

# Update on the Better Bus Network Redesign

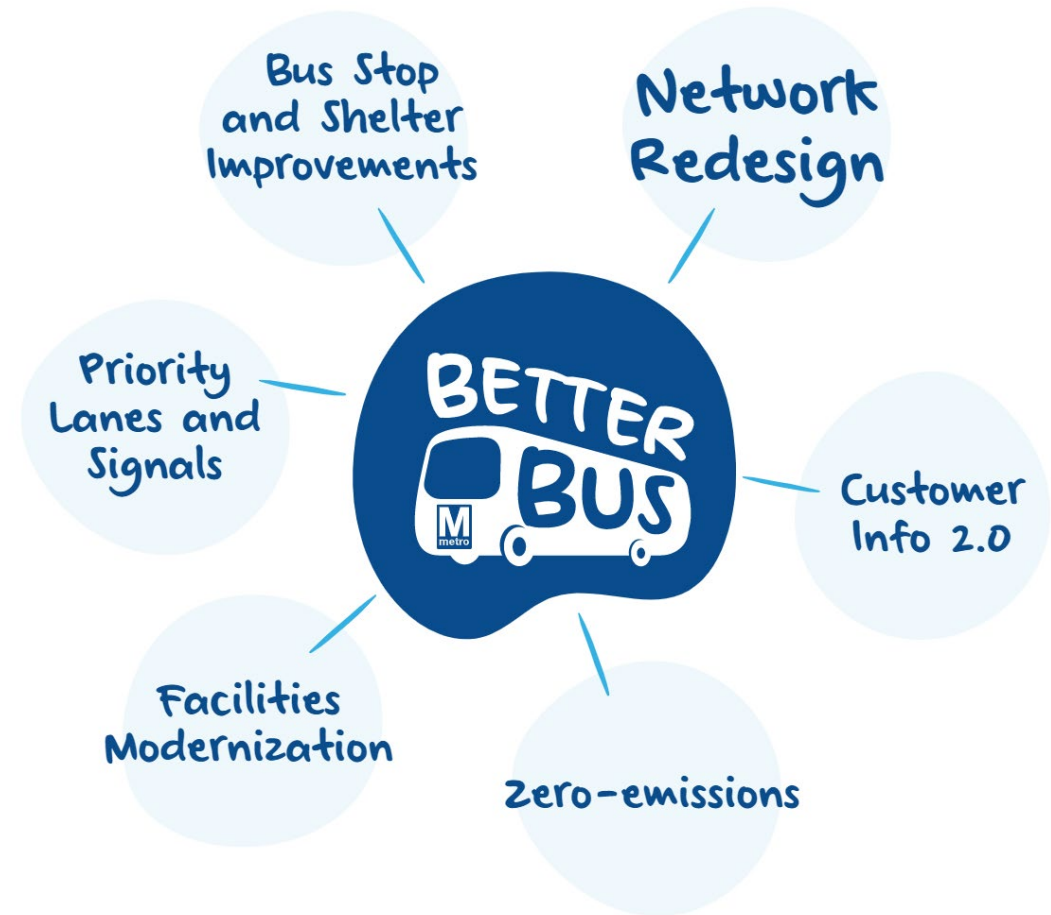
Riders' Advisory Council

May 3, 2023

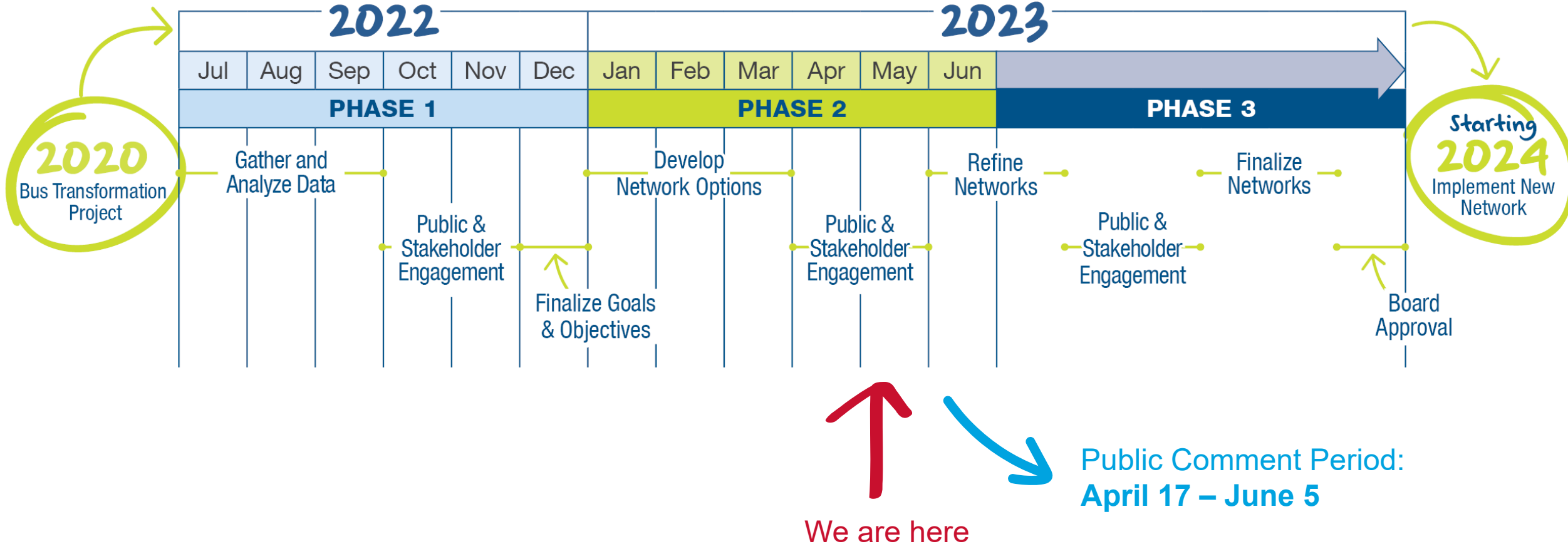


# Purpose

- Provide update on Better Bus Network Redesign
- Provide highlights from the draft Visionary Network and upcoming public and other audience outreach efforts



