



Customer Services, Operations, and Safety Committee

Board Action Item IV-B

January 8, 2009

**Inauguration of the 44th President of the
United States**

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Board Action/Information Summary

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

Inauguration of the 44th President of the United States

PURPOSE:

To provide the Committee with a status of Inauguration planning and request authorization to create an all-day pass and to indemnify non-employee volunteers

DESCRIPTION:

Information contains current status of the planning efforts and what to expect from Metrobus, Metrorail and MetroAccess from January 17-23, 2009. To expedite Metrobus boarding throughout the day the Board is being requested to authorize an all-day pass. Volunteers from transit properties and other entities have expressed interest in assisting Metro on January 20, 2009. The Board is being requested to adopt a resolution that affirms that Metro will treat volunteers as Metro's agents for the purposes of liability and indemnification.

FUNDING IMPACT:

Costs being assessed.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board authorize creation of an all-day pass and indemnify non-employee volunteers.



Inauguration of the 44th President of the United States

Status of Planning Efforts

Customer Service, Operations and
Safety Committee
January 8, 2009





Purpose

- Update Board on status of Inauguration planning
- Request authorization to create an all-day bus pass
- Request authorization to indemnify non-employee volunteers



Philosophy on Inauguration Planning

- **Do our best to control the things that are within our control.**
 - Prepare our railcars, buses and Metro Access vehicles
 - Test our systems
 - Schedule extra personnel throughout our systems
 - Communicate, communicate, communicate
 - Web site is up, including special e-alerts
 - Brochures with maps in stations by Friday
- **Accept the things we may not be able to change.**
 - Difficult for Metro employees to get to work
 - 1 train operator is responsible for thousands of people
 - Our workers were advised to drive around the Beltway
- **Have the wisdom to know the difference.**



Current Status

- The District of Columbia is coordinating the region's support for the 56th Inauguration, which is directed by the Presidential Inaugural Committee
- Metro joins many government bodies in support of the District's central planning effort
- Metro's service plans are in the final stages, but...
- As needs of DC and others change, Metro will continue to adapt to new circumstances. Examples:
 - Charter bus parking reduced
 - Bus services enhanced

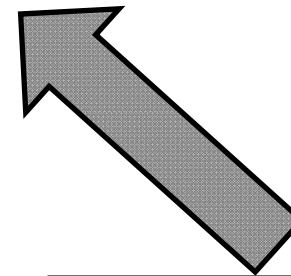


Charter buses

For safety reasons, private vehicles transporting more than 15 people are not permitted to drop off passengers on Metro property.

On January 20, 2009 at many Metrorail stations, there will be:

- Extra Metro buses
- Extra transit buses from MD and VA
- Many pedestrians and bicyclists
- Parking lots full of cars



Given this mix of factors, Metro's bus bays cannot safely accommodate the size of buses that will be in the region.



Security

- All Metro Transit Police Department officers on duty
 - Vacations cancelled
 - 12-hour shifts
- More than 100 police officers representing 14 transit agencies, as well as officers from Quantico and Bowie and will be in the Metro system.
- Region's local police departments will assist in monitoring Metro property.
- Federal law enforcement support

Local police departments have been notified of potential issues, including traffic enforcement of charter buses dropping off passengers on local roads.





Day-by-Day in Operations

What to expect from Metrobus,
Metrorail and MetroAccess

January 17-23, 2009



Saturday January 17: Travel Day

Characteristics:

- Big travel day for visitors to DC
- Airports expected to be busy
- All local roads and highways expected to be open for vehicle traffic

Special Events for the public:

- No public events scheduled in DC, MD or VA
- President- and Vice-President-Elect visit to Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore

Advice for Customers:

Save \$\$: Buy fare cards in advance now: one all-day pass per person per day: \$7.80 today but \$10 on 1/20.

Be prepared: Review the weather forecast for the next few days and prepare accordingly. Pick up an Inauguration brochure at Metrorail stations, sales offices or hotels. Bikes are prohibited on Metrorail

Have fun: Enjoy the restaurants, museums and nightlife in DC, Maryland and Virginia. Metrorail is open until 3:00 a.m.



What to Expect from Metro: Saturday



Metrobus

- Buses every 15-20 minutes to and from Dulles and Marshall-BWI Airports to Metro but expect crowding
- Other buses will follow a Saturday schedule
- Expect delays on all buses if roads are crowded

Metrorail

- Trains on a Saturday schedule
- 7:00 am- 3:00 am
- Reduced fares all day until 2:00 am
- Rush-hour fares 2:00am-3:00 am
- Bikes prohibited all day

Metro Access

- Regular service, but...
- Expect delays if roads are crowded

Parking

- Almost 60,000 parking spaces available for free



Sunday January 18: Opening Ceremony

Characteristics:

- Most local roads and highways expected to be open to vehicle traffic
- Expect restrictions on roads near opening ceremony

Special Events for the public:

Opening Ceremony

- President- and Vice President-Elect will attend
- Daytime event at Lincoln Memorial
- Free to the public
- For reference, Metro ridership at opening ceremony for 1993 Inauguration was 400,000

Advice for Customers:

Save \$\$: Buy fare cards in advance now: one all-day pass per person per day: \$7.80 today but \$10 on 1/20.

