



SFMTA

SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council Meeting

Taxi Meter Rate Discussion

September 1, 2022

Taxi Meter Rate

SFMTA Considering Raising Taxi Meter Rates

- ❖ Taximeter rates have not increased since 2011
- ❖ Inflation in Bay Area is 41% overall and 41% for transportation since 2011
- ❖ Fuel costs peaked over 200% last 2 years, price fluctuates
- ❖ Request from taxi industry
- ❖ Rate increase **goes directly to driver**



Taxi Meter Rate

Current Taxi Meter Rates

Taxi Service	Fare Amount
First one-fifth mile of flag rate (Flag Drop)	\$3.50
Each additional one-fifth mile or fraction thereof	\$0.55
Each minute of waiting or traffic time delay	\$0.55
SFO pick-up fee (100% customer pass through)	\$5.50
Bridge Tolls	Paid by passenger
Out-of-Town trips (greater than 15 miles beyond SF)	150% of fare

Taxi Meter Rate

Recent Fare Surcharges in Other Jurisdictions

Cities Enacting Trip Surcharges	
Houston	\$0.50 per trip
Seattle	\$1 per trip
Las Vegas	\$0.39 increase / metered mile
Chicago (proposed)	\$1 for trips < \$20 \$2 for trips \$20-\$40 \$3 for trips > \$40

Taxi Meter Rate

Recent Fare Adjustments in Other Jurisdictions

Cities Raising Base Fare (Flag Drop)

Toronto	\$1 per trip
New York (proposed)	\$2.50 increase from \$3.30 to \$5.80

Cities Raising Fares

Montreal	17% increase in fares and increased rates allowed for late night rides
Los Angeles	Flag increase to \$3.10, \$0.33 per 1/9th mile and per 37 seconds of wait time

Taxi Meter Rate Summary

SFMTA Staff's Proposals based on Research / Feedback

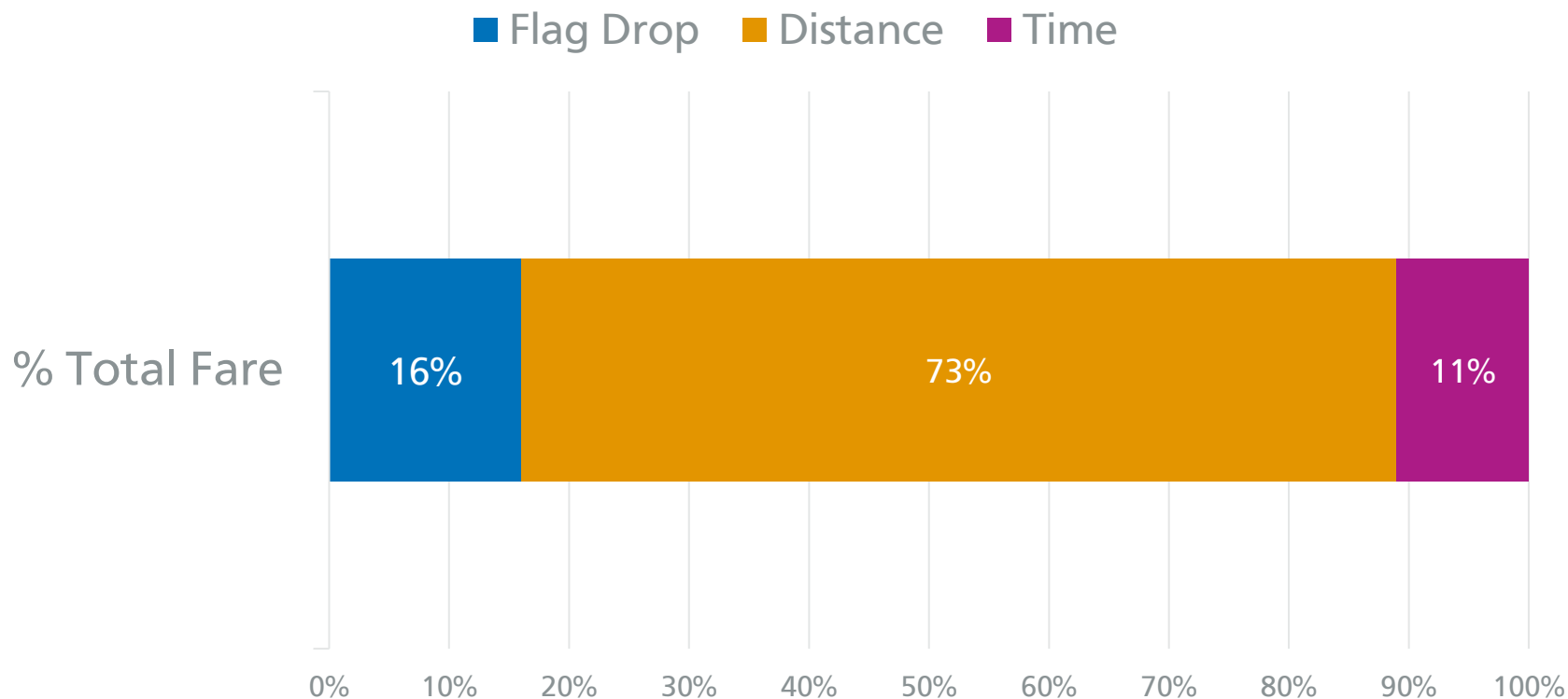
- ❖ Initial analysis
 - Flag Drop: \$0.65 increase from \$3.50 to **\$4.15**
 - Time + Distance: \$0.10 increase from \$0.55 to **\$0.65**
 - **~18%** overall increase



