

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority  
**Board Action/Information Summary**

Action  Information

MEAD Number:  
201655

Resolution:  
 Yes  No

**TITLE:**

MTPD 2015 Half Yearly Crime Report

**PRESENTATION SUMMARY:**

The Metro Transit Police security report ensures crime information is publicly communicated to enhance the safety of our customers and the protection of Metro employees. This security report will address and compare Part 1 crime data of January through June from CY2014 to CY2015.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the MTPD security presentation is to provide members of the WMATA Board with information and analysis of annual Part 1 crime incidents in the Metro system.

**DESCRIPTION:**

Crime reduction is a performance measure included in Metro's Strategic Plan. For the purposes of this report, crime statistics used are in the major category designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as Part I crime. Part I crime includes eight specific crimes: homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. As a matter of information, the FBI has added two crimes to these legacy Part I crimes: Human Trafficking/Commercial Sex Acts and Human Trafficking/Involuntary Servitude. To date, neither of the Human Trafficking offenses have been reported to the MTPD.

**Key Highlights:**

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- The rate of Part I crime in the Metrorail system for the first half of CY2015 was approximately 5.0 crimes per million riders (CPM).
- Parking lot crime was significantly lower, reduced by 36%.
- Bus crime remains low overall, at 1.2 CPM, and was slightly lower than CY2014.
- Part I crime in Metrorail increased by a very small margin of just over 12%, with increases in robberies of cell phones.
- The MTPD initiated a pilot program to address fare evasion in both rail and bus.

**Background and History:**

Metro Part I crime statistics remained overall stable comparing the first six months of CY2015 to CY2014, with an increase of just 13 crimes. The Metro system crime target

for CY2015 is 1,900 Part I crimes, and with the current performance of 730 Part I crimes, CY2015 crime statistics would project to well within, or even below the established yearly target. Last year the Metro system recorded the greatest year-to-year Part I crime reduction in the last 15 years of MTPD available records. Sustaining that crime reduction in CY2015 is a win for Metro riders. Metrorail Part I crime rate, or crimes per million riders (CPM) was 5.0 CPM for the first six months of this year. This rate is slightly less than CY2014 when the crime rate was 5.2 CPM in Metrorail.

### **Discussion:**

Parking lot crime has been trending down for the last 10 years, and this year was no exception. For the first six months, parking lot crime is down 36%, from 128 to 70 Part I crimes. Part I parking lot crimes include Thefts from Vehicles, Thefts of Parts and Accessories, and Motor Vehicle Thefts and Attempted Thefts. The most success is attributed to the reduction of thefts of automobiles. This year, there were 19 automobiles stolen from Metro parking lots, compared to 34 (44% reduction) for the same period in CY2014. The majority of vehicle thefts (74%) occurred in parking lots located at Maryland Metrorail stations, with no particular station outstanding. MTPD has engaged in various tactics to reduce crime in parking lots and vehicles are featuring more security technology built in that helps prevent thefts. Even a system as simple as a car alarm can reduce the potential for theft. Technology aside, the MTPD has improved strategies over the years to include deployment of officers on foot, bicycle, and mobile patrol, surge deployments, partnerships with local jurisdictions, unmanned vehicles, observation towers, message boards, and outreach activities including the distribution of free vehicle steering-wheel locks.

In Metrorail trains and stations, crimes were up by about 12%. For the last few years, we have experienced increased numbers of theft snatches of cell phones in stations. In CY2014, we finally started seeing a reduction, and this year the cell phone thefts remained the same as last year (169 vs. 167). Unfortunately, a new trend, a spike in Robbery Force and Violence, has been reported which involves the taking of cell phones. These crimes increased by over 36%, and we suspect there are two drivers of the more violent thefts: Metro is a target-rich environment, and riders are struggling with suspects to retain their expensive cell phones. The two crimes of Robbery Snatches and Robbery Force and Violence are the top crimes in the entire system. Snatches are number one at 23% and Robbery Force and Violence number two at 16% of all Part I crime.

Bicycle theft has been a troublesome crime in recent years and this year at Metrorail stations thefts of bicycles increased from 19 in CY2014 to 47 in CY2015. Metro stations in Virginia have had the highest incidence of bicycle theft by 73%; Braddock Road Metro Station has experienced the most thefts with twelve of the 47 thefts recorded.

