask something.

19   We keep talking about trying to expand service through

20   another medium. What was it again? I keep forgetting.

21   MR. KHZOUZ: Through another --

22   MEMBER CLOLERY: I know that the NICE flex

23   service went to hell somewhere else. I was wondering if

24   there was a way to, you know, replace the bus lines that

25   were cut out. I mean --

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2   MR. KHZOUZ: Okay. So, Richard, I think you are

3   talking about the buses that -- the service that was

4   trimmed in 2017?

5   MEMBER CLOLERY: Yes.

6   MR. KHZOUZ: I will say, we continue to look at

7   different ways to expand bus service. We're maximizing

8   the service that's out there now. We're growing the

9   service that's out there now.

10   Currently, there's a couple of different ideas

11   on putting back maybe a little bit of service with an

12   on-demand shuttle. I don't know what next year's budget

13   looks like yet, but that will certainly be a priority.

14   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: I just want to make sure,

15   please address the question related to the increase.

16   MEMBER CLOLERY: Right. Right. Right.

17   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Right now, because I don't

18   want other questions, because then there is going to be

19   too much mixup. Please remember, if you have a question

20   related to the increase --

21   MEMBER CLOLERY: Then I have nothing else.

22   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Then please have a seat.

23   Thank you so much.

24   Any other member have any question?

25   Mr. Joel Berse?

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2   MEMBER BERSE: I have three questions from --

3   just to repeat -- from the prior meetings to add to the

4   record for today, and after the chairman is ready, I have

5   two new topics that I'll bring up later, once he calls on

6   me again.

7   But immediately right here, in the other

8   hearings, I had asked the question in the comparisons why

9   Baltimore was not used, and it had been answered before.

10   Just out of the choices of things. So, and I also ask

11   that I'll leave this for the president to address, why an

12   e-Ticket fare is higher than a regular? And then after

13   you answer that, I will give the third.

14   MR. KHZOUZ: So, think about a $3 purchase.

15   Credit card companies have a minimum charge. So,

16   regardless if we spent $3 or $10, they will minimally

17   charge you a fee.

18   In the case of this, it's about 30 cents. So,

19    $3 with a 30-cent charge plus the OMNY fare process and

20   everything else makes that ticket net out a lot less to

21   NICE.

22   So, it's just like going to any convenience

23   store -- I see them a lot -- that say -- signs that say,

24    $10 minimum credit card purchase. That's because they

25   have a minimum charge on anything below that. And the net

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2   income back to the retailer, in our case, is much less as

3   a percentage than a higher cost or a higher package, a

4   ticket package.

5   So, for example, 30 cents would represent

6   10 percent on that $3 charge, where when we go up, we

7   double it. But let's say it's a $58 package; that becomes

8   a 2 percent or 1 percent. So, that's the net difference.

9   That's why. We get a minimum charge on those single

10   rides.

11   MEMBER BERSE: Thank you. And the third repeat

12   question was in reference to the Title VI numbers, that

13   there were at least four, possibly five categories that

14   had a statistic saying less than zero percent or a

15   negative number. I still challenge the way you explained

16   it before. Having either nobody or less than nobody is

17   kind of difficult.

18   MR. KHZOUZ: This is directly from the U.S.

19   Census. The maps are provided directly from the U.S.

20   Census, and so is the explanation. Let me read it to you:

21   Maps are provided by the U.S. Census as raw

22   data. Errors are sometimes represented as placeholders or

23   negative numbers, but because the error is very small in

24   comparison to the total data set, it does not impact the

25   overall finding.

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2   So, that is the official U.S. Census.

3   MEMBER BERSE: Thank you. And, Mr. Chairman,

4   I'll reserve the two new questions for when you call for

5   them.

6   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: I appreciate that.

7   You have a question?

8   MEMBER FALCO: I do. Thank you. So, I just

9   wanted to clarify, what qualifies as an e-Ticket? Is it

10   anything other than an OMNY card swipe? What specifically

11   qualifies as an e-Ticket?

