

INSTITUTE FOR RATIONAL URBAN MOBILITY, INC.

George Haikalis
President

One Washington Square Village, Suite 5D
New York, NY 10012 212-475-3394
geo@irum.org www.irum.org

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IRUM urges MTA to halt proposed fare hikes for its bus, subway and commuter rail lines.

The Institute for Rational Urban Mobility, Inc. (IRUM) is a NYC-based nonprofit concerned with reducing motor vehicular congestion and improving the livability of dense urban places.

IRUM strongly opposes MTA's proposed fare hikes and urges the agency, working with the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC), and its partners in the 22 million person NY-NJ-CT metro area to launch a comprehensive study of how the region should fund its extensive public transport network.

Endless fare hikes are not the way to solve the region's ever growing roadway congestion.

A coherent strategy of "carrots and sticks" is needed. Endless "sticks" like fare hikes combined with more "sticks" like toll hikes won't do it.

An attractive and well maintained public transit system is vital for the region's economic and environmental health. There are many entities that benefit, including property owners and motorists as well as transit users.

The region must move beyond the current funding plan which is an endless series of ad hoc actions prepared in a complicated political battlefield.

A thoughtful, data-driven plan can and should be prepared by the agencies charged with this mission with considerable public discussion and review.

It time for the MTA Board to stand up and call for such a plan.

George Haikalis
President, IRUM