

# STATE OF NEW YORK

486

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 4, 2023

Introduced by Sens. COMRIE, BAILEY, CLEARE, GOUNARDES, HOYLMAN, KRUEGER, MYRIE, PARKER, RAMOS, RIVERA, SALAZAR -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law and the transportation law, in relation to extending and expanding the scope of the on-demand E-hail paratransit pilot

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 3 of section 1205 of the public authorities  
2 law, as added by chapter 717 of the laws of 1967, is amended and a new  
3 subdivision 9 is added to read as follows:

4 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision one of this section,  
5 no zonal system of fares proposed to be instituted on or after March  
6 first, nineteen hundred sixty-eight for the use of the whole or any part  
7 of a rapid transit facility or of an omnibus line facility or a para-  
8 transit service operated by the authority and no general revision of the  
9 system of transfers applicable to the use of all such facilities in  
10 effect as of that date shall be established without the written approval  
11 of the mayor. For the purposes of this subdivision the term "zonal  
12 system of fares" shall mean any system whereby the fare payable for the  
13 use of a rapid transit facility or an omnibus line facility or any para-  
14 transit service operated by the authority or of any part thereof varies  
15 according to distance traveled or to the location of the point of entry  
16 or departure by the user, but the creation or elimination of free trans-  
17 fer points shall not be regarded as the institution of such a system.

18 9. a. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "on-demand E-hail  
19 paratransit pilot" shall mean the service created by the metropolitan  
20 transportation authority in two thousand seventeen, through which users  
21 of the authority's Access-A-Ride paratransit program can receive immedi-  
22 ate rides using a smartphone app or phone service.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 b. The authority shall continue to operate the on-demand E-hail para-  
2 transit pilot through March thirty-first, two thousand twenty-five, as  
3 provided by subdivision five-a of section fifteen-b of the transporta-  
4 tion law.

5 c. Fares for rides for the on-demand E-hail paratransit pilot shall be  
6 equal to the authority's base fare for bus and subway services. Hours of  
7 service for such pilot shall be the same as the authority's hours of  
8 service for bus, subway, and other paratransit services. The length,  
9 duration and number of on-demand E-hail paratransit pilot rides avail-  
10 able to each user enrolled in the on-demand E-hail paratransit pilot  
11 shall not be limited or restricted.

12 § 2. Section 15-b of the transportation law is amended by adding a new  
13 subdivision 5-a to read as follows:

14 5-a. a. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "on-demand E-hail  
15 paratransit pilot" shall mean the service created by the metropolitan  
16 transportation authority in two thousand seventeen, through which users  
17 of the authority's Access-A-Ride paratransit program can receive immedi-  
18 ate rides using a smartphone app or phone service.

19 b. The metropolitan transportation authority shall continue to operate  
20 the on-demand E-hail paratransit pilot through March thirty-first, two  
21 thousand twenty-five.

22 c. On or before March sixteenth, two thousand twenty-four, the metro-  
23 politan transportation authority shall expand the on-demand E-hail para-  
24 transit pilot to include an additional one thousand two hundred Access-  
25 A-Ride users; provided, however, the authority shall not pay any costs  
26 or expenses related to such expansion above funding levels for the  
27 on-demand E-hail paratransit pilot for the two thousand nineteen calen-  
28 dar year, and may only implement such expansion with funds appropriated  
29 to it by the state of New York or other governmental source for such  
30 purpose. In selecting new users for the on-demand E-hail paratransit  
31 pilot, the metropolitan transportation authority shall endeavor to  
32 select a representative sample of Access-A-Ride users, accounting for  
33 age, disability, geographic distribution throughout New York city, and  
34 frequency of ridership of Access-A-Ride's other services.

35 d. Fares for rides for the on-demand E-hail paratransit pilot shall be  
36 equal to the metropolitan transportation authority's base fare for bus  
37 and subway services. Hours of service for such pilot shall be the same  
38 as the metropolitan transportation authority's hours of service for bus,  
39 subway, and other paratransit services. The length, duration and number  
40 of on-demand E-hail paratransit pilot rides available to each user  
41 enrolled in the on-demand E-hail paratransit pilot shall not be limited  
42 or restricted.

43 e. On or before April thirteenth, two thousand twenty-five, the  
44 authority shall issue a report to the governor, the temporary president  
45 of the senate, the minority leader of the senate, the speaker of the  
46 assembly, the minority leader of the assembly, the mayor of the city of  
47 New York, the city council of the city of New York and the metropolitan  
48 transportation authority. Such report shall detail ridership, usage  
49 patterns, and costs of the on-demand E-hail paratransit pilot.

50 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.