12   MR. KHZOUZ: So, when we talked about the

13      $3.50 -- I think, Ms. Falco, that's exactly what you are

14   talking about? So, on MetroCard in the past, on GoMobile,

15   those both were the same classification. In other words,

16   we charge $3.25 for our GoMobile single ride as the same

17   as a MetroCard single ride. So, if you bought a MetroCard

18   single ride, you were charged $3.25 for the upcharge,

19   whatever that is for the single, all the way down.

20   In the case now of OMNY, the same thing happens.

21   If you tap for just a single ride, you will be charged

22   that upcharge. Sorry. Hold on. I'm going to clarify

23   with Erika because she gave me a "ahem."

24   MS. RICHARDS: So, the OMNY vending machines

25   offer a single-ride OMNY card. So, it's outside of fare

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2   capping. It's just one ride. And that's the same as what

3   the old MetroCard machines used to do if you wanted to buy

4   just one ride. The cost of a single OMNY ride will be

5       $3.50.

6   MEMBER FALCO: On top of the price of the card?

7   MS. RICHARDS: That includes the card.

8   MEMBER FALCO: Oh, that includes the card.

9   MS. RICHARDS: While it doesn't make a lot of

10   sense, the MTA has told us they sell a lot of those.

11   MEMBER FALCO: Okay. So, if I'm at a machine,

12   hypothetically speaking, and I want to put $50 on my OMNY

13   card, I will be charged $3.50 per swipe; is that right?

14   MR. KHZOUZ: No, you'll be charged the $3 per

15   swipe.

16   MEMBER FALCO: Okay, thank you.

17   And my other question is, with respect to

18   refilling the OMNY card, can that be done remotely or does

19   it have to be at an OMNY machine similar to a MetroCard,

20   which has to be refilled at a kiosk?

21   MR. KHZOUZ: When you have your card, you buy a

22   card, there's a serial number on the card. You can go

23   online, register that, and now you can fill it in.

24   MEMBER FALCO: Okay.

25   MS. RICHARDS: A single ride --

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2   MR. KHZOUZ: Erika, let me call you back up

3   here.

4   MS. RICHARDS: Okay. The single-ride OMNY card

5   that will cost $3.50 cannot be reloaded, unlike any other

6   OMNY card where you can load value on to it.

7   MR. KHZOUZ: That's a disposable card. Think of

8   it as a disposable card, single ride, boom, done, I'm done

9   with it.

10   MEMBER FALCO: What's the physical distinction

11   between the two cards?

12   MR. KHZOUZ: I believe there is a color

13   distinction between the two cards. I believe the single

14   ride is like a white card. I knew that answer. Thank

15   you.

16   MEMBER FALCO: Thank you both. I appreciate it.

17   Thank you.

18   MR. KHZOUZ: Let's see, white or black? I am

19   gonna go with white.

20   MEMBER FALCO: Thank you.

21   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: George?

22   MEMBER MARTINEZ: No questions.

23   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Richard, do you have any

24   other question related to the increase?

25   MEMBER CLOLERY: No, not to the increase.

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2   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Any other member have any

3   question related to that besides Mr. Joel Berse? He's

4   holding his time for two more questions.

5   Does any other member have --

6   MEMBER D'AGOSTINO: One question. You

7   mentioned, I think, the MetroCards are being phased out

8   eventually. Is there a date for that or do you have an

9   idea?

10   MR. KHZOUZ: We don't. We believe it will be

11   mid June of next year. We believe. But, again, we're

12   getting as much information as the public is getting at

13   this point. So that's what I think the thinking is.

14   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Do you have a question?

15   MEMBER REARDON: Yes, I do.

16   To go off of what Jaclene said, I saw this in

17   the Post. Let's just qualify what I'm saying right now

18   is -- I actually read it every day. That's the problem.

