

Title VI Fare Analysis

Proposed 2026 Productivity-Adjusted Inflation-Based Increase

Attachment A

A. Implement a 6.2% Productivity-Adjusted Inflation-Based Fare Increase in January 2026.

This fare change will be the last increase in BART's third series of productivity-adjusted, inflation-based fare increases. The proposed fare increase would help fares keep pace with inflation, generating revenue that supports BART operations as well as BART's capital reinvestment projects. Implementation of the 6.2% increase in January 2026 is subject to Board approval of the corresponding and finalized Title VI fare analysis, which will comply with federal regulations in effect at the time.

In January 2025, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released the final inflation data for 2024, which allowed for actual calculation of the 2026 increase as written in Resolution 5405, approved by the BART Board of Directors on June 13, 2019. This calculation results in overall inflation of 6.7% over two years. After subtracting the 0.5% productivity factor, the actual fare increase by policy to be implemented in 2026 is 6.2%.

Pending approval of this report, the BART Board may implement a fare increase of 6.2% in January 2026.

Analysis Findings. This is an across-the-board fare change, and the DI/DB Policy states such a change will be considered to have a disproportionate impact if the difference between the changes for protected riders (i.e., minority or low-income riders) and non-protected riders is equal to or greater than 5%. Calculations of the weighted average fares for protected and non-protected riders show increases are virtually identical and thus the difference between these fares does not exceed the 5% threshold for protected riders. In addition, the cumulative effect of fare increases from 2020 through the proposed increase in 2026 would not result in a disproportionate impact on protected riders because the increases are also virtually identical, and thus the difference is less than 5%. The table below summarizes the findings.

		Minority Disparate Impact	Low-Income Disproportionate Burden
A.	CPI-based fare increase of 6.2%, 2026	No	No
	Cumulative impact	No	No

Public Outreach. Survey respondents were asked to provide feedback regarding the proposed increase by answering survey Question 1: “Would you support or oppose the proposed fare increase of 6.2% to keep up with the cost of providing BART service?” Of the minority respondents (812), 67% did not support and 22% were in favor. Of the low-income respondents (213), 75% did not support and 14% were in favor. In addition, survey respondents were asked to provide feedback regarding this biennial increase by answering survey Question 2: “Do you have any comments about how these proposed fare increase would impact you?” Approximately 61% of survey respondents, or 783 respondents, chose to comment regarding the less-than-inflation fare increase. Of the 785 commenting respondents, 61% (477 respondents) identified as minority and 16% (123) as low-income.

Analysis Finding. The fare change analysis found no disparate impact or disproportionate burden on protected riders. Regarding survey responses, of the 812 minority respondents, 67% were not in support, 10% were neutral, and 22% supported the increase. Of the 213 low-income survey respondents, 75% were not in support; 8% were neutral; 14% supported the increase. Although many respondents indicated they did not support the less-than-inflation fare increase, the fare change analysis had no DI/DB finding for protected riders. In conclusion, this fare change would not have a disparate impact on minority riders or place a disproportionate burden on low-income riders.