

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Board Action/Information Summary

☒ Action ☐ Information

MEAD Number:
202299

Resolution:
☒ Yes ☐ No

TITLE:

East Falls Church Compact Public Hearing

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Metro has coordinated with Arlington County on options to expand the bus facilities at East Falls Church Metro Station to reduce congestion and improve operational performance. A Compact public hearing is needed on the proposed addition of bus bays and amendments to the Mass Transit Plan.

PURPOSE:

Request Board authorization to hold a Compact public hearing on proposed changes to East Falls Church Metro Station.

DESCRIPTION:

Since 2015, Metro and Arlington County (the County) have been coordinating on the expansion and alignment of bus facilities at East Falls Church Metro Station. Staff now seeks to hold a Compact public hearing to receive input from commuters on the proposal to add three bus bays to the existing bus loop, relocate the ADA parking and narrow the intersection width at the bus bay entrance.

Key Highlights:

- This Arlington County-led project proposes expanding the bus loop to include three new bus bays, relocate the ADA parking and narrow the intersection width at the bus bay entrance
- These changes will improve operational performance of the transit facility, where the current bus services exceed designed capacity
- A Compact public hearing is required to receive input on the proposed changes, which would represent a change to the Mass Transit Plan.

Background and History:

Located at the intersection of Interstate 66 and North Sycamore Street in Arlington County, the East Falls Church Metro Station includes four bus bays, 422 Park & Ride spaces, and 33 Kiss & Ride spaces.

In July 2015, WMATA published the East Falls Church Station Bus Facilities Study which recommended an expansion of the bus facilities to reduce congestion and improve operational performance of the bus services.

In 2018, the County received \$4.8 million from the I-66 Outside the Beltway concession agreement for the expansion of bus facilities.

Between 2020 and 2021, the County coordinated with Metro to develop the final proposed concept design for expansion of the bus facilities. The design meets Metro's standards and station access will not be impacted negatively by the proposed project.

In July 2021, the County adopted a Capital Improvement Program for FY 2022-2024 that includes the remaining funds needed for the project.

Discussion:

Staff coordinated the conceptual design for the bus bay expansion with the County. The project will be delivered by the County with state and local funds. The project will provide additional capacity to support bus services and resolve existing operational performance issues related to bus bay congestion and excessive queuing. The project will also improve pedestrian safety by minimizing the intersection width at the bus loop entrance and relocating the accessible parking spaces within the Park & Ride facility directly adjacent to the bus loop and eliminating the need to cross traffic lanes.

A Compact public hearing is required to receive input on the proposed changes to Metro's transit facilities and Mass Transit Plan. The desired timeframe for conducting the Compact public hearing is Spring 2022.

FUNDING IMPACT:

There is no impact on funding to conduct the proposed Compact public hearing. Any costs incurred by Metro will be subject to reimbursement by Arlington County.	
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Project Manager:	Steven Segerlin
Project Department/Office:	CFO/LAND

TIMELINE:

Previous Actions	None
Anticipated actions after presentation	Winter 2021/2022 – Hold the Compact public hearing. Spring 2022 – Seek Board approval of the Compact public hearing staff report and changes to the Mass Transit Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorization to hold a Compact public hearing on proposed changes to East Falls Church Metro Station.

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO HOLD A COMPACT PUBLIC HEARING FOR
AMENDMENTS TO THE MASS TRANSIT PLAN FOR CERTAIN CHANGES AT
EAST FALLS CHURCH METRO STATION

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

WHEREAS, Compact Section 15 requires the Board of Directors to transmit proposed amendments to the Mass Transit Plan to certain enumerated agencies and to conduct a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County desires to expand the bus facilities at East Falls Church Metrorail Station; and

WHEREAS, Staff and Arlington County have prepared a concept plan to make the following amendments to the Mass Transit Plan at East Falls Church Metrorail Station: (i) adding three bus bays; (ii) narrowing the pedestrian crossing to the bus loop; and (iii) relocating the ADA space in the Park & Ride facility;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, That, in accordance with Compact Section 15, the Board of Directors authorizes staff to transmit the proposed Mass Transit Plan amendments to the enumerated agencies and to hold a public hearing on the proposed changes at the East Falls Church Metrorail Station; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board authorizes the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer to release the Public Hearing Staff Report to the public for comment prior to Board of Directors approval; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Resolution shall be effective 30 days after adoption in accordance with Compact Section 8(b).

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,

/s/ _____
Patricia Y. Lee
Executive Vice President and General Counsel

WMATA File Structure No.:
12.7.2 Master Plans/Mass Transit Plan (including transit zone modifications)