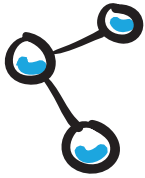
# Better Bus Network Redesign Roadmap



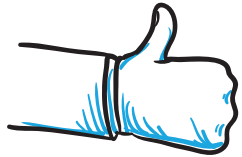


# Highlights from Draft Visionary Network

# The Draft Visionary Network Could Deliver...



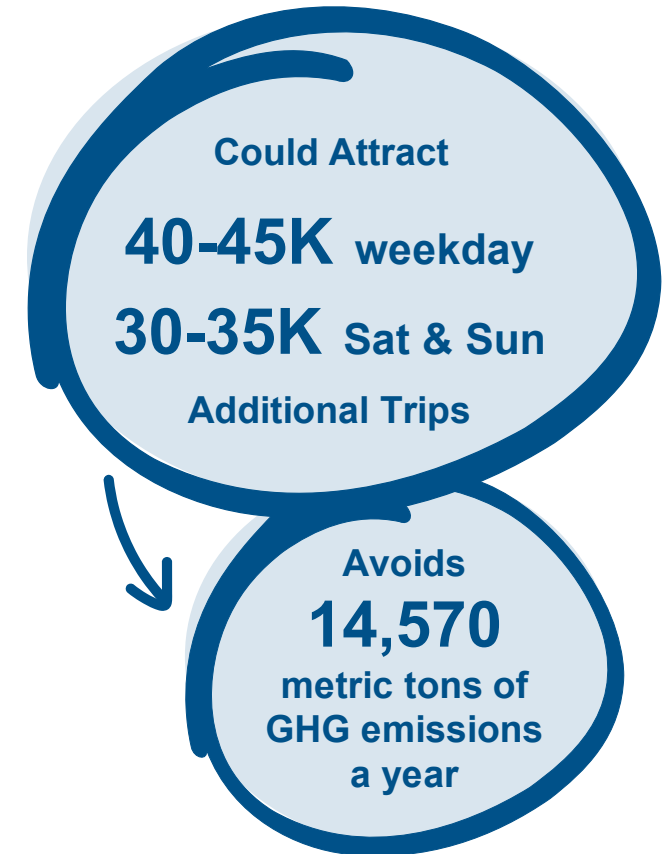
**Regional Connectivity** – Matches when and where people want to travel



