Fare Free for Cleaner Air

Efforts to Get the Word Out

Customer Service

- A letter and copy of the poster accompany each ticket sales. The letter explains the June-August
 fare free campaign and recommendation that customers do not activate a 31-day ticket as they
 will not get the full value of the ticket.
- An individualized letter (from Brian) and flyer accompanied each ticket purchase made by vendors. The letter explains the June-August fare free campaign and recommendation that customers do not activate a 31-day ticket as they will not get the full value of the ticket. The letter requested assistance in getting the word out to our mutual customers.
- Notification and flyer emailed to King Soopers and Safeway central staff explaining the fare free campaign and request to "get the word out to King Soopers/Safeway staff and customers". A letter explaining more about the Fare Free campaign and a copy of the flyer was/will be attached.
- Customer Service outgoing message announces free fares and recommends customers do not activate a 31-day ticket as they will not get the full value of the ticket.
- Customer Service Representatives provide information to customers inquiring about free fares (phone and emails)

Public Communications

Friday, May 5:

- Announced on all social media platforms. (86 likes, 20 comments, 57 shares with a reach of over 5000!) No negative!
- Changed banner on Facebook to show program. (34 likes, 5 comments, 12 shares) No negative!
- Put on web main page.
- Banner on FB.



- Press release sent out.
- City put on all of their social media platforms.
- Stories on all local media news outlets web/social media pages:
- https://www.fox21news.com/news/local/mountain-metro-giving-free-rides-for-second-year/
- https://krdo.com/news/local-news/top-stories/2023/05/05/mountain-metro-transit-offering-free-rides-june-through-august/
- https://www.kktv.com/2022/07/19/passengers-ride-free-mountain-metro-buses-entire-month-august/
- https://www.csindy.com/news/no-free-ride-think-again/article_b308ef0e-eb70-11ed-a253-c7e9162fa544.html
- https://www.koaa.com/news/covering-colorado/colorado-springs-offers-free-bus-rides-throughout-august
- https://gazette.com/news/local/free-bus-rides-in-colorado-springs-june-1-through-aug-31/article-8bbdbd6e-eb7d-11ed-9ccb-f3165d239212.html
- https://ground.news/article/mountain-metro-transit-offering-free-rides-june-through-august aa726b
- Stories aired on 4 TV Stations.

Monday, May 8:

- Flyers were posted at terminal and in lobby.
- Flyers were taken to Maintenance to be placed on all buses.
- Laminated flyers given to Jackson to be place on all paratransit vehicles.

Wednesday, May 10:

 Another social media push. (52 likes, 10 comments, 34 shares with a reach of over 3400.) no negative!

Monday, May 15:

- On camera interview for another TV story:
- https://krdo.com/news/2023/05/15/mountain-metropolitan-transit-offering-free-bus-rides-to-reduce-ground-level-ozone-this-summer/

Tuesday, May 16:

- Window Clings taken to maintenance for buses. 2-3 were put on each bus.
- Large window clings put in terminal windows and Customer Service.

Thursday, May 18:

Another web and social media push planned with RidePro Survey push.

Sunday, May 21: Ads were placed on 30 buses.

Monday, May 22: Ads were put on 30 benches and 15 shelters.

Tuesday, May 30:

Social Push, Live interview on the Dan Cochell show on KRDO radio.

Wednesday, May 31:

Social Media push

Printed and laminated fare box and scanner covers and delivered them to Maintenance to install overnight.

Thursday, June 1:

Intentionally did not push out on social media due to extreme delays caused by President's motorcade.

Monday, June 5: Delivered a packet of information cards to Danielle Summerville, the Community Diversity & Outreach Programs Manager to give out at Pikes Peak Pride.

CASTA Paid Radio ads started on local stations.

Tuesday, June 6: Bike to Work Podcast had a segment on Zero Fare. (14 minutes into show)

https://studio809podcasts.com/pedal-the-springs/

Thursday, June 8: Social promo to encourage free bus trips to Pride events.

Friday through Sunday, June 9-10: Handed out postcards during Pride Week.

Monday, June 12: Cards at Pride were a "huge hit" at Pride, and she asked for, and another packet was sent hand out at the Juneteenth Celebration.