19   And I'm admitting to it.

20   An article came up about OMNY, and I clicked on

21   it, and they did mention that the city is -- MTA is going

22   to allow MTA trading, card trading, for OMNY money, in the

23   article. Now, I believe that might have not been

24   something that has been shared or discussed, but it was

25   recently in the article that they are going to have these

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 2   trade-ins.
 3   Would that be something available? Because
 4   they're saying you can take your OMNY card if you -- OMNY
 5   card, I'm sorry -- MetroCard, and bring it and swap it out
 6   for OMNY money.
 7   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Would you please -- I just
 8   want you to know, and our members, any of your questions,
 9   doesn't matter how you read it, they are very important.
10   They are important to me. They are important to you. And
11   it's important to the public that we are making every
12   effort to stand for the best interests of the public.
13   To our transportation providers, NICE, and their
14   staff, the questions we are raising are given all the
15   answer. It's not something we take it lightly. At least
16   I don't. Every question, it doesn't matter how you
17   conclude it to have that question, it's very important to
18   me, to the administration, to the public, and I'm sure to
19   the other entire team. So, I want you to know that.
20   Please do not hesitate.
21   MEMBER REARDON: No, not at all.
22   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: I'm glad you are reading the
23   paper.
24   MR. KHZOUZ: Ms. Reardon, so, what the MTA is
25   doing, they have deployed some vehicles that will exchange

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2   value back and forth in that. We don't have that option

3   here per se.

4   Hold on, Erika.

5   We don't have that option here per se. What we

6   are trying to do is trying to get the MTA to send some our

7   way to do that, number one. Number two, there are

8   opportunities. Many of our customers who travel with a

9   MetroCard do travel into New York City, and in the major

10   stations, that's where they have the machines to swipe.

11   At Jamaica, at Flushing, they do have -- not the machines,

12   but they usually have a stationed type of vehicle to swap

13   that.

14   I am going to ask Erika to clarify what I said,

15   because apparently I didn't say it right.

16   MS. RICHARDS: So, currently, there are 20

17   centers that the MTA has where you can go ahead, bring

18   your MetroCard, and they will accept expired MetroCards

19   that have value on them up to two years after that card

20   has expired.

21   You can go to one of these centers. There are

22   20 currently in the five boroughs, including Grand

23   Central, Penn. The closest ones for our customers are

24   Flushing-Main Street, Jamaica. And the centers are --

25   they're in the subways. The one in Jamaica is also in the

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2   subway. They are open 24/7. And they will go ahead and

3   transfer any value on that MetroCard onto an OMNY card.

4   You must provide them with an OMNY card. So, they don't

5   have an OMNY card there; you need to bring them one.

6   Now, they are expanding these service centers

7   and are expected to have well over a hundred by January.

8   Additionally, their mobile service centers will do the

9   same thing. And the closest ones for our passengers are

10   at Flushing-Main Street and in Jamaica.

11   I have all of this information on our website

12   under the OMNY section with all of the hours for the

13   mobile -- the days and hours for the mobile cards and a

14   link so that everybody can see. So, it should not be an

15   issue to get that value transferred.

16   And, additionally, the MTA -- the head of OMNY

17   has told us -- when Jack says we think that it's going to

18   be June when they discontinue taking MetroCard payments,

19   it's because they haven't made a decision yet.

20   What we are literally being told by the head of

21   the OMNY project is, I think, June. So, but that should

22   be plenty of time for people to exhaust that value.

23   MEMBER REARDON: Absolutely. And I thank you

24   for clarifying, because when I read it, I was, like, all

25   right, you know, it's a little confusing in a way, so that

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2   our riders and our residents know that there are these

3   options, whether they have to go into the city or

4   eventually if they are kind enough to bring a mobile

5   center here that we can publicize. But this is an option.

6   If not, you can run your MetroCard dry. Thank you.

7   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: I appreciate that question,

8   but since we're talking about that card, I again want to

9   repeat that question, because we are here to do the public

10   work. That's the only reason I am here and other members

11   are here. That's the advice that I have from the -- and

12   the members have from the county.

