



Safety and Operations Committee

Board Information Item III-A

Overnight Metrobus Service

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Board Action/Information Summary

Action Information

Document
Number:
205601

Resolution:
 Yes No

Presentation Name:

Overnight Metrobus Service

Project Manager:

Leroy Jones

Project Department:

Bus Services

Purpose/Key Highlights:

Staff will provide an update on the status of Overnight Bus Service, an initiative of the Better Bus Network. This information item will be followed at a later meeting with a request to enter into a reimbursable project agreement with the District of Columbia to fund this incremental service increase and to increase the FY2024 Operating Budget.

- Overnight Bus Service aligns with the Service Excellence, Talented Teams and Regional Opportunity and Partnership goals of the Strategic Transformation Plan.
- The initiative is anticipated to provide safe and reliable service with a particular benefit to late-night workers and businesses.

Interested Parties:

District of Columbia

Background:

Overnight Bus Service was presented to the Board in March 2023 during the development and approval of the FY2024 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets. The service was included in the Title VI Equity Analysis as part of the FY2024 budget approval, subject to entering into a funding agreement with the District of Columbia.

Discussion:

Staff is preparing to deliver 24-hour Metrobus service on 13 existing lines, seven (7) days a week, funded by the District of Columbia. This service increase aligns with Metro's goals of providing service excellence and continuing to enhance the customer experience. It also aligns with the goal of financial sustainability by not increasing the overall Metrobus subsidy for other jurisdictions, based on the District of Columbia funding the anticipated costs of this service increase.

Bus Service will be offered on the 32, 33, 52, 70, 80, 92, A6/A8, B2, H4, S2, V2, W4 and X2 lines of service every 20 minutes or better, between the hours of 9pm to 7am, seven (7) days a week. These 24-hour routes are anticipated to provide a particular benefit to late-night workers and businesses.

In planning overnight service, efforts are currently underway to ensure proper staffing for adequate overnight coverage to include Bus Operators, Bus Garage Mechanics and Garage Fleet Servicers, Bus Communications Specialists, Bus Operations Managers, Transit Field Supervisors and Transit Police Officers. In addition to the internal coordination needed to advance this initiative, staff is developing a communications plan to raise awareness of the increase in service.

Board approval will be required to enter into a reimbursable project agreement with the District of Columbia and to increase the FY2024 Operating Budget to address these expenses. The funding agreement is anticipated to commit the District of Columbia to pay the costs of this service increase and set standards for Metro's management and operation of the service. The base term of the agreement, risk allocation, and funding requirements are in negotiation and staff will return to the Board with a recommended form of agreement when negotiations are complete.

Funding Impact:

There is no funding impact from this information item.

Previous Actions:

Overnight Bus Service was previously presented to the Board during the FY24 Proposed Operating and Capital Budget in March 2023 and during the Better Bus Update in July 2023.

Next Steps:

Board approval to enter into a reimbursable project agreement with the District of Columbia and amend the FY2024 Operating Budget.

Recommendation:

Information Only

Overnight Metrobus Service

Safety & Operations Committee
October 12, 2023





Purpose

- Provide an update on service planned and activities to launch overnight Metrobus service Columbia
- Next Steps