Tuesday, June 13: Social Media push with video.

Wednesday, June 14: Social Media push with transit options for Nuggets parade and rally.

Thursday, June 15: Social Media push with the Juneteenth Celebration.

Friday through Sunday, June 16-18: Handed out postcards at Juneteenth events.

Wednesday, June 28: Handed out postcards at the Bike to Work Day events.

Social media pushes throughout July

Tuesday, July 11: Posts on FB and Insta

Wednesday, July 13: Post on CO2 on FB and Insta

Thursday, July 13: Shared post from Rep. Vigil on Free Fares.

Wednesday, July 19: FB/Insta/Linked in Posts on June numbers.





Tuesday, July 25: Post on free fare, Bustang ½ off and RTD free fares. FB/Insta/Twitter/LinkedIn.

Wednesday, July 26: FB/Instagram posts on hot weather and free rides

Thursday, July 27: Taste of Pikes Peak. Went to event and handed out postcards and stickers and talked to people about the free fares.

Friday, July 28: Shared FB post from Ped and Cycle on free fares.

Social Media Posts Through August:

Tuesday, August 8: Letting people know about the last 3 weeks.

Thursday, August 10: Press release sent and social media posts on all platforms about record June/July numbers.

https://krdo.com/news/2023/08/10/mountain-metro-sees-record-ridership-over-summer-months/

https://www.fox21news.com/news/local/mountain-metro-breaks-ridership-records/

https://www.csbj.com/news/business-briefs-mountain-metro-breaks-record-trail-funding-urban-living-tour-accelerator-program/article_1e369492-3bae-11ee-9b77-07d8a7095b74.html

Tuesday, August 15: Social Media Posts with two week reminder.

Wednesday, August 16: Flyers put in all buses with a reminder that fares will be back on September 1.

Friday, August 18: Interview with Business Journal, article scheduled to air 8/21.

Monday, August 21:

https://www.csbj.com/premier/businessnews/mountain-metro-transit-ridership-higher-thanever/article 7f2b813a-4208-11ee-9ef6-1fe28d1983e4.html

CASTA Survey posted online on all social media platforms.

Thursday, August 24: 1 week left reminder on all social media platforms

Friday, August 25: A call on social media for people to talk about how fares helped with a push to survey and the video shoot on buses asking people about the free fares.

Tuesday, August 29:

KRDO ran article about free fares: https://krdo.com/news/2023/08/29/zero-fare-program-on-mountain-metro-transit-ends-aug-31/

Press Release sent out informing media of event on Thursday, August 31

Thursday, August 31: Post on all social media platforms reminding riders free fares end and we say thank you.

Press release sent reminding media of event .

Held press conference: Multiple Media Outlets covered event.

https://coloradosun.com/2023/08/31/free-bus-rides-yielded-record-breaking-ridership-coloradosprings/

https://gazette.com/090123-news-zerofare-jpg/image_1a77e99e-4835-11ee-a6cc-cbfdb4f305d5.html

https://gazette.com/news/local/public-transit-ridership-up-in-colorado-springs-across-colorado-assummer-long-zero-fare-initiative/article 447c2814-46c2-11ee-9687-c72c4ac44eb3.html

https://www.fox21news.com/news/colorado-springs-celebrates-success-of-zero-fare-for-better-air-initiative/

https://mms.tveyes.com/Expand.asp?aln=67872345&id=972484&u=1274551&dt=08%2F31%2F2023%2004%3A33%3A17%20PM

TVEyes Media Monitoring Suite - [Transcript]

<u>TVEyes Media Monitoring Suite - [Transcript]</u>

TVEyes Media Monitoring Suite - [Transcript]

Tuesday, September 5: Sent out release with record August numbers. Multiple outlets covered it.

https://mms.tveyes.com/Transcript.asp?StationID=3500&DateTime=9%2F5%2F2023+5%3A08%3A11+PM&Term=%22Mountain+Metro%22&PlayClip=TRUE