13   So, my question is to protect the public's best

14   interest. I'm sure that's great news that they have two

15   year's time, and I'm sure there will be enough people out

16   there who might not use this card, maybe never cashed this

17   card. I and the board -- I speak on behalf of them, the

18   members -- I need to know how much money is eventually

19   left two years later, they cannot use it, and where that

20   money goes. We will be continuing watching where that

21   money goes, how money -- maybe there's none. Maybe

22   there's none. And if it is, usually the public money goes

23   back to the comptroller's office, New York State

24   Comptroller.

25   But we still want to make sure we are watching

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2   the public money, because they spent the money to buy this

3   card. If there are thousands of members who did not use

4   it and misplaced it, lost the card, or they forget the

5   card, they're never going to use it again, it might be

6   small amount on each card left, but when you count every

7   penny, it becomes a dollar when you have 100 pennies.

8   So, all these members were using it so long, or

9   even in the past if there's money out there belong to the

10   public, I want to make sure. It's a lot of work. I

11   understand it's a lot of work. We want to make sure we

12   don't forgotten them. The money belong to whoever our

13   members are. I took the privilege, as the Chair, to add

14   that question on the record.

15   Does any other member have any question, besides

16   Mr. Joel Berse, for the president?

17   Please.

18   MEMBER BERSE: Thank you. It was very nice that

19   my colleagues on the board started thinking in terms of

20   where this first question is.

21   I have had contact from a bunch of people that

22   are riders that have not been able to come to the

23   hearings, and because I advocate for our committee and try

24   to advertise it out at the various organizations I'm at,

25   and the first question was, is there any pressure being

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2   put on to actually have a conversion team, let's say, at

3   least at Rosa Parks, for the whole period of when the

4   conversion is being completed so that at least there's one

5   place out here consistently and always that they can

6   convert a MetroCard into an OMNY if they don't travel into

7   the city?

8   MR. KHZOUZ: Yes. I mean, we've asked that

9   question consistently, and we continue to put pressure on

10   the MTA to provide that service. Again, a little tough,

11   but we'll continue that. That's all we could do, is ask

12   and push. So, we're hoping. We'll see.

13   MEMBER BERSE: Okay, thank you.

14   The final thought also from --

15   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Is it a thought or a

16   question?

17   MEMBER BERSE: The thought coming out of me, but

18   their question was: Reflective of the change in the city

19   government, what is going to be the effect to our fare

20   system should they find a way to make the New York City

21   buses free?

22   MR. KHZOUZ: I personally don't love to work in

23   theory and what ifs. My job here is to run this system

24   for the best interests of our riders, of our taxpayers, of

25   the county. So, I can't speculate what could happen. I

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2   mean, Joel, I really don't have a --

3   MEMBER BERSE: I didn't expect a full answer,

4   but the question is out there, and it's something on

5   people's minds because they hear this rhetoric about

6   wanting to make the city buses free. And the state

7   representatives from here on Long Island, both sides of

8   the aisle, have said that they're opposed to it because

9   they don't want to take money out of the MTA.

10   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Mr. Berse, I could do -- I

11   appreciate your question because they're very important.

12   I like what the president said: We don't want to talk

13   about if and what and when we have it. That question is

14   very important. We definitely -- I want to request,

15   please forward that information, but this stage, I'd

16   rather have no answer when you don't have the answer.

17   MR. KHZOUZ: Yes.

18   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: If, what, I don't believe in

19   it, that's no good. If, what, but, could, should, I would

20   not be sitting here.

21   MR. KHZOUZ: Certainly.

22   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: I appreciate that.

23   So, is there any other member have any question

24   related directly to the increase?

25   MEMBER CLOLERY: No.

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2   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Reading of the public

3   comments. Are there any public comments?

4   MR. KHZOUZ: At this time on the website and

5   through social media, we have received no public comments

6   regarding the fare increase.

7   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Thank you so much.

