



# **Notice of Public Hearing**

## **Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority**

### **Proposed Modifications to Bladensburg Bus Garage Facility**

#### **Docket R19-02**

#### **Purpose**

**Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority on proposed modifications to the Bladensburg Bus Garage Facility as follows:**

Hearing No. 626  
Tuesday, September 10, 2019  
MPD District 5 Substation  
1805 Bladensburg Road NE  
Washington, DC  
(Metrobus Route B2)

**Public Hearing scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Open house at 6 p.m.**

**Please note that this date is subject to the facility's cancellation policy.**

The locations of all public hearings are wheelchair accessible. Any individual who requires special assistance such as a sign language interpreter or additional accommodation to participate in the public hearings, or who requires these materials in an alternate format, should contact John Pasek at 202-962-2511 or TTY: 202-962-2033 as soon as possible in order for Metro to make necessary arrangements. For language assistance, such as an interpreter or information in another language, please call 202-962-1082 at least 48 hours prior to the public hearing date.

For more information please visit  
[wmata.com/plansandprojects](http://wmata.com/plansandprojects)



## **PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) regarding the environmental report and general plans for reconstruction of the Bladensburg Bus Garage located in Washington, DC. At the hearing, WMATA will receive and consider public comments and suggestions about the proposal. The proposed design concepts may change as a result of this hearing.

## **HOW TO REGISTER TO SPEAK AT THE PUBLIC HEARING**

All organizations or individuals desiring to be heard with respect to the proposal will be afforded the opportunity to present their views and make supporting statements and to offer alternative proposals. Public officials will be allowed five minutes each to make their presentations. All others will be allowed three minutes each. Relinquishing of time by one speaker to another will not be permitted.

In order to establish a witness list, individuals and representatives of organizations who wish to be heard at the public hearing are requested to furnish in writing their name and organization affiliation, if any, via email to [speak@wmata.com](mailto:speak@wmata.com). Please submit only one speaker's name per request. Lists of individual speakers will not be accepted. The request may also be made by calling the Office of the Secretary at 202-962-2511.

## **HOW TO SUBMIT WRITTEN STATEMENTS**

Testimony may be submitted online about this proposal at [wmata.com/plansandprojects](http://wmata.com/plansandprojects). Online submission will be available by 9 a.m. on Saturday, August 10, 2019 and will close on Friday, September 20, 2019 at 5 p.m. This is in addition to your ability to speak at a public hearing. For those without access to computers or internet, testimony may also be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 600 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001. All comments must be received by the Office of the Secretary by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 20, 2019 to be included in the public record.

The comments received by the Office of the Secretary, along with the online submissions and public hearing comments, will be presented to the WMATA Board of Directors and will be part of the official public hearing record. Please note all statements are releasable to the public upon request, and may be posted on WMATA's website, without change, including any personal information provided.

## **WHAT IS PROPOSED**

WMATA proposes to demolish the existing structure and re-construct of a new bus maintenance facility at Bladensburg Bus Garage, Washington, DC. As part of this effort, WMATA would relocate the entrance for the bus garage from its current location to a point further north on Bladensburg Road. The Bladensburg Bus Garage is located on a 17.59-acre site in northeast Washington, DC, which will increase to 18.61 acres upon completion of the proposed project. The garage is bounded by 25<sup>th</sup> Place NE, Douglas

Street NE, Bladensburg Road NE, and a CSX railroad line. The existing site consists of 246 parking spaces for 40-foot-long buses and 36 parking spaces for articulated buses.

The planned development will create 200 parking spaces for 40-foot-long buses, 100 spaces for articulated buses, and 560 spaces for employee parking (including 62 dedicated spaces for non-revenue vehicles). The current garage facility only provides on-site parking for buses and non-revenue vehicles. The new facility will continue to provide service such as cleaning (interior and exterior), inspections, running repairs, heavy repairs and service, parts storage, crew reporting and dispatching, and employee service and welfare areas.

Property acquisition would be necessary for construction of the bus garage, including three properties located on 28<sup>th</sup> Street. Additionally, WMATA will apply to close the cul-de-sac on Douglas Street, as shown in the General Plans for the project.

### **REFERENCE MATERIAL AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION**

The docket consists of this Notice of Public Hearing, an environmental report and general plans for the reconstructed Bladensburg Bus Garage. These documents are available online at [wmata.com/plansandprojects](http://wmata.com/plansandprojects) and may be inspected during normal business hours at the following locations:

WMATA, Office of the Secretary  
600 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
202-962-2511

(Please call in advance to coordinate)

Woodridge Neighborhood Library  
1801 Hamlin Street NE  
Washington, DC 20018  
202-541-6226

### **WMATA COMPACT REQUIREMENTS**

WMATA's Compact requires that the Board, in amending the mass transit plan, consider current and prospective conditions in the transit zone should the project be built. The transit zone includes the District of Columbia and considerations include, without limitation, land use, population, economic factors affecting development plans, existing and proposed transportation and transit facilities, any dislocation of families or businesses; preservation of the beauty and dignity of the DC Metro Area; factors affecting environmental amenities and aesthetics, and financial resources. The mass transit plan encompasses, among other things, transit facilities to be provided by WMATA, including stations and parking facilities, and the character, nature, design, location and capital and operating cost thereof. The mass transit plan, in addition to designating the design and location of transit facilities, also provides for capital and operating expenses, as well as "various other factors and considerations, which, in the opinion of the Board, justify and require the projects therein proposed" all as more particularly set forth in WMATA's Compact.

WMATA will submit the environmental report to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to support a Categorical Exclusion determination in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The environmental report and general plans for the project are available for public review at the locations identified in the reference materials section above.

The work and changes depicted in this information package constitute the proposed amendment to the mass transit plan for purposes of the WMATA Compact.