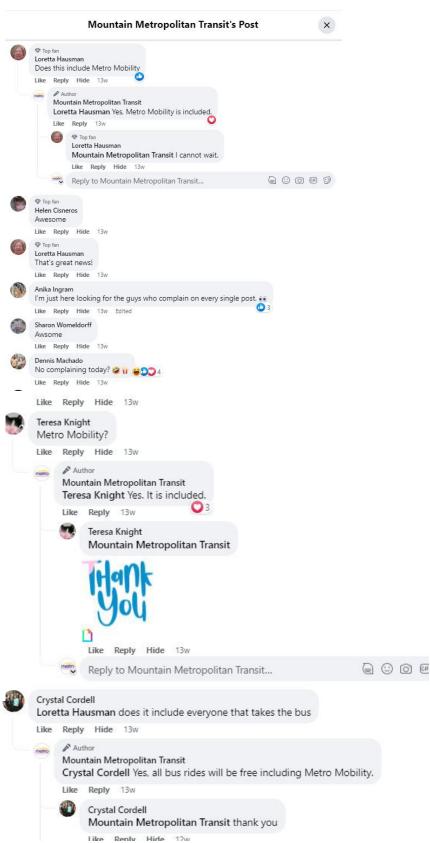
TVEyes Media Monitoring Suite - [Transcript]

https://www.fox21news.com/news/local/mountain-metro-breaks-another-ridership-record/

TVEyes Media Monitoring Suite - [Transcript]

Social Posts/Reaction:

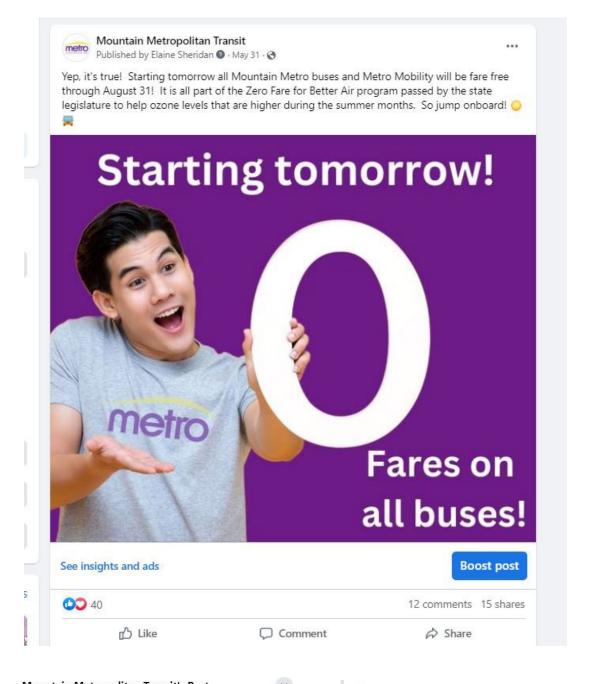


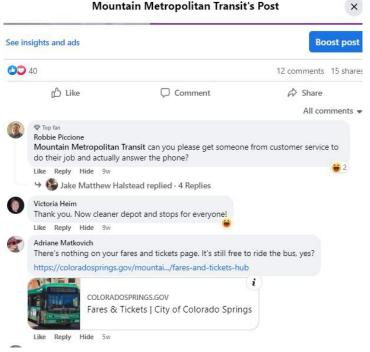


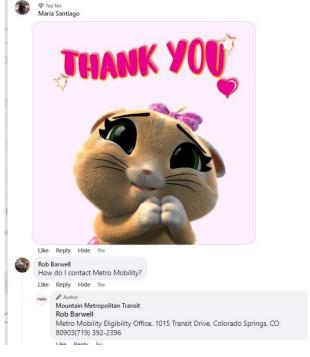
















Mountain Metropolitan Transit
Published by Elaine Sheridan 💿 • June 14 • 🚱

Planning on celebrating with the Nuggets tomorrow? You may want to consider using public transportation! Hundreds of thousands are expected to line the streets for the parade and rally in celebration of the 2023 NBA championship. Parking will be expensive and difficult to find. Taking a FREE ride on a Metro bus to the Downtown Terminal and catching Bustang to Denver will be a breeze! For more information on Bustang schedules

https://ridebustang.com/bustang/schedules/south/ and for more information on Mountain Metro go to MMTransit.com. RTD also has bus and light rail options if you are driving and want to park on the south end of the Denver Metro area. For more on their routes: https://www.rtd-denver.com/ Enjoy the celebration and skip the stress with your public transportation network! #TryTransit #NuggetsNation



Like Reply Hide 7w Gary Clausenn

Stuck at home. Route 12 detouring my entire neighborhood.