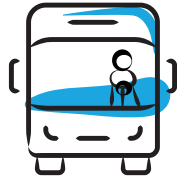
**Quality Customer and Operator Experience** – Provides fast, frequent, and reliable service



**Equity** – Addresses inequities and increases access to opportunity for disenfranchised communities



# The Bus Network the Region Needs



Expanded Frequent  
Service Network



More service all  
day/all week

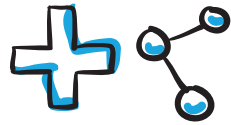
## Draft Visionary Network Essentials

All non-commuter service should  
operate seven days/week across the  
region

All service should operate as  
frequently as possible and not less  
than every 30 minutes

Regional 24-hour network to benefit the  
nation's capital

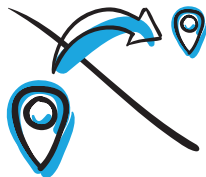
# The Bus Network the Region Needs



Increased crosstown and cross-county connections



Connect key destinations, including transit hubs, with direct, frequent routes



Extending service beyond jurisdictional borders

## Examples of Potential New Connections

Connect existing and future rail lines



New route between New Carrollton, Addison, Suitland stations, extending the reach of the Purple Line

Connect to transit hubs



Extend Farragut – Georgetown – Arlington service to Seven Corners Transit Center (current 38B)

Connect to hospitals, schools and employment



New Inova Alexandria Hospital hub  
More connections to National Harbor

Connect adjacent neighborhoods and across borders



Fort Lincoln ↔ Deanwood  
Chevy Chase DC ↔ Chevy Chase MD

# The Draft Visionary Network... *Connects the Region*

By providing more access to high frequency service to more people at more times of day

