



Customer Services, Operations, and Safety Committee

Board Information Item IV-D

June 10, 2010

Transparent Metro Data Sets

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Board Action/Information Summary

<input type="radio"/> Action <input checked="" type="radio"/> Information	MEAD Number:	Resolution: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
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TITLE:

Transparent Metro Data Sets for Developers

PURPOSE:

This program will provide the general public and regional partners with access to Metro real-time transit arrival, location, and incident information for the purpose of increasing the general transparency of this operational information and for developing third-party applications for the web and mobile devices.

DESCRIPTION:

The publication of real time transit data for development use by external entities has become readily accepted and expected. Best-practice transit authorities promulgate transit customer information to the widest possible audiences. We anticipate Metro transit arrival, location, and incident information data will be used by both private and public entities to create applications as diverse as multi-modal web trip planners, trip planning applications on smart phones (iPhones), and on-business-site digital signage about next bus and train arrival information. Metro expects Google to use this information to extend their transit-oriented geographic trip planning application to the Washington DC metro area.

FUNDING IMPACT:

Budget: **Operating Budget, Fiscal 2011**

Office: **Information Technology**

Account: **Contract Maintenance**

This Action: **\$30,000**

Remarks: Budgets for FY2011 through FY2014 are subject to approval by the Board, the receipt of funds, and the allocation of funds to this category of projects.

FY2011

Budget: **\$13,237,764**
This Action: **\$30,000**
Prior Approval: **\$4,366,000**

Remaining Budget: **\$8,841,764**

The software and system development needed to provide data for the public real-time transit data program was completed by making other investments (such as NextBus) so the funding impact is minimal. The only direct ongoing cost for providing this data is a \$30,000 annual operating expense for a data management solution to keep the data secure and uninterrupted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Launch the transparent metro data sets program and website in staged phases beginning in summer of 2010.



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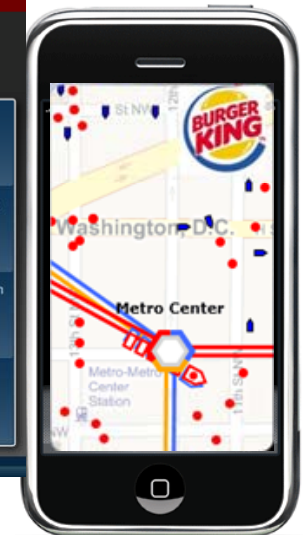
Data Transparency Vision

- Making Metro transit data publicly available for the purposes of general transparency and of easily developing Google and other third-party applications
- This data has been requested by many third parties:
 - Riders
 - Regionally-focused websites and bloggers
 - Mobile software developers
 - Merchants/Retailers
 - Tourism and hospitality groups
- All third party developers (like Google) will have immediate access to Metro's data with a single click agreeing to Metro's terms and conditions for data use
- Metro expects Google to use this information to extend their transit-oriented geographic trip planning applications to the Washington, DC metro area



Next Bus			Next Train	
NEARBY STOPS (2 of 3) 7th St SW + Independence Ave SW (Stop 1000750) Routes on this Stop: 13B, 32, 34, 36, 54, 71			NEARBY STATION (2 of 3) Gallery Place Station Lines: ■ ■	
13B	5 min	23 min 52 min	■ BRD	3 min
ANTICLKW TO PENTAGON VIA MALL			RED LINE TO SHADY GROVE	
54	6 min	59 min	■ 1 min	6 min
NORTH TO TAKOMA STATION			YELLOW LINE TO MT VERN	
36	13 min	35 min 95 min	■ 2 min	11 min
WEST TO FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS STATION			RED LINE TO GLENMONT	
54	20 min	47 min 73 min	■ 2 min	2 min
NORTH TO 14TH & COLORADO			YELLOW LINE TO HUNTINGTON	

alerts: There are no Metrorail alerts at this time.





Transit Data Provided By Other Transit Systems

	Publicly-Provided, Web-Based Bus Data					Publicly-Provided, Web-Based Rail Data						
	Bus Positions	Bus Route Shapes	Bus Routes	Bus Schedules	Bus Stops	Metro Line Summary	Metro Station Info	Metro Line Detail	Rail Elevator/ Escalator Incidents	Rail Path	Rail Station Prediction	Rail System Incidents
WMATA (PENDING)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SF BART						X	X	X		X	X	X
Los Angeles Metro			X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Boston MBTA	X		X	X	X							
NYC MTA									X			
Chicago CTA	X	X	X	X	X							
Portland TriMet			X	X	X	X	X	X			X	



Next Steps

- Complete legal review of program
- Design phased rollout with external stakeholder groups:
 - Riders Advisory Council (RAC)
 - Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)
 - Jurisdictional Coordinating Committee
- Design application developer contest
- Assemble application developers for kickoff
- Rollout first services by end of summer