On oxygen and can't walk 10 blocks to closest stop with 10lb. oxygen tank over

Mountain Metropolitan Transit

Love Reply Hide 2w

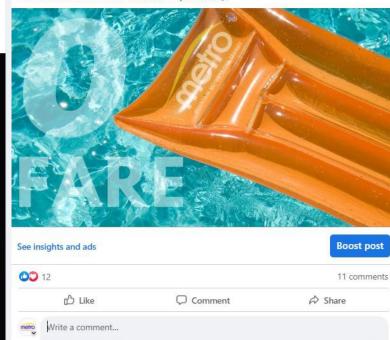
Add a comment...

Top fan Gary Jay

Published by Elaine Sheridan ● July 11 at 10:03 AM · ●

Save some money for the fun stuff this summer with our "Zero Fare for Better Air" campaign





Just talked with one of my regular passengers yesterday, and he was so appreciative and thankful to you guys for the free rides. He competes in special Olympics.

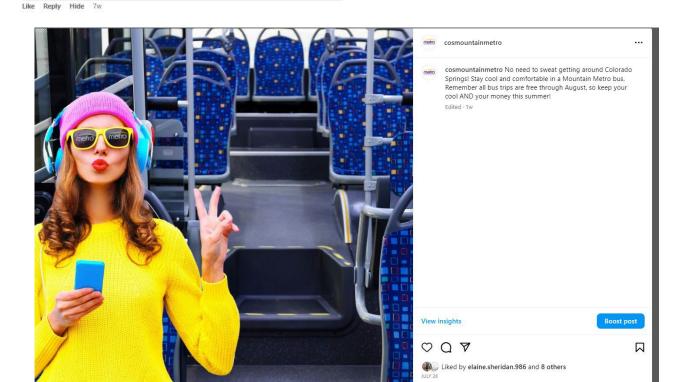


The Southern Colorado Juneteenth Festival is this weekend, June 16-28, 2023. It is a great family

be free as well! All Mountain Metro buses are free through August. If you drive, park anywhere

event with music, food, and a lot of fun. The event is free, and if you take Metro, getting there will

downtown and take THE ZEB free downtown shuttle to the stop at Sierra Madre St. and E. Costilla and you are one block away from the Park Union Bridge going into America the Beautiful Park. THE ZEB stops one block west of the Downtown Terminal, so getting to the event is easy and free with Metro! For information on routes that go downtown and THE ZEB go to MMTransit.com and







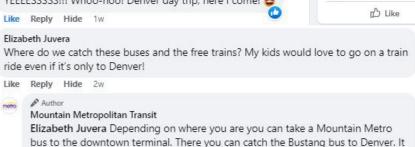
Starting Aug. 1 and continuing through Sept. 30, all Bustang fares will be discounted 50% between Colorado Springs and Denver! So with Metro rides being free, you can take a Metro bus to the downtown terminal free and get to Denver for just \$61. Also RTD buses and trains are free, so you can have tons of summer fun and not worry about gas or parking no matter where you go in the Denver area! Many other Bustang routes are also 50% off and many other regional transit agenci... See more