8   I am coming to you, sir, because we are here for

9   public as much as we are here for you. Because we are a

10   team and we are a public also. We are taxpayers, as you

11   guys are. So, from that point of view, if someone from

12   the public while they're here like to make a comment,

13   please come to the podium and state your name and then ask

14   the question.

15   If it's a question, ask your question. If it's

16   a suggestion, you can hold on to it and give the

17   suggestion in writing. Question, you can ask.

18   MR. D'SOUZA: So, it's a question.

19   My name is Charlton D'souza, and I'm the

20   president of Passengers United. We're a 501(c)(3)

21   nonprofit, and we represent Nassau County bus riders and

22   the New York Metro tristate area.

23   So, what the question is, Mr. Chairman, is when

24   OMNY is instituted and installed on NICE buses, for

25   customers who are coming from 179th Street and have to get

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2   on the N22, which ends at Roosevelt Field Mall, will there

3   be a built-in transfer for those people going to

4   Hicksville and Roosevelt Field and points north?

5   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Keep going, your question.

6   MR. D'SOUZA: And then the other concern is,

7   obviously -- so, there is some good news. I spoke to

8   Shanifah Rieara. They are opening up a customer service

9   center at 179th Street and Hillside Avenue. I saw the

10   other dates being installed.

11   So, the good news for NICE customers, they will

12   have that. However, the OMNY machines are always breaking

13   down. That is my concern. It's happening at

14   Parsons-Archer, 179th Street. It is a pain in the neck.

15   And when this happens, you know, it puts customers in a

16   whole big thing.

17   What I will do for you guys is, I will make sure

18   that the MTA has -- you know, they've been offering people

19   free OMNY cards in Queens. They did it the other day. I

20   think they should come here and offer, instead of paying

21         $2 -- because there's still a charge for OMNY cards.

22   Starting in January it's going to be $2. So, if the MTA

23   can come the last week of December and give some free OMNY

24   cards to those who need it at Rosa Parks, that would be

25   excellent.

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2   One of the concerns we have is, we want an OMNY

3   machine installed at Rosa Parks Center. It should be

4   there. I really hope that NICE Bus and Nassau County will

5   fund that, because I understand -- I did speak to some

6   state legislators. They said they're going to look into

7   that. And hopefully, Mr. Chair, I will be in

8   communication with you. So, we have that.

9   I did want to know, will the N88 bus be

10   accepting OMNY for the summer? Because if it is, I could

11   tell you now, ridership is going to surge like never

12   before. They had very high ridership this summer. So, I

13   think OMNY will be good overall for Nassau County. It

14   will. Because with MetroCards, they used to get damaged

15   all the time.

16   My only other concern is, what happens if an

17   OMNY card is not tapping on the bus or if the reader is

18   broken? What will be NICE Bus's policy for that, and how

19   will the county work through that?

20   And then the other concern is obviously

21   Access-A-Ride. Some people use -- they used to use

22   MetroCard for Access-A-Ride. So, for the ADA disability

23   community, will they be able to still tap OMNY? I'm sure

24   they will on that. But for those members of that

25   community, for the ADA community, they need to make sure

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2   that the reduced-fare OMNY cards and all that stuff is

3   available, because one thing that I know, like when you go

4   to the OMNY machine, the regular OMNY machine, to buy

5   reduced fare, sometimes it doesn't work.

6   And that's been an issue too. There's been

7   times I've had to help people, because a lot of people,

8   the screen is very slow. Sometimes it stops. Sometimes

9   it just cuts off. So, there are issues with these vending

10   machines. I just want full disclosure. I want the board

11   to know that. And sometimes in the past, other subway

12   stations, there's nobody there to help them because the

13   station attendant goes on a one-hour break. So, that

14   could be an issue.

15   But in terms of students who use -- I know

16   students cannot -- New York City students cannot use OMNY

17   in Nassau because there's a cutoff. However, I did read

18   something about Fair Fares, the program. On the Fair

19   Fares website for New York City, it says that OMNY will

20   soon be accepted on NICE bus. And I think I brought that

21   up to Erika.