Part I crimes on Metrobus were reduced by about 9%, from 79 to 72 crimes. The most prevalent crimes on buses are serious assaults (Assault with a Deadly Weapon) at 21 crimes (29%), Robbery at 15 crimes (21%), and Robbery Snatches at 15 crimes (21%). The crime rate for Metrobus remained about the same as CY2014, or just over one crime per million bus riders. It is unfortunate that three-fourths of all serious crimes on buses are classified as crimes against persons. These crimes are characterized by close contact between perpetrator and victim. Proximity is also a characteristic of bus

operator assaults, although assaults against Metro employees are almost always classified as misdemeanor simple assaults because no dangerous weapons are utilized. Through July of CY2015, reports of bus operator assaults were exactly the same as last year at 52 crimes. The top two types of assaults are expectoration (45%) and punching (12%). In most bus operator assault events, there was a verbal altercation or a fare dispute that precipitated the assault. In 31% of cases, there was no provocation at all. While bus operator assaults can occur anywhere in the region, 46% of all assaults occur in Southeast Washington, D.C.

In April, Metrobus, Metrorail and MTPD began a collaboration to promote voluntary compliance of fare payment by riders, while preventing wide spread fare evasion. The result was a deployment of MTPD officers on details called the Fare Evasion Initiative (FEI). Since inception, MTPD officers on the FEI have issued 222 summons for fare evasion and made 24 arrests. In addition during the same period, MTPD officers issued 1,278 summons (non-FEI). MTPD plans to request additional time to extend the FEI into early Fall, 2015.

**FUNDING IMPACT:**

Define current or potential funding impact, including source of reimbursable funds.	
Project Manager:	Chief Ronald A. Pavlik, Jr.
Project Department/Office:	MTPD

This BAIS contains information regarding the Part I crime statistics for the first six months of CY2015. Crime reporting and reduction is a part of the overall mission of the MTPD.

**TIMELINE:**

<b>Previous Actions</b>	<p>Jan - June, 2015 - Partner with local jurisdictions for crime prevention and uniformed presence.</p> <p>Jan - June, 2015 - Participated in community and school outreach/Respect Your Ride youth campaign.</p> <p>Jan - June, 2015 - Worked to expand recruitment efforts to fill sworn, non-sworn, and civilian vacancies.</p> <p>Jan - June, 2015 - Occupied new District II police station and Range Training Facility.</p>
<b>Anticipated actions after presentation</b>	<p>Continue, 2015 – Expansion of recruitment efforts to fill sworn, non-sworn, and civilian vacancies.</p> <p>Continue, 2015 - Request permission to continue Fare Evasion Initiative (FEI).</p> <p>August, 2015 - Attend back to school nights and school outreach/Continue Respect Your Ride campaign. Attention to</p>

	<p>Kids Ride Free Program.</p>
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August, 2015 - Continue preparations for large special event, Pope's visit.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

No recommendations.



