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T extends life of single-ride, 10-ride commuter rail tickets to 90 days

Posted by Matt Rocheleau June 29, 2012 09:30 AM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

Single-ride tickets and 10-ride passes for the commuter rail are now valid for 90 days after they are purchased, MBTA spokesman Joe Pesaturo said.

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The decision, effective immediately, amends a previous policy change the T implemented in mid-April that reduced the usable life of the 10-ride passes from 180 to 30 days and the single-ride tickets from 180 to 14 days.

Sales of the 12-ride passes stopped then, but any existing 12-ride passes are valid for 180 days from when they were purchased, Pesaturo said.

The move was announced in e-mail alerts to customers on Friday morning, making it the second decision the T has reversed on in as

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many days.

On Thursday, the transportation authority announced it had backpedaled on a contentious plan to, starting July 1, impose a \$3 fee on all

commuter rail riders who buy tickets on board.

Pesaturo told the Globe Thursday that the T will instead add the \$3 charge, starting Sunday, only when riders buy tickets on trains after boarding at stations where they can be conveniently purchased.

That more closely mirrors the existing policy of adding a surcharge (\$1 off-peak, \$2 peak) for failing to buy tickets before getting on at stations where they are available.

Tickets purchased on board all trains departing from North Station, South Station and Back Bay Station will include the \$3 charge, officials said.

"At these terminal stations ticket sales are available during all service hours," officials said in an e-mail. "Passengers are encouraged to purchase tickets before boarding trains."

All one-way single rides for Zone 9 and Zone 10 will not be charged the \$3 fee, according to the e-mail.

Tickets are available for pre-purchase at a select number of locations outside of Boston. A list of those locations can be found on the MBTA website:

www.mbta.com/fares_and_passes/sales_locations

Starting July 1, commuter rail fares will rise, some service will be cut and some schedules will change. To read more about changes that will take effect on the commuter rail and elsewhere on the MBTA system, [click here](#).

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