22   So, I don't know if the City of New York

23   corrected that, because obviously Nassau County and the

24   City of New York is two different entities. That's

25   something that the board might want to look into.

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2   Otherwise, you know, we just hope there's more

3   reliable service. I think that's what customers want. If

4   you are charging people $3 more, the buses have to

5   connect. People cannot be waiting for canceled trips and

6   missed trips. We get a lot of complaints about missing

7   runs, missed trips. That has to be fixed.

8   I don't want to take up any more time, but thank

9   you to the NICE Bus Team. Thank you to Erika. Thank you

10   to the CEO. One thing I will say, they always answer our

11   questions any time I have a concern. They're on it.

12   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Sir, before I ask the

13   president to answer your question, I want to say thank you

14   on behalf of the members for you being vigilant out there

15   and being a bridge between us -- the NICE and the public.

16   We greatly appreciate that.

17   MR. D'SOUZA: Sure.

18   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: You had plus and minus almost

19   14 questions, and I'm glad you did. I'm glad you did. I

20   am sure all of the members, some of your questions and

21   suggestions are very relevant to us.

22   And I could say to the president, if he can

23   answer you right now or if they can send you in writing

24   all your questions that you have. If you want to hear him

25   right now, he will be happy to do so.

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2   MR. D'SOUZA: But one thing I wanted to say.

3   There were no meetings (sic) posted for this meeting on

4   the buses. As you can see, I think I'm the only person

5   here to testify, if I believe so, and that's an issue.

6   So, there should have been communication on the buses, on

7   the medium.

8   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: I want to take that question,

9   again, very seriously. It was shared with the president.

10   Sometimes everything doesn't happen -- change doesn't

11   happen overnight. Sometimes it takes a little extra time.

12   But I only can assure you, as the counsel to the members,

13   we're trying every effort to make sure as much as public

14   is aware of it, and Mr. Joel Berse is a king in this, to

15   make sure the public knows.

16   So, I am very humbly to say all members are very

17   vigilant for the best interests of the public, but your

18   presence, sometimes one is better than 50 where they have

19   no questions, okay? So, we appreciate your presence.

20   Would you like the president to give you answer

21   now?

22   MR. D'SOUZA: He can do that. It's public

23   disclosure.

24   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Yes, but --

25   MR. KHZOUZ: I'll try to --

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2   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Have a seat. Sir, you can

3   have a seat.

4   MR. KHZOUZ: So, I will try to answer what I

5   can. There are some -- you go deep, Mr. D'souza. I

6   appreciate that. You're like a good rock album. You

7   gotta go deep cuts to hear everything in there.

8   So, very quickly, kind of going backwards up,

9   Access-A-Ride, OMNY cards, we don't accept MetroCards on

10   our Paratransit vehicles. So, currently we were pushing

11   the MTA to allow us to put OMNY on to our Paratransit

12   vehicles. It's secondary right now for them. They're not

13   going to work on that right now. We may have to come back

14   to that. So, that is something we have asked for

15   initially.

16   We are obviously going to accept -- the N88 is

17   going to have OMNY on it. We're excited about the N88.

18   That's a great ride. That's a great service. We continue

19   to do that. So, that's not a problem.

20   Machine at Rosa Parks. So, you said it

21   yourself: Those machines break down a ton. The MetroCard

22   machines broke down a ton. We chose to start with our

23   retailer, and we're going to see how that goes before

24   committing something like $750,000 a year to a machine

25   that has not great -- and the problem with that machine

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2   is, we can't service it. Someone from the MTA has to come

3   out and service it. And that's why it's so expensive to

4   run. So, not a big, huge fan of it, but we'll continue to

5   keep an open mind on that.

6   The transfer -- I'm going to ask Erika -- it

7   still works. It will work. Not a problem. I think I got

8   everything. If not, you and I will have a machine-gun

9   round after this and I will try to answer anything else.

10   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: I appreciate it.