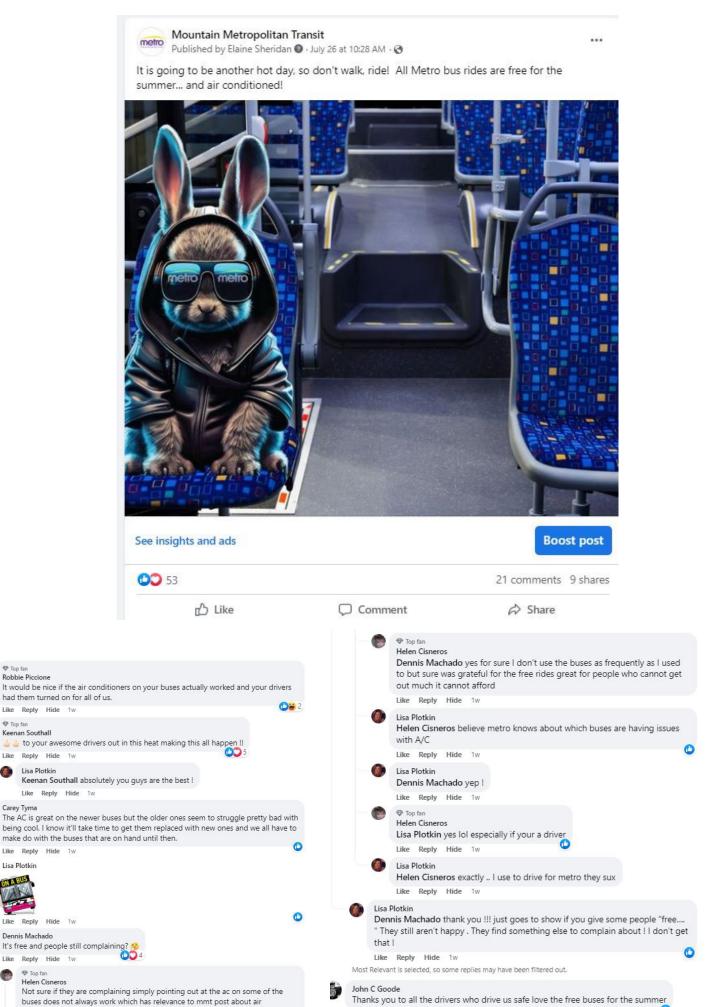


bus and light rail system.

Like Reply 1w



has stops in the DTC area and Union Station where you can connect with RTDs



Like Reply Hide

Whoever edited this photo.... Phenomenal. Wheep this editing quy.

Robbie Piccione

Keenan Southall

Lisa Plotkin

Like Reply Hide Lisa Plotkin

conditioning

Like Reply Hide



👽 The Mountain Metropolitan Transit bus #3 runs through #manitousprings... See more

Just a reminder that you can still ride all Metro buses for free, but time is running out. Starting on

Ride Free Summer 2023

TW

16

10

17 18

21 22 23 24 25 26

Mountain Metropolitan Transit

Published by Elaine Sheridan @ - 3h - 😵

September 1, fares will once again be required to ride.



Published by Elaine Sheridan 💿 - July 28 at 4:43 PM - 🚷 More Sunday service is coming your way! Route 2 will now have Sunday service starting this

Sunday. Route 27 will go from 60-minute frequency to 30-minute frequency on Sundays as well. Oh, and it is all free through August!

MORE SUNDAY SERVICE!



See insights and ads

Boost post

IVIUST LEIEVAL

OO 36

Comment

A Share

9 comments 1 share

Like

That's great to see some routes increasing frequency on weekends.

Like Reply Hide 1w

Robbie Piccione

Zack Smith

Can we please please please get Route 8 on Sunday!!!

Like Reply Hide

Christina VonMetzger Would be nice if you can have the 22 every half hour on Saturday and Sunday Like Reply Hide Send message 5d

Michael Inman

Michael Inman

Good. Another step in the right direction.

Like Reply Hide

William Martin II

Instead of making route 20 for Saturday and Sunday, just make route 10 and 11, the same all week instead of changing it on the weekend

Like Reply Hide 1w

Author

Mountain Metropolitan Transit

William Martin II Hi William, the reason we are proposing Route 20 instead of a increasing 10 and 11, is that the S. Nevada part of the routes are heavily ridden and the rest of 10 and 11 have much less ridership on the weekends. By adding a shorter route (Route 20) we can keep 10 and 11 on time by serving the busy area more often. Routes 10 and 11 are longer routes and to double the service on both those routes would take buses and drivers that aren't available, however with one short route we can make all the routes work better with staff and equipment on hand.