Taxi Meter Rate

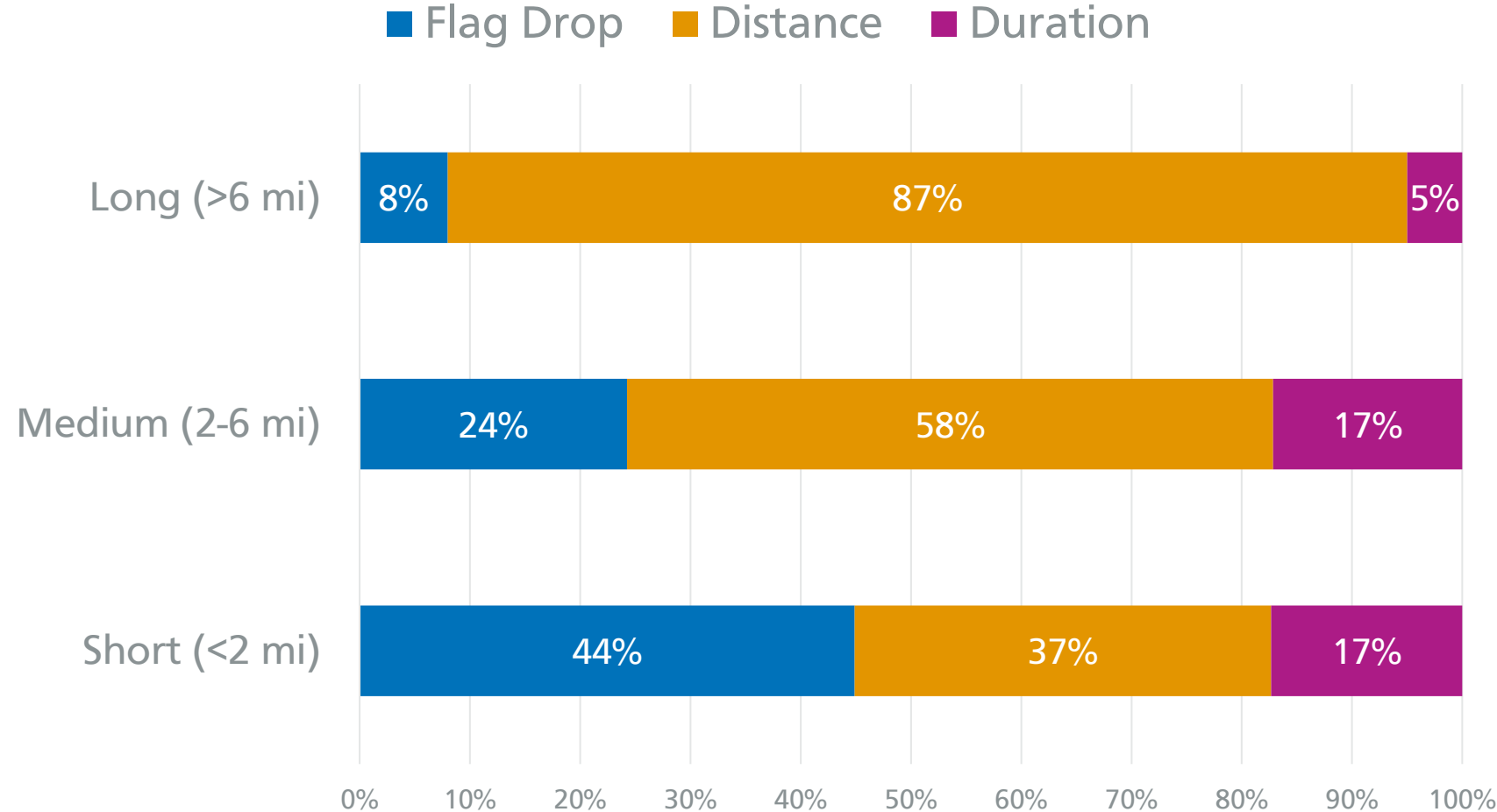
SF Trip Characteristics Jan-May 2022

❖ Median cost for all trips: **\$12.85**



Taxi Meter Rate

Fare Components by Trip Distance Jan-May 2022



Taxi Meter Rate

Comparison Across Jurisdictions

Metered Fare for Five Mile Trip



*cost of living is higher in SF

Taxi Meter Rate

Estimated Cost Impact to General Public Rider

Draft Proposal (Flag Drop/ Time, Distance)	Flag Drop	Distance/ Wait Time	15% Tip	Total Cost	Rider Share Increase
Current FY21/22	\$3.50	\$10.45	\$2.09	\$16.04	
Proposed +\$0.65/ +\$0.10	\$4.15	\$12.35	\$2.48	\$18.98	\$2.94

Taxi Meter Rate

Initial Staff Considerations

- ❖ Considered fuel surcharge
- ❖ Fares based on time of day or location
- ❖ Meter and a half structure

Not proposing either fuel surcharge or other fare restructuring at this time, but may consider them in the future



Taxi Meter Rate

Impacts on Paratransit Riders

- ❖ SFMTA would increase allotment for Paratransit riders and for Essential Trip Card programs and maintain subsidy ratio
- ❖ Currently SFMTA subsidizes Taxi Trips through the Paratransit Taxi Debit Card
