



## RTA APPROVES INCREASE FOR KENNER LOOP

*January 25, 2012*

*For Immediate Release*

The Regional Transit Authority's board of commissioners at their January meeting [raised the standard fare](#), for riders of the Kenner Loop from 80 cents to \$1.25. The increase will start on February 1, 2012.

The fare last rose in the mid-1990s, according to RTA documents. Kenner officials said the increase is necessary to the bus line's survival.

Kenner officials said that the bus service requires a \$200,000 annual subsidy from the city, though Kenner's transportation consultant, Sharon Leader, had obtained federal money to cover that amount for the past couple of years. But that financing won't be available for the next fiscal year, necessitating the fare increase, officials said.

RTA staff projects that the fare increase will raise \$67,000 annually, even with an initial loss of ridership of .5 percent. Ridership has been increasing in recent years and RTA officials expect that the line will recover any initial drop in ridership.

Kenner officials said they hope to make up the rest of the subsidy by persuading Jefferson Parish leaders to give the city its fair share of the amount Kenner residents pay for a transportation millage.

With the fare increase, Kenner's standard rate will be the same as in New Orleans, but lower than Jefferson Transit's, which charges a \$1.50 base fare, Leader said.

Commissioners approved the fare hike 6-0 with no one speaking against it. The increase will go into effect in February, said Derrick Breun, RTA's Chief Operating Officer.

Only one person attended [a public hearing](#) on the fare increase a week and a half ago at Kenner City Hall. That rider said he didn't have a problem with the price going up, but he wanted to see the transfer between the Loop and Jefferson Transit restored. At the meeting, public officials promised to look into restoring it.

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