



Notice of Public Hearing

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Docket B17-03: Proposed Metrobus Service Changes

Purpose

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority on the docket noted above as follows:

Hearing No. 615
Tuesday, September 26, 2017
Metro Headquarters Building
600 Fifth Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Open House 5:30 p.m.
Public Hearing from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. or until the last speaker is heard
Speaker registration is on-site only

Please note that this date is subject to Metro's inclement weather cancellation policy. In the event of a cancellation, Metro will post information about a new hearing on wmata.com.

The public hearing location is wheelchair accessible. Any individual who requires special assistance such as a sign language interpreter or additional accommodation to participate in the public hearing, or who requires these materials in an alternate format, should contact Danise Peña 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 202-962-2582 at least 48 hours prior to the public hearing date.

For more information please visit www.wmata.com/bus.



In accordance with Section 62 of the WMATA Compact, Metro will conduct a public hearing at the location listed in this notice. Information on the hearing will be provided in area libraries, in Metrorail stations, on Metrobus and MetroAccess vehicles, and online at www.wmata.com/bus.

HOW TO REGISTER TO SPEAK – All organizations or individuals desiring to be heard with respect to this docket 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.

There will be no advance registration to speak. Those wishing to provide oral testimony will sign up to speak at the hearing, will be called to testify in the order they sign up, and can sign up to speak at any time prior to the close of the hearing. Elected public officials will be allowed to provide their testimony as soon as feasible after their registration. If you will not be able to stay to provide your testimony orally when your name is called, staff will help you with multiple ways to submit your comments into the public record including the use of a digital recorder to record your oral comments.

Please note that all comments received are releasable to the public upon request, and may be posted on WMATA's website, without change, including any personal information provided.

HOW TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY NOT AT THE PUBLIC HEARING – Testimony may be submitted via a survey, found at www.wmata.com/bus. The survey will open by 9 a.m. on Saturday, September 2, 2017 and will close on Monday, October 2, 2017 at 9 a.m. You will be asked to respond to questions about the proposals on this docket. The survey will also provide the opportunity to submit freeform comments. This option 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. The survey results, along with mailed written statements and public hearing comments, will be presented to the Board 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.

For a detailed description of all proposals, please visit www.wmata.com/bus, or for those who do not have access to computers or internet, note that copies of the dockets in their entirety are also available at area libraries or can be requested from Metro's Office of the Secretary by calling 202-962-2511.

BACKGROUND – In order to serve the greatest number of customers as efficiently and effectively as possible, Metro periodically adjusts bus service to match commuting patterns, as well as changes in discretionary travel destinations and ridership demands in communities we serve. Proposals for service changes come from many sources, including customer suggestions, jurisdictional requests, and planning studies.

PROPOSAL – Overall, the bus service changes in this proposal aim to increase the effectiveness of Metrobus by removing service with very few riders; eliminating trips or sections of routes where other bus service is available; and terminating select routes that do not meet performance criteria.

The savings realized from reducing the less productive service will be used to add buses on crowded routes; change schedules in response to current traffic conditions; add service to areas with the greatest demand; and restructure certain routes to simplify travel. Routes with bus service change proposals are as shown in the accompanying list.

Additionally, there is one tariff proposal:

- Permanently implement the virtual bus-to-bus transfer pilot to allow customers transferring between bus lines serving the Addison Rd and Capitol Heights Metrorail stations to ride Metrorail at no charge with SmarTrip®.

The proposed package of service realignments will improve overall on-time performance and customer satisfaction, increase ridership, and improve cost recovery.

By adjusting Metrobus service to maintain a state of good operations, the proportion of passengers who will see improvements to their service greatly outnumbers passengers using the less productive service that will be reduced.

The specific proposals are as follows:

DC

- 52, 53, 54: Restructure service and schedule in response to proposed 59; extend to Wharf
- 59: Add new limited-stop MetroExtra service along 14th St NW
- 62, 63: Restructure; serve Vermont Ave and 11th St NW
- 64: Restructure; serve Vermont Ave south of Florida Ave NW
- 74: Restructure; extend to new DC soccer stadium and/or Wharf
- 94: Eliminate in response to ridership and DC Circulator proposal
- 96: Shorten route; eliminate service between Tenleytown Metrorail Station and McLean Gardens
- H1: Add two-way service during weekdays, mid-days and/or rush hours
- U5, U6: Restructure; eliminate service to Mayfair with replacement service on U7
- U7: Restructure; extend to Mayfair and Minnesota Ave & Ridge Rd SE
- U8: Extend to Congress Heights Metrorail Station
- V5: Eliminate in response to ridership and service alternatives
- X2: Restructure schedule in response to proposed X9
- X9: Add weekday midday limited-stop MetroExtra service

MD

- B30: Restructure; add service to Arundel Mills Mall, with option via US-1
- G12, G14: Restructure schedule; remove timed transfer at Roosevelt Center
- J1, J2, J3: Restructure; extend J1 to Rockledge Dr and Montgomery Mall from Medical Center Metrorail Station; eliminate J3 designation
- J12: Shorten route; eliminate service between Addison Rd and Capitol Heights Metrorail stations
- K12: Restructure; add service to Donnell Dr (Penn Mar Shopping Center); eliminate stop on Command Dr at Allentown Rd, with service available on Allentown Rd at Command Dr
- Y2, Y7, Y8: Restructure schedule and service to Leisure World

VA

- 4A, 4B: Eliminate midday 4A; add 4B trips
- 7A, 7F: Serve Pentagon City
- 10E: Shorten route; eliminate service between Pentagon and Rosslyn Metrorail Station
- 11Y: Add trips between Potomac Park and Hunting Point
- 16A, 16B, 16J, 16P: Restructure; focus service on Columbia Pike
- 16G, 16H, 16K: Restructure; extend to Crystal City
- 22A, 22B: Serve Pentagon City on 22A; eliminate 22B designation
- 29K, 29N: Restructure schedule; extend to Eisenhower Ave Metrorail Station
- Metroway: Restructure schedule; serve entire route on all trips

Additional proposal detail by line and route is included within the docket.