



Best Practices – Small to Medium Agencies

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Who is the T?

- ▶ **151 Fixed Route Vehicles**
- ▶ **35 Para-Transit Vehicles**
- ▶ **Co-Operator of Trinity Railway Express – Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)**
- ▶ **14 ticket vending machines on 5 rail platforms**
- ▶ **180 Vanpools**
- ▶ **Purchased motor bus service – Circulator Service @ 2 Rail Stations 5 vehicles**
- ▶ **Purchased para-transit service – 60 vehicles**



New Projects on the horizon

- ▶ **Partnership with the City of Fort Worth for a downtown street car**
- ▶ **Development of 45 miles of commuter rail line (SW2NE) applying for new starts funding this year**
- ▶ **BRT service east to west across Fort Worth**



Fort Worth Transportation Authority
Annual Ridership
Fiscal Year 2009

Fixed Route **6,364,765**

Directly Operated **6,292,432**

Purchased **72,333**

Para-Transit **364,261**

Directly Operated **153,599**

Purchased **210,662**

Trinity Railway Express (TRE) **1,132,161**

Vanpool **705,146**

8,566,333



Who is the T?

▶ Fiscal Year 2009	
▶ Sales Tax Revenue	\$47,526,000
▶ Preventive Maintenance	18,043,000
▶ Capital Improvement Grants	7,920,000
▶ Contributions from Partners	8,156,000
▶ Farebox Revenue	5,984,000



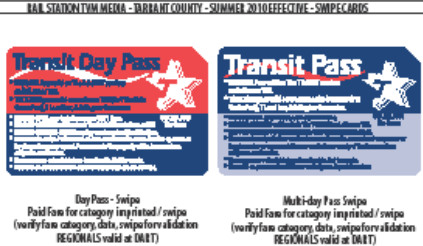
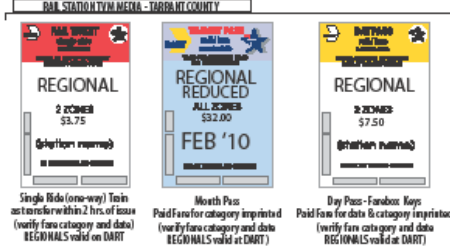
History of Fare Collection

- **Using fareboxes purchased in 1983**
- **1999 started a joint AFC project with DART which was to include a smart card element**
- **Joint AFC project was terminated in 2001**
- **DART and the T agree to a seamless fare policy regarding Trinity Railway Express**
- **The T issued it's a stand alone farebox procurement using magnetics due to financial constraints after 9/11 (2002)**
- **DART purchased same farebox (2003 or 2004) using GFI friendly agency**
- **Smart Card agreement between DART, DCTA (Denton County Transit Authority) and The T 2009**

What would smart cards do for us?



Punch Passes - DAY/7DAY
Paid fare for date/dates punched
(verify fare category and date. REGIONALS valid on DART)



Single Ride (one-way) Train as transfer within 2 hrs. of issue (verify fare category and date) REGIONALS valid on DART

Month Pass Paid fare for category imprinted (verify fare category and date) REGIONALS valid on DART

Day Pass - Farebox Keys Paid fare for date & category imprinted (verify fare category and date) REGIONALS valid on DART

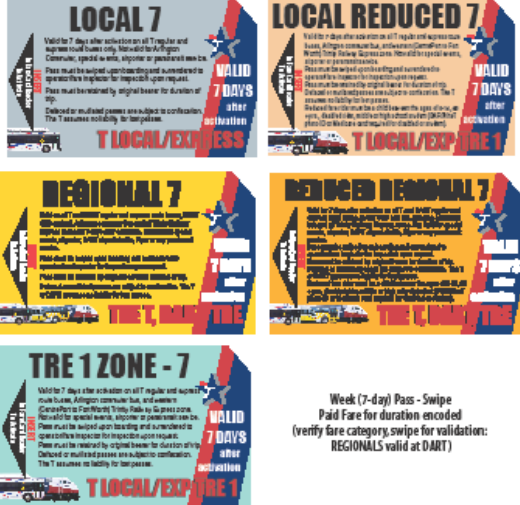
Day Pass - Swipes Paid fare for category imprinted / swipes (verify fare category, date, swipe for validation) REGIONALS valid on DART

Multi-day Pass Swipes Paid fare for category imprinted / swipes (verify fare category, date, swipe for validation) REGIONALS valid on DART

What would smart cards do for us?



Swipe Month Passes - Paid Fare for category imprinted
Colors/Graphics change monthly
(verify fare category and date through farebox or visual
REGIONALS valid at DART)



Week (7-day) Pass - Swipe
Paid Fare for duration encoded
(verify fare category, swipe for validation:
REGIONALS valid at DART)

RAIL STATION TVM MEDIA - TARRANT COUNTY

<p>Single Ride (one-way) Train as transfer within 2 hrs. of issue (verify fare category and date) REGIONALS valid on DART</p>	<p>Month Pass Paid Fare for category imprinted (verify fare category and date) REGIONALS valid at DART)</p>	<p>Day Pass - Farebox Keys Paid Fare for date & category imprinted (verify fare category and date) REGIONALS valid at DART)</p>

RAIL STATION TVM MEDIA - TARRANT COUNTY - SUMMER 2010 EFFECTIVE - SWIPE CARDS

<p>Day Pass - Swipe Paid Fare for category imprinted / swipe (verify fare category, date, swipe for validation REGIONALS valid at DART)</p>	<p>Multi-day Pass Swipe Paid Fare for category imprinted / swipe (verify fare category, date, swipe for validation REGIONALS valid at DART)</p>

Imagine!





Challenges we face with smart card implementation

- ▶ **Three agencies**
- ▶ **Cost/Benefit**
- ▶ **What are the hard cost savings**
- ▶ **Funding**



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**How could smart cards
work for a small agency?**

- ▶ **Great for para-transit service**
- ▶ **Control Group**
- ▶ **Speed of boarding and alighting is not a critical**
- ▶ **Combine smart card and picture ID**
- ▶ **Ride based rather than a stored value medium**
- ▶ **Technology advances have made this an affordable option for small agency para transit systems**



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Beyond smart cards

- ▶ **Look at all factors in making your fare collection decision**
 - **Right investment for your agency and the fares you collect**
 - **What are the agency's goals – vision**
 - **System should always secure funds**
 - **Remember good internal controls**
 - **Timely reconciliations**
 - **Physical security**
 - **Access to Keys**
 - **Separation of Duties**
 - **Access to broken or out-of-service cash vaults.**



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Beyond smart cards

- ▶ **Web based pass sales**
 - **Costs the T less than \$100 a month to add this feature to our web site**
- ▶ **Web based payment system for Vanpool Program**
 - **Eliminated cash and checks under the control of non-employees**
- ▶ **Magnetics work and are cost effective**
 - **Smart cards may be too expensive and not right for your agency**