Like Reply Commented on by Elaine Sheridan () 6d Edited



Top fan

William Martin II

Mountain Metropolitan Transit I'm sorry but during the week, 10/11 have the same problem as the weekend, it starts inbound turning off Southgate, and outbound the problem ends after turning on Southgate. I live on route 11 by the target, so I take that route everyday, so I have frist hand experience with that route

Like Reply Hide Send message 6d



Top fan

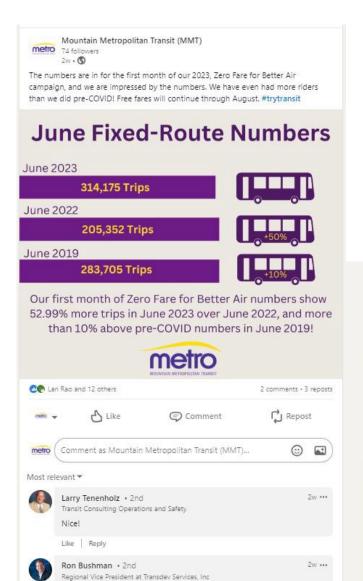
William Martin II Keep 10/11 on interchange at the college and put them at 30 minute intervals, adding a new route won't help , because people will still get on 10/11 to go down nevada. U need to change 10/11, or just one to not go

down Nevada if u want to create a new route

00 5

See insights and ads

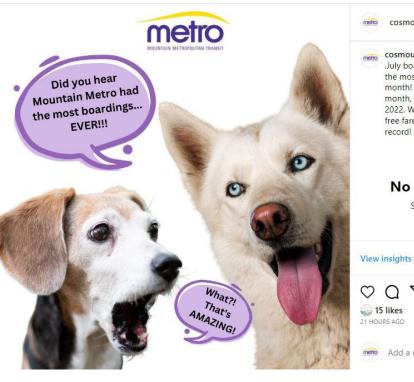


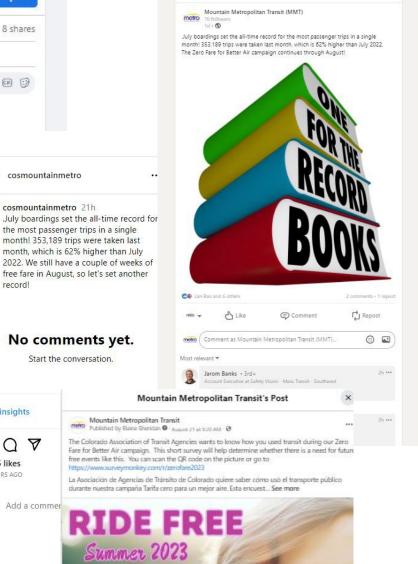


Impressive!









Posted by Elaine Sheridan • 8/10/2023

cosmountainmetro

record!