Be prepared: Don't bring big coolers or other large items; there may be checkpoints. Expect crowding on buses and trains, particularly after the event.

Have fun: Metrorail is open until 12:00 a.m.



What to Expect from Metro: Sunday



Metrobus

- Buses on a Sunday schedule with extra service to airports as needed
- Additional buses for opening ceremonies
- Expect delays if roads are crowded

Metrorail

- Similar to July 4th, with increased service around the event; hours will be regular Sunday: 7:00 am- 12:00 am
- Extra trains added before and after the opening ceremony
- Reduced fares all day
- Bikes prohibited

Metro Access

- Regular service, but...
- Expect delays if roads are crowded

Parking

- Almost 60,000 parking spaces available for free



Monday January 19: Day of Service

Characteristics:

- “National Day of Community Service” to honor the birthday of the Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Preparations for Inauguration Day

Special Events for the public:

Youth Concert

- Verizon Center
- Free, but tickets required

Unofficial Inaugural balls and evening events

Advice for Customers:

Save \$\$: Last day to buy fare cards at a reduced price \$7.80.

Be prepared: Know your alternatives for traveling on Tuesday and make a number of backup plans. Review Metro’s web site. Sign up for e-alerts. Don’t leave your car at Metrorail lots past 10:00 pm: All cars will be towed after 10:00 p.m. as we prepare for Tuesday morning. Bikes are prohibited on Metrorail

Have fun: Metrorail is open until 12:00 a.m.



What to Expect from Metro: Monday



Metrobus

- Buses will run on a weekday schedule
- Expect delays if roads are crowded

Metrorail

- Saturday schedule with extra trains
- 5:00 am- 12:00 am
- Reduced fares all day

Metro Access

- Regular service, but...
- Expect delays if roads are crowded

Parking

- Nearly 60,000 parking spaces available but...
- All cars must be removed from all lots by 10 p.m. or risk being towed.



Tuesday January 20: Inauguration Day

Characteristics:

- No crossing Pennsylvania Ave along parade route.
- Parade viewing area is expected to fill up quickly
- Many roads and bridges will be closed to anything but buses and authorized vehicles
- Travel by any means around the region will be very difficult

Special Events for the public:

- Festivities begin at 10:00 am, with 12 noon swearing-in, followed by parade
- Many official and unofficial evening events

Advice for Customers:

Save \$\$: In general, an unlimited day pass will be cheaper than paying by the trip.

Be prepared: If driving to Metro lots, bring cash and know your alternatives in case parking lots are full. Get a brochure to help guide you in and around the Mall. Bikes are prohibited on Metrorail.

Have fun: Metrorail is open until 2:00 a.m.



What to Expect from Metro: Tuesday



Metrobus

- Buses will run on a modified Saturday schedule
- Supplemental service: 22 dedicated routes to the downtown core with enhanced service
- Free shuttle RFK-L'Enfant Plaza
- Expect delays & detours on all regular bus routes



Metrorail

- 17 hours of rush hour service
- 4am-2am
- Rush-hour fares to accommodate high demand 4am-9pm
- Smithsonian and Archives stations closed from 4am-after the parade
- Expect p.m. closures at select stations per US Secret Service, TBD



Metro Access

- Major delays in the entire metropolitan area
- Limited, if any, door-to-door service, particularly in downtown core



Parking

- No car parking at Minnesota Ave.
- Nearly 60,000 parking spaces available for \$4 cash
- Lots open at 3:30am, but expect to fill up quickly
- No overnight parking



What to Expect from Metro: Wednesday-Thursday (Demonstrations)



Metrobus

- Buses will run on weekday schedules
- Supplemental service to and from IAD, BWI on Wednesday
- Possible traffic delays due to public demonstrations (public rallies, Right-to-Life March)



Metrorail

- Regular weekday schedule 5:00 am-12:00 am
- Rush-hour fares 5:00 a.m.-9:30 and 3:00-7:00 p.m.
- Brookland-CUA, Union Station and Verizon Center expected to be busy stations 1/22



Metro Access

- Regular service, but...
- Expect possible traffic delays due to public demonstrations



Parking

- Nearly 60,000 parking spaces available
- Standard rates apply and payment only by SmarTrip®