11   Any other question from the public?

12   Sir, you have a question? If you have no

13   question, one of my member of the public have a question

14   to follow up at.

15   MEMBER ALTER: As the public, yes, indeed.

16   Now in light of the OMNY machines breaking

17   down -- and you had mentioned that in Nassau, it's going

18   to be in retail stores -- can you tell us, what does that

19   look like? Are they going to be preloaded or is somebody

20   going to have to then go home to register it?

21   MR. KHZOUZ: No. So, there's a couple of

22   different cards. There will be the white card, the

23   single-use card that you can buy, or you can get a card

24   that I handed everybody. So, this is the way the card

25   comes. There is no valuation on it.

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2   So, it's hanging -- if you go to CVS, for

3   example, you can buy every gift card in the world at CVS.

4   It's the same thing. You pick the card up. The

5   difference is, you pay just for the card. The retailer

6   can load the value. You could say, I want the card and 25

7   bucks on it. They'll load the value. Or you can just pay

8   for the card, and on the back, there's a serial number,

9   and you can log on, create an account where then you can

10   load the value continuously on the card.

11   After you -- let's say you decide to go to the

12   retailer. They load the card, okay, the initial. You can

13   still take it home and load it with more value. But that

14   card is like a credit card. You don't want to throw it

15   away because every time you throw it away, you have to buy

16   another card. So, this stays in your wallet just like

17   your debit cards and everything else.

18   MEMBER ALTER: Is there ever a time gap between

19   the purchase and using NICE?

20   MR. KHZOUZ: I believe -- I mean, when I've done

21   it, it's been literally instantaneous, and that includes

22   loading. If I'm loading on my phone, I've got my phone

23   out and I'm updating the card, it takes a few minutes to

24   process, but it loads pretty quickly.

25   MEMBER ALTER: Thank you.

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2   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: I thank you so much.

3   Since there's no comment from the public, and I

4   think it's time that we move on, but I want to have --

5   before I move on, I want to have a clarification with you

6   and with counsel.

7   Do I have to make two different motions or do I

8   cover the next two item in one motion?

9   ATTORNEY GALLAGHER: I think that you should

10   make separate motions.

11   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Separate motion, okay.

12   MR. KHZOUZ: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry, I don't

13   mean to interrupt. So, there should be three separate

14   motions.

15   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: May I know where are those

16   three motions? I don't have it here with me.

17   MR. KHZOUZ: So, there are three motions.

18   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Can I have those in front of

19   me, please?

20   MR. KHZOUZ: Yes, you can have my copy. There

21   is an acceptance of the third-quarter scorecard.

22   (Handing.)

23   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: That's good. That is

24   beautiful. So, we have three items, so there will be

25   three motions.

1   Transit Committee Meeting

2   And before I go to that one, I want to thank the

3   public, I want to thank the NICE management, and

4   definitely I would like to thank the company officials

5   which you are representing, Mr. Gallagher, and they were

6   being very helpful to help us to reach this conclusion for

7   the best interest of the public. And I want to say thank

8   you and to all the members.

9   ATTORNEY GALLAGHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Thank you, sir.

11   Thank you every member to be here.

12   So, the first motion I need to make -- I want to

13   have a motion -- acceptance of Q3 2025 scorecard.

14   Do I have a motion?

15   MEMBER REARDON: So moved.

16   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Second?

17   MEMBER VICTORY: Second.

18   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: All in favor?

19   (Members respond in the affirmative.)

20   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Opposed?

21   (No response.)

22   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Abstention?

23   (No response.)

24   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: It's unanimous.

25   You know, I want to add in something else. If

1   Transit Committee Meeting

2   you would be kind enough -- who made the motion? You made

3   the second. And take that part of the minutes right now

4   for on the record.

5   MEMBER REARDON: I did.

6   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: So, we won't be depending on

7   it. Please. Thank you so much.

8   On the second item, I need a motion of

9   acknowledgment of Title VI study.