 $\triangle O \Delta$

metro Add a commer

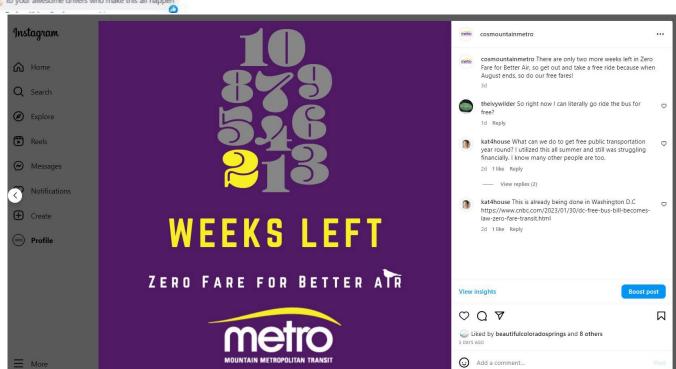
15 likes

21 HOURS AGO

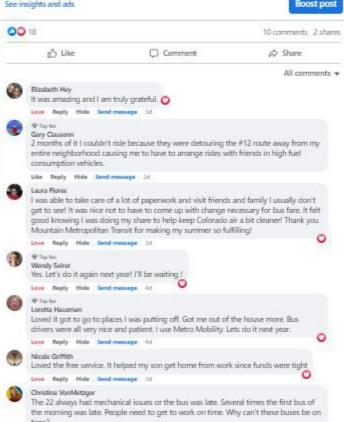
cosmountainmetro 21h

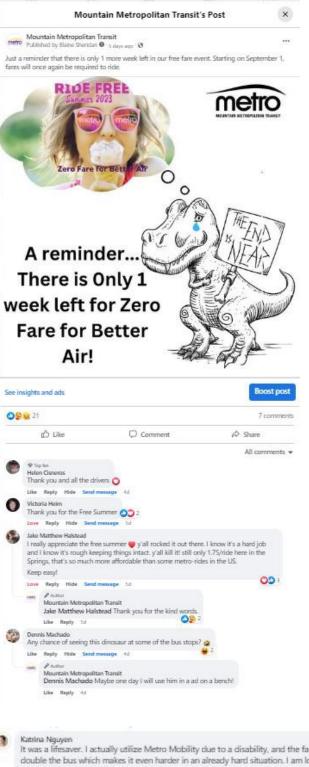
Start the conversation.

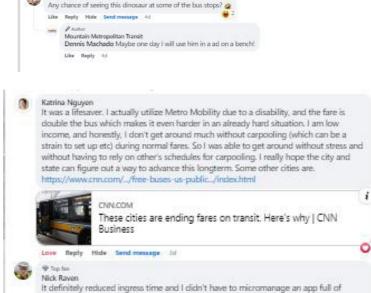




Mountain Metropolitan Transit's Post Mountain Metropolitan Transit Published by Elaine Sheridan August 25 at 9:01 AM How did free fares help you this summer? Metro and Springs TV will be at the terminal and on some buses today asking riders that question on camera. We want to let lawmakers know just how much our riders benefit from our free summer fares! If you see us out there, come talk to us. If not post a comment or send us a message, we would love to hear from you! WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! iummer 2023 Zero Fare for Bett **Boost post** See insights and ads **OD** 18 10 comments 2 shares tĎ Like Comment. Share All comments +







digital tickets to have one ready for the scanner that works 95% of the time.

Like Reply 16de Send message 3d

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



cosmountainmetro How did free fares help you this summer? Metro and Springs TV will be at the terminal and on some buses today asking riders that question on camera. We want to let lawmakers know just how much our riders benefit from our free summer fares! If you see us out there, come talk to us. If not post a comment or send us a message, we would love to hear from

cosmountainmetro

View insights

O A

Liked by beautifulcoloradosprings and 9 others



cosmountainmetro

cosmountainmetro Just a reminder that there is only one week left for Ride Free Summer 2023. Starting September 1, fares are required to ride buses and Metro Mobility vans. So go out and get the most out of what is left of summer on Metro!

View insights









9 likes

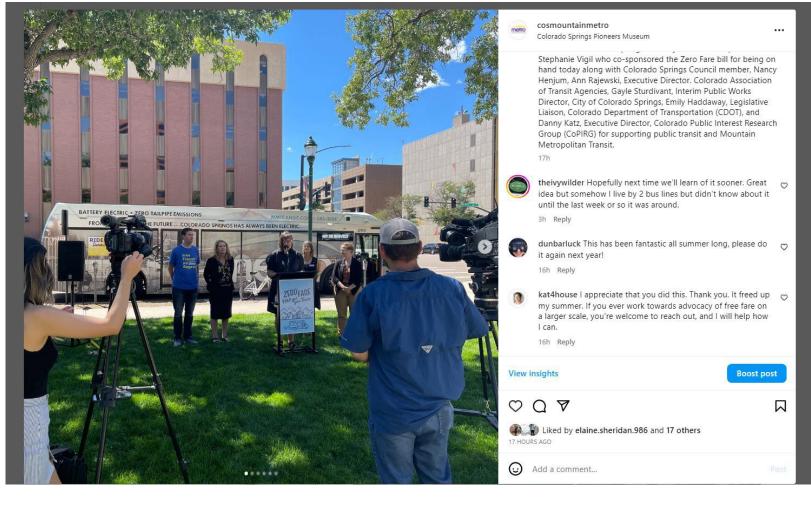


^ ,JJ.....