Request authorization for All-day bus pass

- Metro bus is enhancing service on 22 dedicated routes from VA, MD and DC to the downtown core area
- Bus service will help relieve some pressure on Metrorail
- Bus service will also assist residents in close-in suburbs and the District who may not be able to get on crowded railcars.
- A day pass will expedite boarding throughout the day.
- Day pass would be purchased onboard buses
- Customers would still have the option of using SmarTrip® (\$1.25) or cash (\$1.35) for a single trip.
- **Recommendation: After soliciting input of the Riders Advisory Council, staff recommends setting a flat fee of \$5**



Request authorization for Indemnification

- Volunteers from transit properties and other entities have expressed interest in assisting Metro on January 20, 2009.
- Metro's use of volunteers raises liability issues as to the volunteers and other third parties.
- MD, VA and DC would likely consider volunteers to be agents of Metro under the law.
- **Recommendation: That the Board adopt a resolution that affirms that Metro will treat volunteers as Metro's agents for the purposes of liability and indemnification.**

**METRO WELCOMES YOU TO WASHINGTON, D.C.
FOR THE 56TH INAUGURATION OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**





Appendix



Highest Ridership Days: Weekday

1	854,638	7/11/08	Baseball/Women of Faith
2	850,636	6/09/04	Reagan State Funeral
3	846,388	6/25/08	Smithsonian Festival/Baseball
4	844,530	7/10/08	Baseball
5	841,607	7/17/08	Alpha Kappa Alpha Convention
6	835,072	7/08/08	Baseball/Basketball
7	834,956	7/02/08	Smithsonian Festival/Concert
8	834,705	7/29/08	Baseball
9	831,508	4/03/07	Cherry Blossoms/Baseball
10	831,464	6/24/08	Baseball/Basketball
30	811,257	1/20/93	Clinton Inaugural #1



Highest Ridership Days: Weekend

Saturday

1	786,358	6/08/91	Desert Storm
2	725,909	10/04/97	Promise Keepers
3	601,839	1/20/01	G.W. Bush Inaugural #1
4	585,354	7/04/98	Fourth of July celebration
5	580,771	3/29/08	Cherry Blossoms/Circus

Sunday

1	540,945	7/04/99	Fourth of July celebration
2	505,157	7/04/93	Fourth of July celebration
3	440,138	1/17/93	Reunion America
4	413,312	4/25/93	Lesbian/Gay Rights March
5	411,382	4/05/92	NOW Rally

SUBJECT: CREATION OF CALENDAR DAY BUS ONLY PASS

PROPOSED
RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, Large numbers of people are expected for the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States, many of whom will want or need to take Metrobus; and

WHEREAS, A convenient way to collect fares from both residents and visitors to Washington will expedite the boarding process and allow for better use of the bus capacity; and

WHEREAS, The creation of a bus pass to be valid on all Metrobus routes from 4:00 A.M. on Inauguration Day until 4:00 A.M. on January 21, 2009, will meet these goals; now, therefore be it


RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors approves the creation of a Calendar Day Pass for use on all Metrobus routes to be valid from 4:00 A.M. on January 20, 2009 until 4:00 A.M. January 21, 2009, at the cost of \$5.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Calendar Day Bus Pass will be sold on all Metrobuses during the effective period of the pass; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all other Metro fare media normally accepted on Metrobus will be accepted on January 20, 2009, in addition to the Calendar Day Bus Pass; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That this Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,



Carol B. O'Keeffe
General Counsel

SUBJECT: INAUGURATION WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS

PROPOSED
RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, On January 20, 2009, Barack Obama will be inaugurated as the 44th President of the United States with events starting on January 17, 2009 and continuing through January 20, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Staff expects an extraordinary number of people utilizing the transit system; and

WHEREAS, Accepting volunteers will help meet the need for additional assistance with crowd control and other functions to support operations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That in accordance with the Board of Directors' action in Resolution #2008-64, the General Manager is authorized to determine the level of service provided from January 17, 2009 through January 20, 2009; and be it further

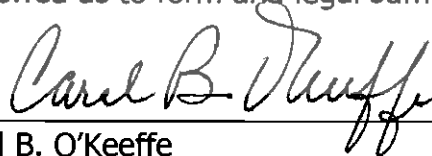
RESOLVED, That the General Manager is authorized to accept volunteers to assist with transit services during Inauguration Weekend, January 17, 2009 to January 20, 2009; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Inauguration Weekend volunteers will be considered agents of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority within the meaning of Section 80 of the Compact; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the provisions of the Indemnification Policy, as amended most recently by Resolution #2006-32, shall apply to all persons serving as Inauguration Weekend volunteers from January 17, 2009 to January 20, 2009; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That this Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,



Carol B. O'Keeffe
General Counsel