## Security Report: January – June 2015

Safety and Security Committee

September 25, 2015



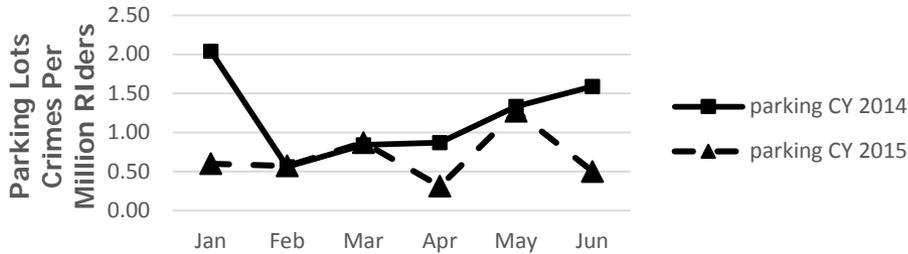
# MTPD Significant Facts

**Metrorail Part I Crime Rate  
Sustained Below  
5.00 Crimes Per Million Riders  
Again in 2015**

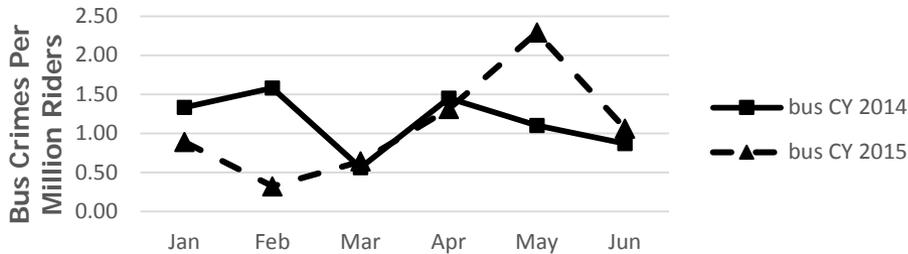




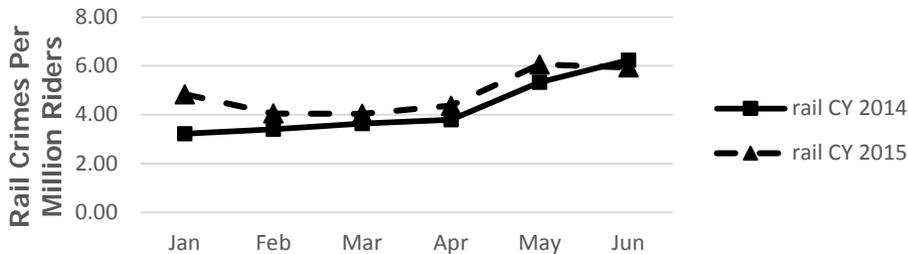
# Monthly Part I Crime Rate Comparison 2014 vs 2015



Parking Facilities:  
Lower this year



Metrobus:  
Slightly lower



Metrorail:  
Slightly higher

# Part I Crime Against Property

Crimes Against Property	Type	Jan-June 2014	Jan-June 2015
Larceny/Theft	Snatch	169	167
	Pickpocket	23	29
	From Auto	82	55
	Bicycle	122	119
	Other	78	101
Auto Theft/Attempts		53	32
Burglary		2	0
Arson		1	1



**36% Reduction  
Parking Lots  
Part I Crime**

# Part I Crime Against Persons

Crimes Against Persons	Type	Jan-June 2014	Jan-June 2015
Robbery	Force & Violence	88	120
	Armed	37	45
	Fear	6	6
Aggravated Assault		55	55
Rape		1	0
Homicide		0	0

## Robbery Force & Violence Up by 36%





# Sexual Harassment Complaints

Classification	2014	2015
Criminal	21	17
Criminal Non-sexual	8	7
Harassment	19	22
YTD Total	48	46