Example: DC and Prince George's County



**73% more on Saturdays**  
**64% more on Sundays**



**60% more during the  
weekday midday**



**85% more routes with  
12 min or better service**

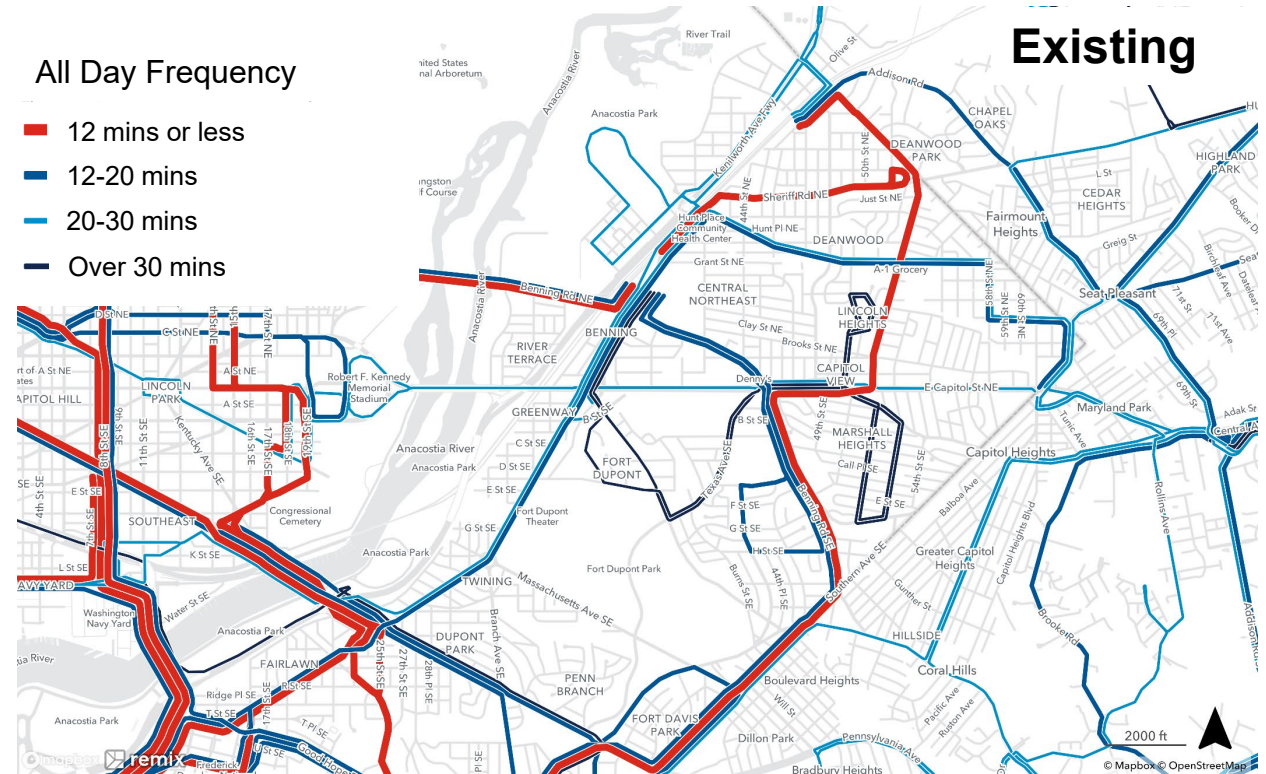


**300% more routes with  
12-20 min service**



All Day Frequency

- 12 mins or less
- 12-20 mins
- 20-30 mins
- Over 30 mins



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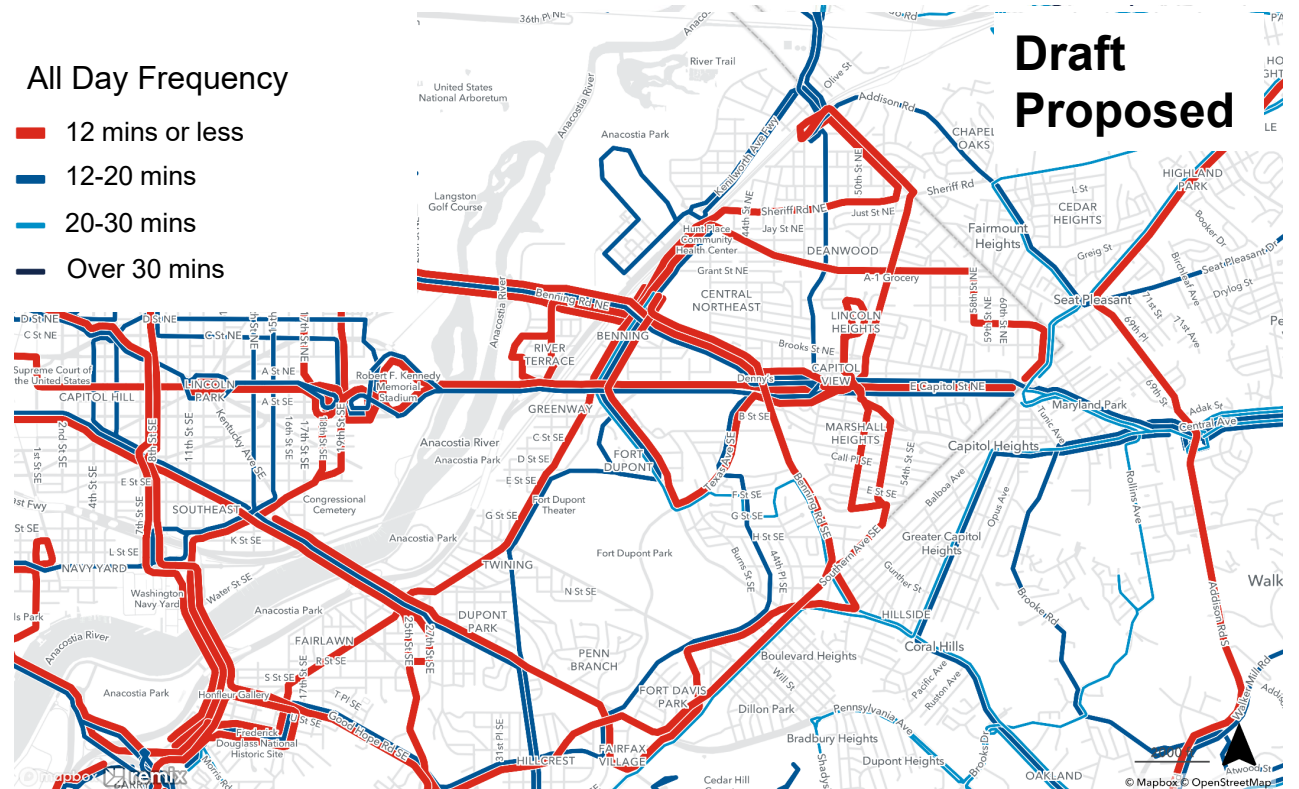