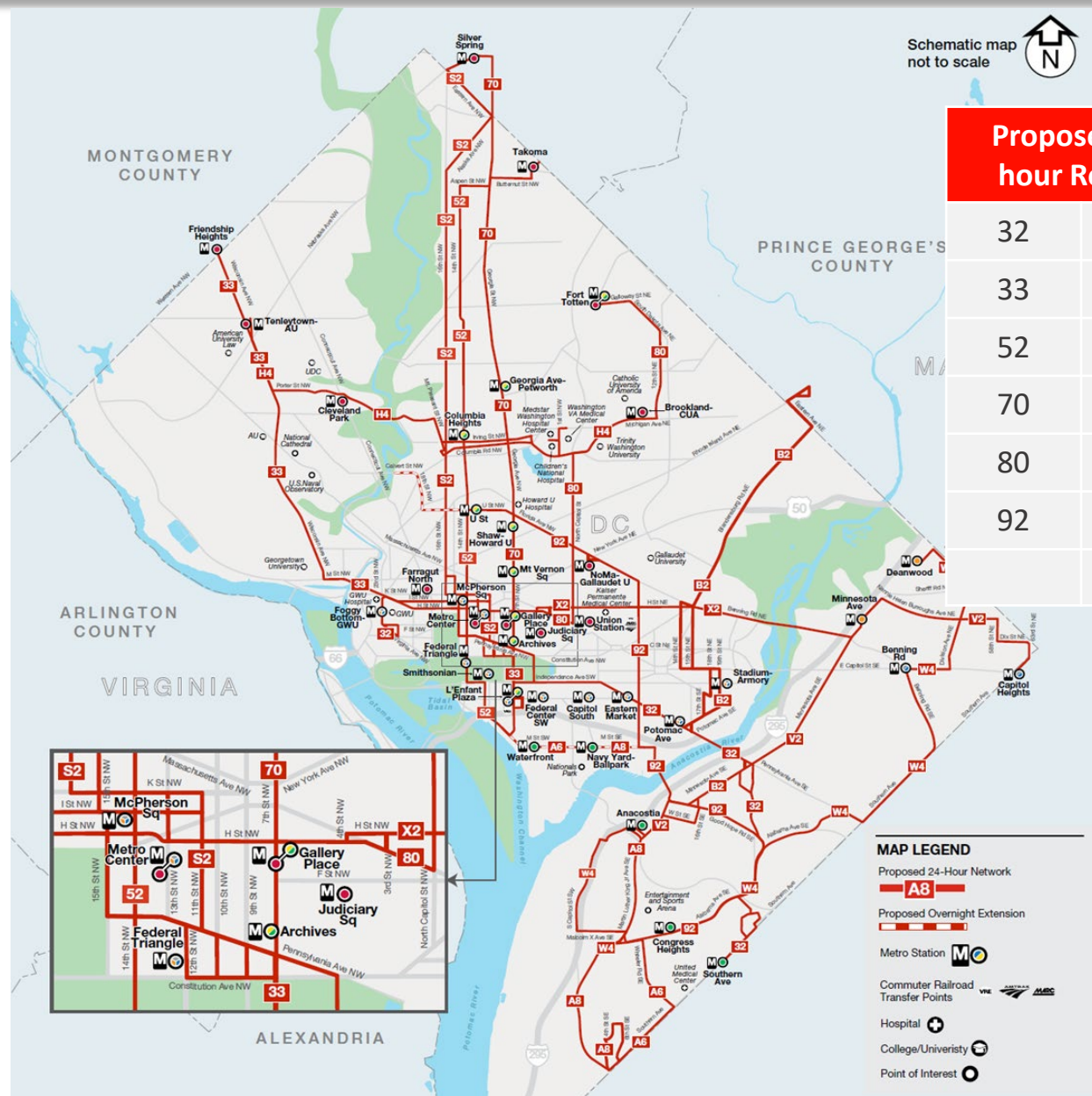
Overnight Bus Service

Your Metro Goals	Policy Alignment
 <p data-bbox="129 432 438 465">Service excellence</p> <p data-bbox="545 322 1365 458">Deliver safe, reliable, convenient, equitable, accessible, and enjoyable service for customers</p>	<ul data-bbox="1462 344 2244 451" style="list-style-type: none">• Customer-friendly service improvement• Includes safety resources
 <p data-bbox="129 765 473 843">Regional opportunity and partnership</p> <p data-bbox="545 686 1365 779">Design transit service to move more people and equitably connect a growing region</p>	<ul data-bbox="1462 651 2321 808" style="list-style-type: none">• Benefits late-night businesses and workers, many equity customers• Partnership / special agreement with DC

- Example of customer-friendly service improvements Metro can make with adequate operating and capital funding
- This is a regional partnership to provide additional service enhancements

FY24-25 Service Plan

- 24-hr service on 13 lines in the Frequent Service Network
- Current operating schedule:
 - 7am-9pm: 12 min or better, every day
 - 9pm-2am: Ramps down to 30-min
 - 2am-4/5am: Service closed
 - 4/5am-7am: Variable headways
- Program schedule:
 - 24-hour service
 - 7am-9pm: Every 12 minutes or better
 - 9pm-7am: Every 20 minutes or better



Schematic map not to scale

Proposed 24-hour Routes

32	A6/A8
33	B2
52	H4
70	S2
80	V2
92	W4
	X2

MAP LEGEND

- Proposed 24-Hour Network: — A8
- Proposed Overnight Extension: - - -
- Metro Station:
- Commuter Railroad Transfer Points:
- Hospital:
- College/University:
- Point of Interest:



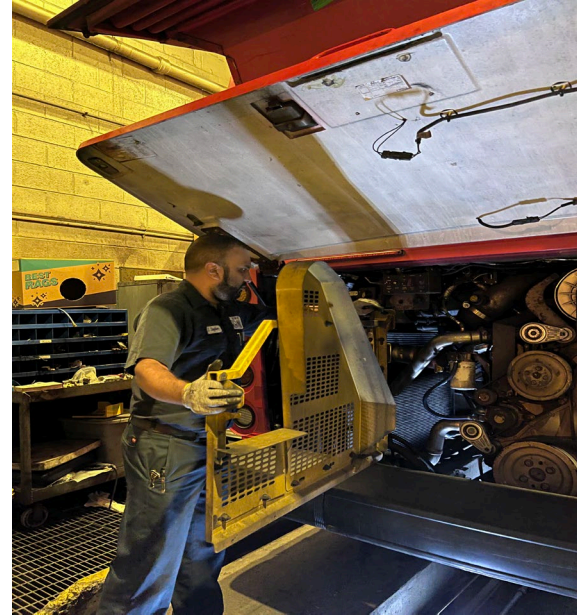
Agreement with the District of Columbia

- Establishes terms and conditions for providing the service
 - Funding requirements
 - Timing of efforts
 - Assignment of risk
- Includes service, start-up, security, communications and outreach expenses
- Projected service start date: December 17, 2023



RECRUITMENT UNDERWAY: 75 Metrobus, MICC, Police Positions

Positions	Quantity
Bus Operator	37
Bus Garage Mechanic D	10
Garage Fleet Servicer	6
Bus Communications Specialist	3
Transit Field Supervisor	8
Bus Operations Manager	4
Transit Police Officer	7



SECURITY STRATEGY:

- Increased Metro Transit Police patrol at bus hubs and on specified bus lines to include uniformed and plain clothes ride-alongs
- Increased number of officers on midnight shifts
- Increased overnight bus checks
- Notification to surrounding jurisdictions



Internal and External Communications and Signage

Internal Communications

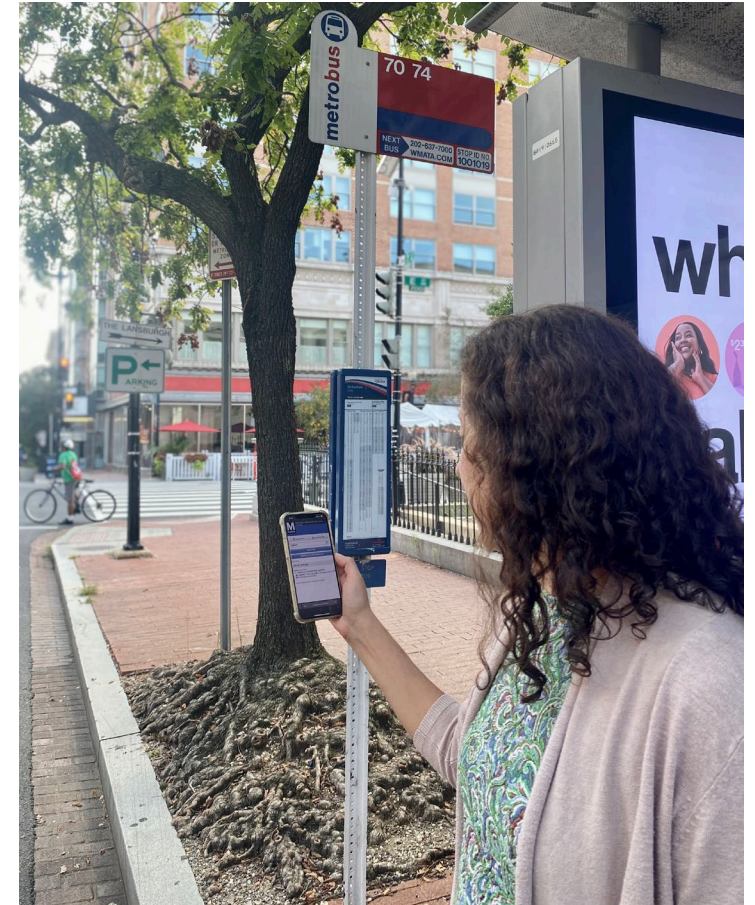
- Operator and staffing outreach (Safety meetings, Notice to Operators, etc)
- Union engagement

External Communication

- Press Release
- Customer notification signage
- In-person outreach
- Overnight map

Signage

- Bus information center signs
- Bus screens and rail passenger information display screens



Next Steps

Staff will return for Board approval to:

- Enter into a reimbursable project agreement with the District of Columbia and
- Amend the FY2024 Operating Budget