Mountain Metropolitan Transit's Post



Mountain Metropolitan Transit netro Published by Blaine Sheridan 0 1/ inpurs ago (8)

Today we wrapped up our Free Fare for Better Air Campaign for 2023 with a press conference in Downtown Colorado Springs. Thank you to State Representative Stephanie Vigil who co-sponsored the Zero Fare bill for being on hand today along with Colorado Springs Council member, Nancy Henjum, Ann Rajewski, Executive Director. Colorado Association of Transit Agencies, Gayle Sturdivant Interim Public Works Director, City of Colorado Springs, Emily Haddaway, Legislative Liaison, Col...



See insights and ads

MAGE HAS ALWAYS DEEN HIRCH

Boost post

7 comments

OD 31

(C) Like

Comment.



Most relevant *

Peggy Puralewski

Thank you for the rides! Love Reply Hide Send message 16h

John C Goode

Well it was fun while it lasted thank you 💍

Love Reply Hide Send message 4h

Cindy Orr-Solaas

I don't know who provides the funding during the free fare periods, but I thank them profoundly.

Like Reply Hide Sendmessage 1th

Jake Matthew Halstead

Cindy Orr-Solaas same people that always do

CDOT and the citygov.

Like Reply Hide Sendmensage Th

Thank the drivers who put up with alot of crap because of it

Like Reply Hide Sendmessage 16h Edited

Keenan Southall

Thanks to your awesome drivers who make this all happen

Like Reply Hide Send message 14h

Dennis Stiles

Keenan Southall thank you! People like you makes it worth it.

Like Reply Hide Sendmessage 14h

Mountain Metropolitan Transit's Post

Mountain Metropolitan Transit

metro Published by Elaine Sheridan 0 - 18 hours ago 10

Preliminary numbers are in, and August beat July for most boardings ever in a single month, 366,922 to be exact. This brings the total number for our Zero Fare for Better Air program to OVER A MILLION RIDES in just 3 months! We want to thank our riders, drivers, maintenance folks, lawmakers and everyone else that helped not only bring us back to pre-pandemic levels, but to soar to new levels we've never seen. We hope you enjoyed the summer and keep riding Mountain Metro!

METRO GAVE OVER ILLION RIDES **HIS SUMMER!**



See insights and ads

Boost post 4 comments 4 share

OO# 38

Comment Comment

A Share

Most relevant *

Dennis Stiles

D Like

That's cool. But why can customers assault the drivers and when the drivers defend themselves and the passengers aboard, you fire the driver? Just asking....for a friend. What IS the policy if a driver is attacked? Please share the policy to the public. It is OUR right to know. Thank you.

Like Raply Hide Send message 1/h

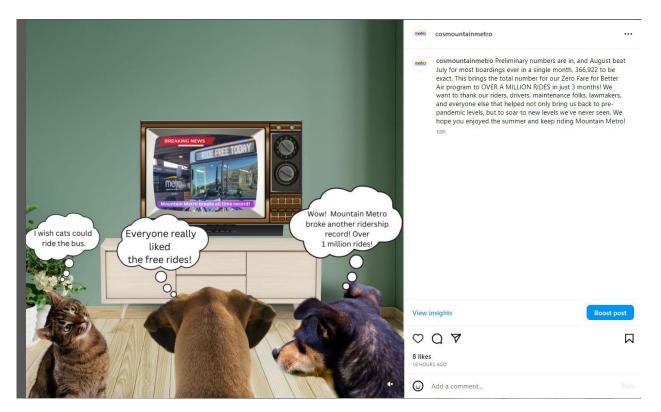
Janice Baca

Good job drivers

Like Reply Hide Send message 15h

I had at least 500,000 of them on the 3 route. Lol. What a summer. So busy. The passengers were so thankful.

Like Reply Hide Send message 1.th Edited Most Relevant is selected, so some comments may have been filtered out.





Rider Story Video Links

Long: https://vimeo.com/864933288/abb9eb09d4?share=copy

Medium: https://vimeo.com/864933137/efda61dacf?share=copy

Short: https://vimeo.com/864933260/9886edb3de?share=copy