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# The Draft Visionary Network... *Connects the Region*

By providing service to people where and when they need it



**123k and 208k more residents** on Saturdays and Sundays will have bus service



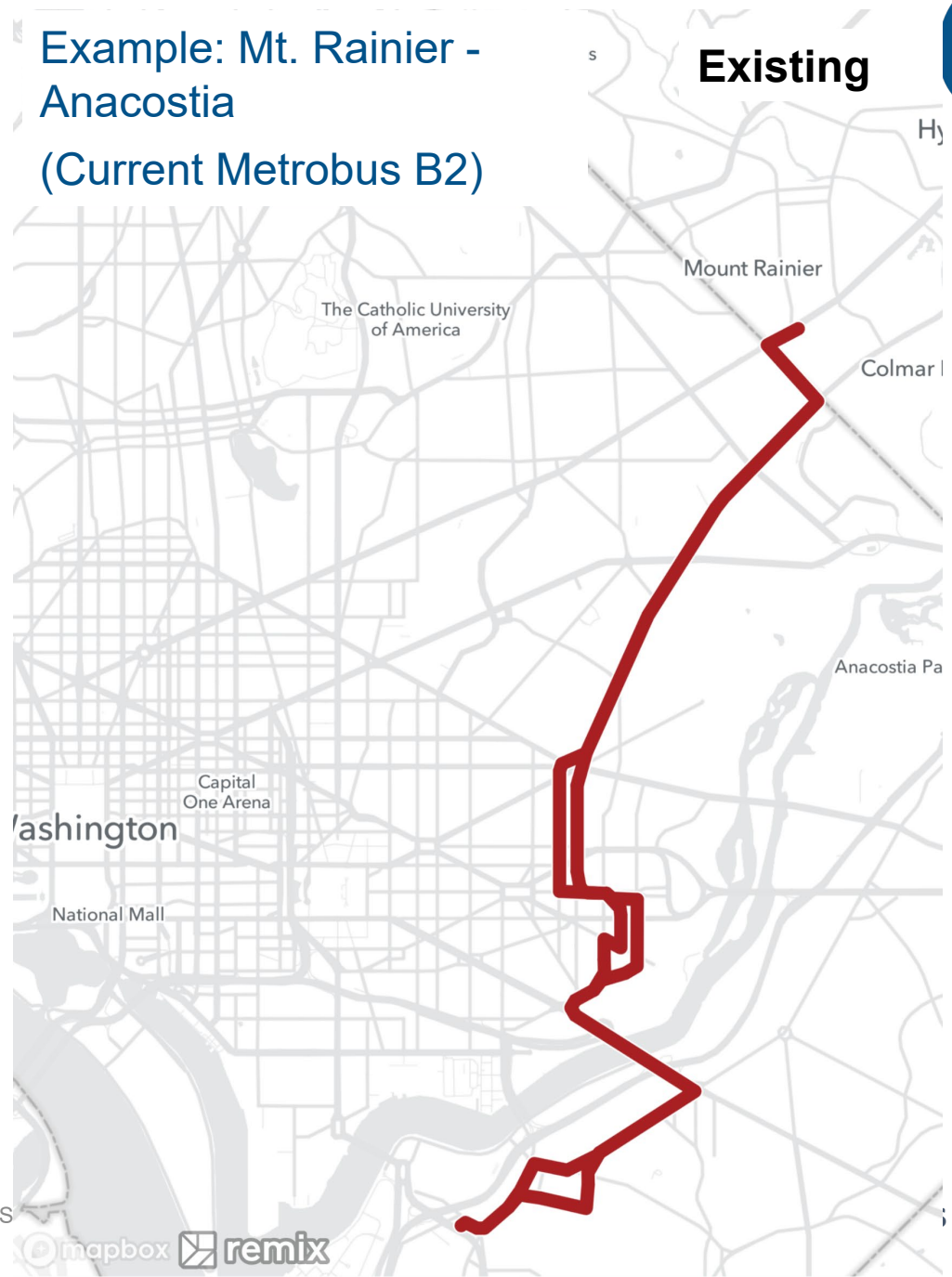
**1.1M residents across the region will have 24-hour bus service** and 307k more will have late-night bus service (10pm to 2am)



