

Notice of Public Hearing

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Proposed Adjustments to Metrobus Service
Docket B11-03

Purpose

Notice is hereby given that five public hearings will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority on the proposed changes as follows:

Hearing No. 564

Tuesday, October 11
Department of Housing and
Community Development
1800 Martin Luther King Jr Ave, SE
Corner Entrance
Washington, DC

Hearing No. 566

Wednesday, October 12
First United Methodist Church
6201 Belcrest Rd
Hyattsville, MD

NEW LOCATION

Hearing No. 567

Thursday, October 13 Washington Hilton 1919 Connecticut Ave, NW Washington, DC

Hearing No. 565

Tuesday, October 11
Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School
7130 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA

Hearing No. 568

Thursday, October 13
Fairlington Recreation Center – Room 134
3308 South Stafford St
Arlington, VA

Open House at 6 p.m. – Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m.

The locations of all public hearings are wheelchair accessible. Any individual who requires special assistance such as a sign language interpreter or additional accommodation to participate in the public hearings, or who requires these materials in an alternate format, should contact Danise Peña at 202-962-2511 or TTY: 202-638-3780 as soon as possible in order for Metro to make necessary arrangements. For language assistance, such as an interpreter, please call 202-962-1082.

For more information, please visit www.wmata.com/hearings



BACKGROUND – The Washington region is consistently in the top three "most congested traffic areas" in the country. Economic development projects, street realignment projects and increasing amenities for pedestrians and bicyclists result in increased traffic congestion, which affects the smooth operation and running time of buses.

Further shifting the demand for bus services are workplace location changes, increasingly developed neighborhoods, and new construction projects.

In order to serve customers efficiently, Metrobus services must change as well. Using existing budgeted resources, the goal is to maximize bus service efficiency, and more closely match capacity to demand.

The Metro Board of Directors established criteria for bus service effectiveness, including:

- Average ridership per day
- Passengers per trip
- Passengers per mile
- Subsidy per passenger
- Cost recovery

<u>PROPOSAL</u> – Overall, the bus service changes in this proposal aim to increase the effectiveness of Metrobus services by removing specific trips with very few riders; slightly expanding the time between buses on selected routes with extra capacity; eliminating trips or sections of routes where other bus service is available; and terminating select routes that do not meet performance criteria.

The savings realized from reducing these non-productive services will be used to add capacity on crowded routes; add running time to routes that are consistently late; add trips to expand non-rush hour service to areas of the greatest demand; and restructure routes to streamline service.

Routes that will be improved in this bus service change proposal and their expected benefits are:

- DC B2, G8, L1, L2, P6, U5, and U6 running times, D6 additional AM service, U2 weekend service, M8,M9 extension;
- MD C8 extension of weekday service, D12, D13, D14, F4, F6 running times and additional trips, 89 more frequent rush hour service;
- VA 23A, 23C running times, 25A extension of service, more running time, and more Sunday trips, 28X extension to Mark Center.

The proposed package of service realignments does not increase operating costs or the number of buses in the fleet. The changes will improve overall on-time performance and customer satisfaction, increase ridership, and improve cost recovery.

The ratio of passengers currently using services that would see improvements to the number of passengers using non-productive services is approximately 15 to 1. Fifteen passengers will see improvements for every one passenger who may be inconvenienced.

The specific proposals on the Public Hearing docket are as follows:

Bus Service

- 1. The elimination of the R3 route:
- 2. The elimination of the R5 route designation, with R5 service provided by the R1 and R2 on approximately the same headways.
- 3. The elimination of Saturday service on the 3T, and elimination of service on all days between Tysons Corner Shopping Center and Tysons Westpark, on the 3T.
- 4. Elimination of low ridership trips on various routes, including:

DC trips on 62,64,A4, B2, D2, D8, G2, H8, P6, U4, U5, W2, W6, W8; MD trips on C4, J2, Q4, Y7, Y9, C22, C26; VA trips on 1F

- 5. Splitting the F4 and F6 into separate lines; rerouting the F6 to operate between New Carrollton and Fort Totten Metrorail stations;
- 6. Restructuring the L1, L2, and L4 including the elimination of the L4;
- 7. Restructuring the P1,P2, P6 including the elimination of the P1 and P2 and service after midnight Fridays and Saturdays between Rhode Island Avenue and Archives on the P6.

HOW TO REGISTER TO SPEAK – All organizations or individuals desiring to be heard with respect to the proposal will be afforded the opportunity to present their views and make supporting statements and to offer alternative proposals. In order to establish a witness list, individuals and representatives of organizations who wish to be heard at these public hearings are requested to furnish in writing their name and organization affiliation, if any, via email to speak@wmata.com. The request may also be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 600 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001. Alternatively, you may fax this information to 202-962-1133. Please submit only one speaker's name per letter. Lists of individual speakers will not be accepted. Please note that this information may be releasable to the public under the WMATA Public Access to Records Policy (PARP). The PARP can be viewed on WMATA's website at wmata.com/about_metro/public_rr.cfm under the link marked "Legal Affairs". Public officials will be heard first and will be allowed five minutes each to make their presentations. All others will be allowed three minutes each. Relinquishing of time by one speaker to another will not be permitted.

HOW TO SUBMIT WRITTEN STATEMENTS – Written statements and exhibits must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 by the Office of the Secretary and may be emailed to writtentestimony@wmata.com. They may also be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 600 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001. Alternatively, statements may be faxed to 202-962-1133. Please reference Hearing B11-03 in your submission. Please note that any personal information such as name, e-mail address, address, or telephone number you provide in the statement may be releasable to the public under the WMATA Public Access to Records Policy, available at the website link noted above.