

Status Report on Motion 2025-0039

Response: Eaton and Pacific Palisades

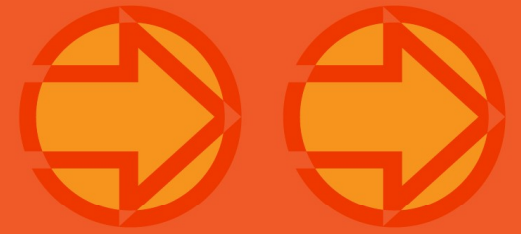


Metro

Operations, Safety, and Customer Experience Committee

July 17, 2025

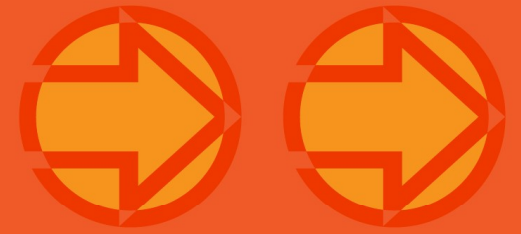
Background



- On January 23, 2025, the Metro Board passed motion 2025-0039 by Directors Hahn, Barger, Horvath, Solis, Dutra and Bass which required staff to modify the eligibility criteria of the LIFE Program to include individuals and families displaced by the wildfires for six months, with an option to extend the program as needed and report back to the board in June 2025 on the outcomes and impacts of this measure.
- On June 18, 2025, staff provided an oral report to the Board of Directors on outcomes and impacts to riders and Metro employees affected by the wildfires.
- The next steps included staff conducting a financial analysis on the possibility of extending the program beyond the initial 6-month period, which ends on July 23, 2025.



Wildfire Recovery LIFE Program Enrollments



Month	EATON	HURST	PALISADES	TOTAL FOR FIRE AREAS (Eaton, Hurst, Palisades)	OTHER (Workers, Unhoused, etc.)	GRAND TOTAL
Jan	1,703	5	25	1,733	311	2,044
Feb	699	5	14	718	885	1,603
Mar	220	-	766	986	328	1,314
Apr	37	2	4	43	116	159
May	833	4	35	872	267	1,139
Jun	15	-	1	16	37	53
Grand Total	3,507	16	845	4,368	1,944	6,312
Percentage of Total Enrollments				69%	31%	

Wildfire Recovery LIFE Program Utilization and Boardings

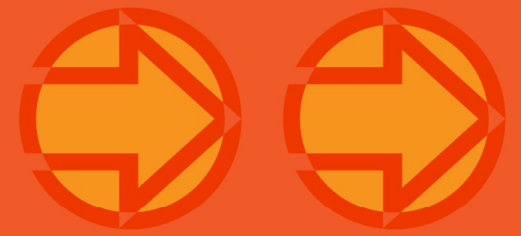


Month	Active Users (Cumulative)
January 2025	345
February 2025	1,082
March 2025	1,351
April 2025	1,424
May 2025	1,447
June 2025	1,530
Total Active Users:	2,626
Total Enrollees:	6,310
Utilization Rate:	42%
LIFE General Utilization*	37%

Boardings Per Month	Average Boardings (Jan-June 2025)
1-20	68%
21-30	10%
31-40	8%
41-60	8%
61+	6%

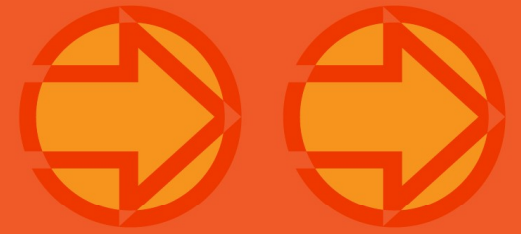
**Includes data from LIFE Limited participants*

Wildfire Recovery LIFE Program Estimated Program Costs



Wildfire Program Estimated Cost (January-June 2025)		
Month	Boardings	Cost @ \$1.75 Per Boarding
Jan	4,143	\$ 7,250
Feb	28,146	\$ 49,256
Mar	40,036	\$ 70,063
Apr	41,807	\$ 73,162
May	41,048	\$ 71,834
June	32,727	\$ 57,272
Grand Total	187,907	\$ 328,837

Wildfire Recovery LIFE Program Fare Equity Analysis



- The extension of a modified LIFE Program would require a Fare Equity Analysis.
 - Per Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Circular 4702.1B which states that “If a promotional or temporary fare reduction lasts longer than six months, then FTA considers the fare reduction permanent, and the transit provider must conduct a fare equity analysis.”
- The LIFE income requirement was waived for Wildfire enrollees. This data was not initially collected, and a separate survey would need to be conducted to obtain it.

Next Steps



- The LIFE Program will work on ensuring that all enrollees who signed up for the modified program are informed how to remain in the LIFE program, if they qualify, as well as sharing information on additional subsidized programs Metro offers.
- Staff will also continue to conduct outreach and partner with agencies and organizations to enroll eligible participants into the LIFE program.