Improvements are **greater for residents of Equity Focus Communities**



**99% of residents who currently have bus service will continue to have bus service under the Visionary Network**



# The Draft Visionary Network... *Connects the Region*

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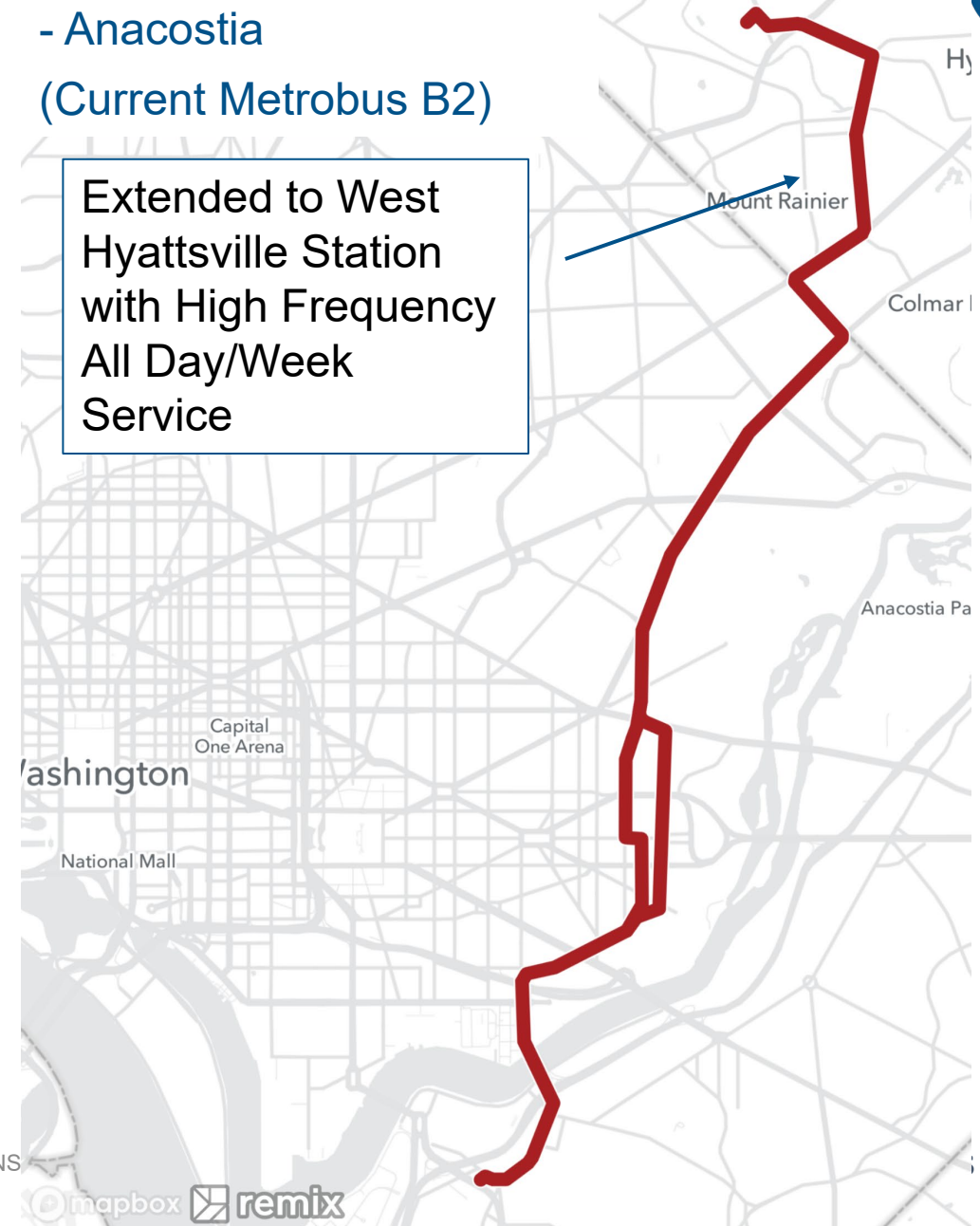
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Example: West Hyattsville  
- Anacostia  
(Current Metrobus B2)