↓ 4%



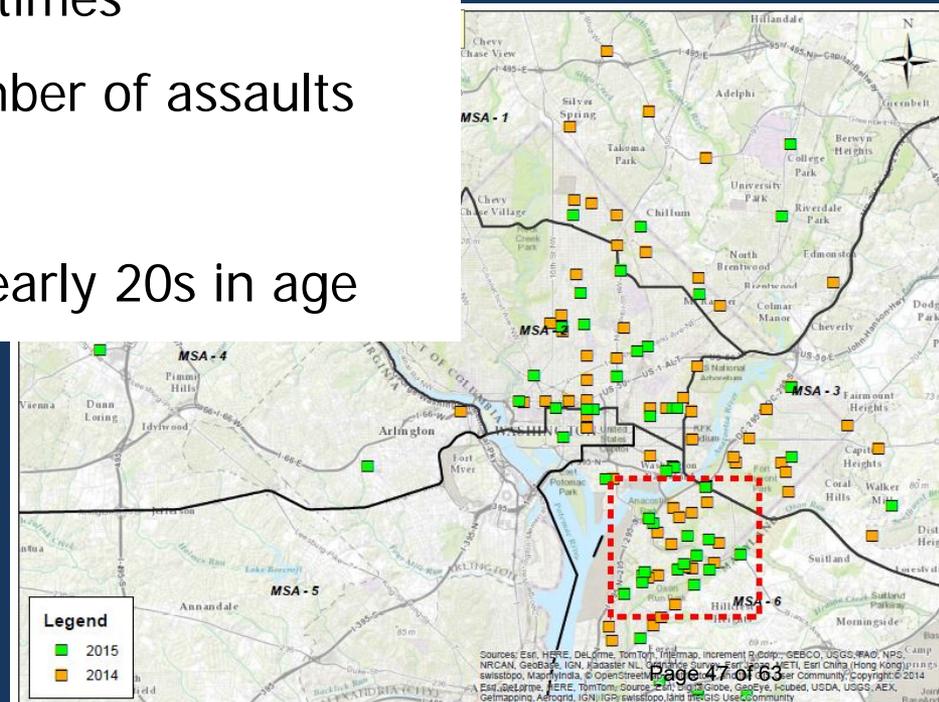
**IT'S NOT OK**

REPORT SEXUAL HARASSMENT ON METRO

# Bus Operator Assaults

- Zero difference in 2014 vs 2015 (52 vs 52)
- Fare disputes and verbal altercations leading cause
- Expectorating most common method of assault
- 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. highest reported times
- May and July reported highest number of assaults
- Usually a single subject involved
- Suspects are usually late teens to early 20s in age

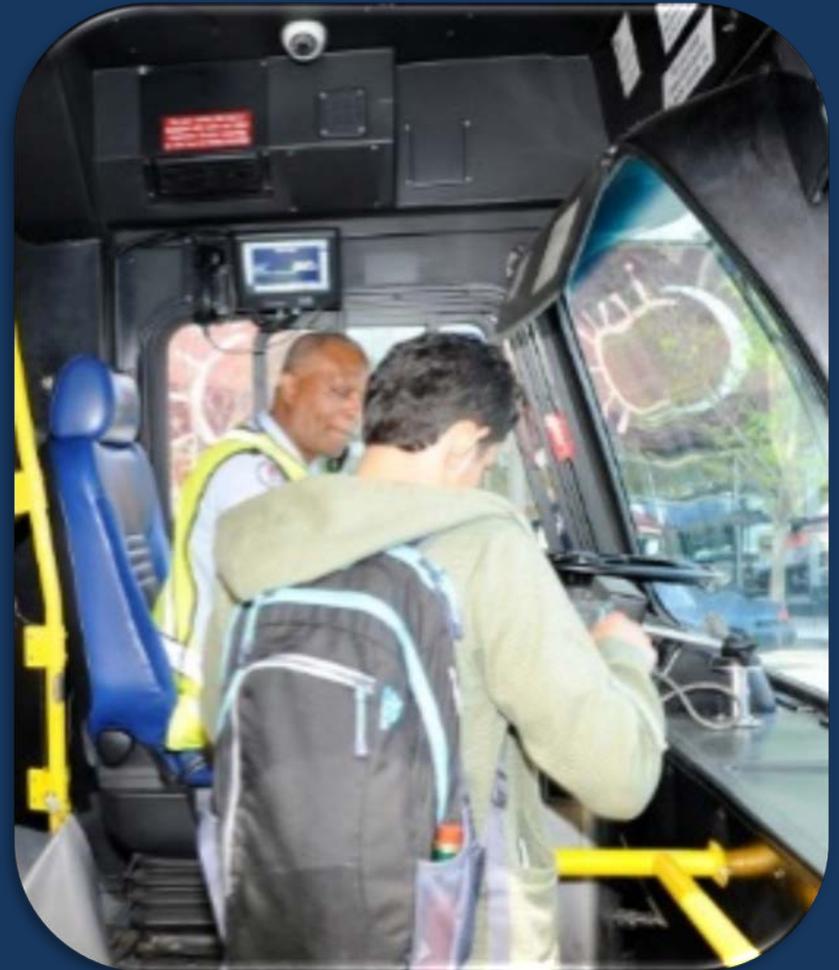
Bus Operator Assaults  
2014 vs 2015





# Fare Evasion Initiative Pilot

- Collaboration  
MTPD, Bus and Rail
- Initiated April 6, 2015
- 45% increase in  
enforcement of fare evasion



# Appendix



# MTPD Crime Report

## 5 Year Comparison (January – June)

Part I Crime	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Aggravated Assault	51	68	51	55	55
Arson	0	1	2	1	1
Burglary	0	0	0	2	0
Homicide	*1	*5	0	0	0
Larceny	324	307	346	282	275
Motor Vehicle Theft/Attempts	69	57	36	53	32
Rape	1	0	0	1	0
Robbery (Armed, Fear, Force & Violence)	178	155	214	131	171
Robbery/Theft (Snatch & Pickpocket)	253	381	347	192	196
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>730</b>

\* Homicides are reported and investigated by other police agencies.