10   MEMBER MARTINEZ: I would like to make that

11   motion.

12   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: I need a second.

13   MEMBER ALTER: I second it.

14   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: All in favor say "Aye."

15   (Members respond in the affirmative.)

16   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Opposed?

17   (No response.)

18   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Abstention?

19   (No response.)

20   MEMBER BERSE: Wait. Opposed.

21   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: What are you opposing?

22   MEMBER BERSE: The motion.

23   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Okay, I just want to make

24   sure.

25   MEMBER BERSE: I don't like negative numbers.

1   Transit Committee Meeting

2   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: That's okay.

3   MEMBER BERSE: Eight, one.

4   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Eight aye, one opposed. No

5   abstention. I have it.

6   Number three, fare increase proposal.

7   As you all know, again, I am going to repeat it,

8   that the management of NICE, specifically I have to say

9   the president, for last three days with me and

10   Mr. Gallagher and the county, made several back and forth

11   to do every efforts to say what is the best for the

12   public. That's what we all are here for.

13   And I again want to say thank you that some of

14   my questions or the county's question was very difficult,

15   but you did what was requested to give us the answer in

16   the same tone for the best interest of the public. I

17   thank you.

18   Now I need to have a motion.

19   MEMBER BERSE: I would like to make this motion.

20   I make a motion that we accept the fare increase on the

21   personal opinion that it benefits our riders because they

22   don't have that double fare if they're going into the

23   city.

24   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Sir, you can only make a

25   motion. Just make a motion. I appreciate other, but can

1   Transit Committee Meeting

2   you make a motion to accept this?

3   ATTORNEY GALLAGHER: To approve.

4   MEMBER BERSE: All right, I'll make a motion to

5   approve the fare increase.

6   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Do we have a second?

7   MEMBER MARTINEZ: Second.

8   MEMBER CLOLERY: Second.

9   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Okay. We have two seconds,

10   but let's take one of them.

11   All in favor say "Aye."

12   (Members respond in the affirmative.)

13   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Oppose?

14   (No response.)

15   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Abstention?

16   (No response.)

17   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: It's unanimous.

18   Thank you so much.

19   Now, before we adjourn the meeting, I just want

20   to make one note. Again, thank you, all of you. I know

21   the county executive is not here. We're going to have

22   very good news. Some of you probably know, some not. I'm

23   not going to go into details.

24   And once the county executive is back, Bob

25   DiCarlo, County Chief Arthur Walsh, and many others made a

1   Transit Committee Meeting

2   lot of efforts for this good news, which some know, some

3   not. I'm not going to disclose further than that. I will

4   have the county executive, when he's back, he will hold

5   that press conference with Mr. Khzouz.

6   It's great news. I should say it's great news

7   and it's hard work of many. And I want you to know --

8   you, the board, you, the members -- are bringing all the

9   good luck to serve the public. Thank you so much on

10   behalf of the county.

11   And, again, I want to give credit to the

12   president as well as to the county executive, Chief Arthur

13   Walsh, to Senator DiCarlo, and many others. And County

14   Attorney's office was very helpful, Mr. Gallagher.

15   So, if you have no other agenda, I want to say

16   thank you to the public. I would like to have a motion to

17   adjourn the meeting.

18   MEMBER REARDON: So moved.

19   MEMBER ALTER: I second.

20   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: All in favor say "Aye."

21   (Members respond in the affirmative.)

22   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Opposed?

23   (No response.)

24   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Abstention?

25   (No response.)

1   Transit Committee Meeting

2   CHAIRMAN KALOTEE: Thank you to the public.

3   Please go home. I'm late on my dinner. The members can

4   stay, including Mr. Gallagher, for one minute only.

5   Thank you very much.

6   (The meeting concluded at 7:45 p.m.)

7

8

9   IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND

      ACCURATE TRANSCRIPT OF THE STENOGRAPHIC MINUTES OF THIS

10   MEETING

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      _____

15   Debra Smith

          Court Reporter

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