**Draft Proposed**



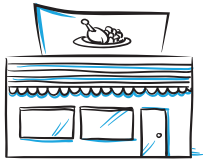
# The Draft Visionary Network...

## Connects the Region

By providing access to more key destinations and jobs



Residents will be able to **access an additional 13k jobs** within 60 minutes on transit



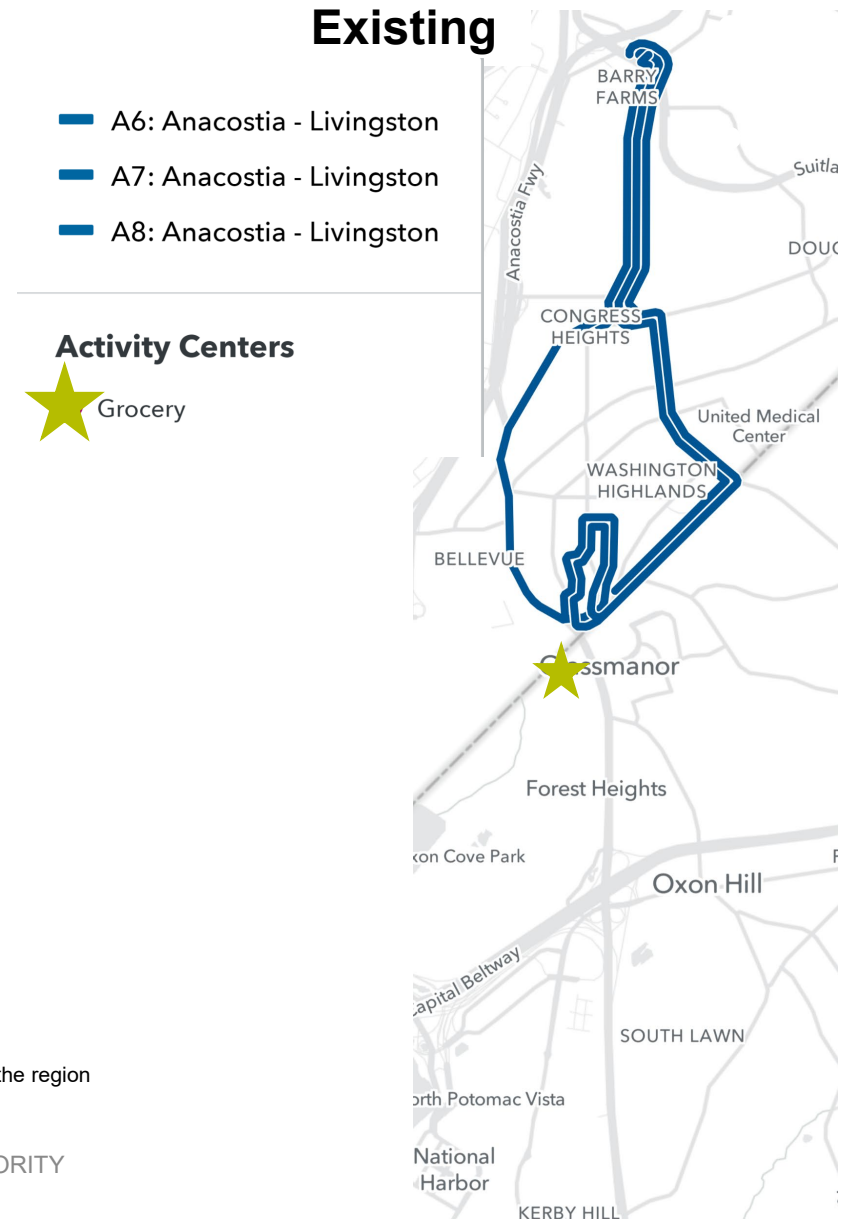
Residents will have **better access to grocery stores** – especially on the weekends and at midday