 - 80% Subsidy by SFMTA
 - 20% Paid by Rider



Taxi Meter Rate

Estimated Cost Impact to Paratransit Rider

❖ Paratransit Trips were ~13% of all taxi trips in last fiscal year

Draft Proposal (Flag Drop/ Time, Distance)	Flag Drop	Distance/ Wait Time	15% Tip	Total Cost	Rider's Share	Rider Share Increase
Current FY21/22	\$3.50	\$8.25	\$1.76	\$13.51	\$2.70	
Proposed +\$0.65/ +\$0.10	\$4.15	\$9.75	\$2.09	\$15.99	\$3.20	\$0.50

Taxi Meter Rate

Outreach and Feedback

- ❖ SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council (CAC)
- ❖ Taxi Industry quarterly outreach meeting
- ❖ Taxi Workers Alliance
- ❖ Color Scheme meetings
- ❖ SF Paratransit / Transdev
- ❖ Paratransit Coordinating Council,
Multimodal Accessibility Advisory Committee,
Mayor's Disability Council
- ❖ Board of Supervisors

Taxi Meter Rate

Approval Process for Rate Change

- ❖ Gather Community Feedback
Taking comments at SFTaxi@sfmta.com
SFMTA may post a survey as well
- ❖ Rate change must be approved by SFMTA Board, targeting late fall meeting
- ❖ Rate change would take effect 30 days after SFMTA Board approval