Residents of EFCs in DC will be able to **access 14 more K-12 schools** within 60 minutes on transit

Note: EFCs represent the areas that have the highest concentrations of people of color, low-income households, and/or disabled residents in the region

Example: Anacostia – Eastover  
(Current Metrobus A6, A7, A8)

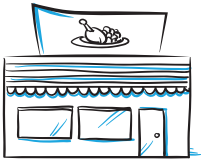


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## Proposed

- Proposed: DC121 Anacostia - Eastover via Wheeler Rd
- Proposed: DC122 Anacostia - National Harbor
- Proposed: DC226 Anacostia - Eastover via Mississippi Ave

## Activity Centers



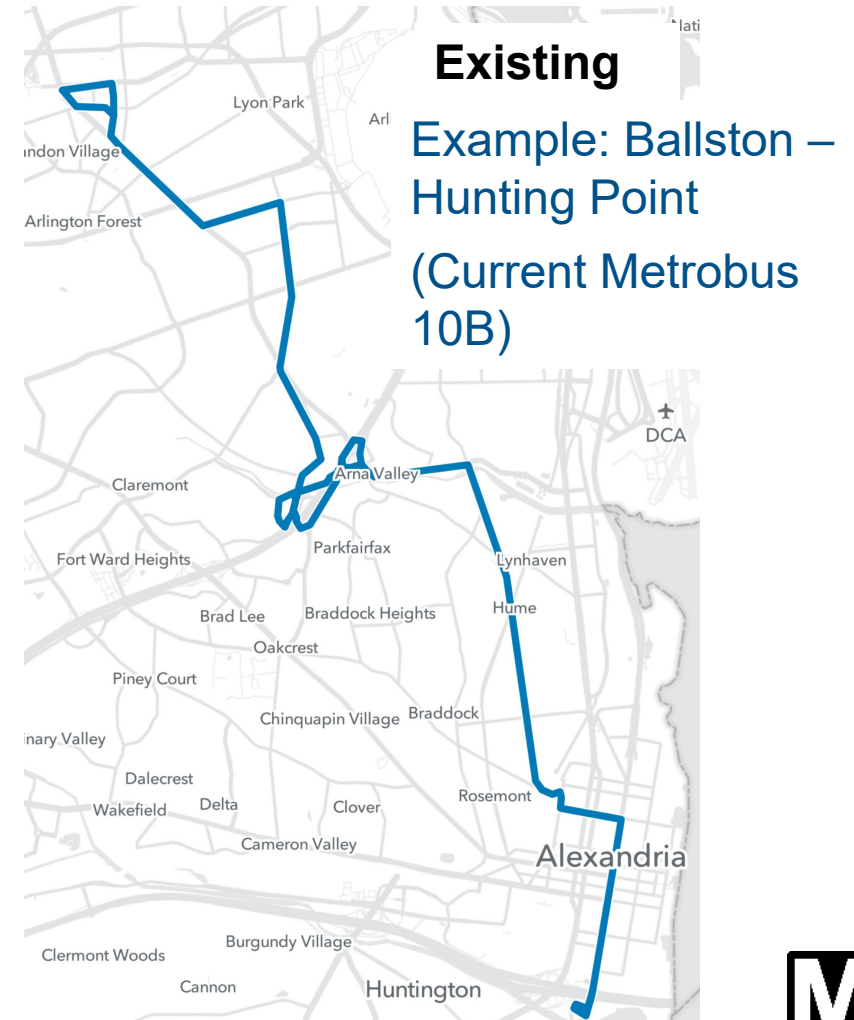
# The Draft Visionary Network...

## *Improves the Customer Experience*

By providing convenient transit options for more of the trips people make

- **Faster average trips** for current bus customers
- 10% more transit trips that could take 30 mins or less
- 20% more trips in the region could be made conveniently by transit

Improvements  
will save bus  
customers almost  
**20,000**  
hours every  
weekday!



Note: Convenient Transit Trips are defined as those that take less than 3 times as long as the same trip would take in a car. These types of trips have been shown to have a higher level of transit usage than other trips.

# The Draft Visionary Network...

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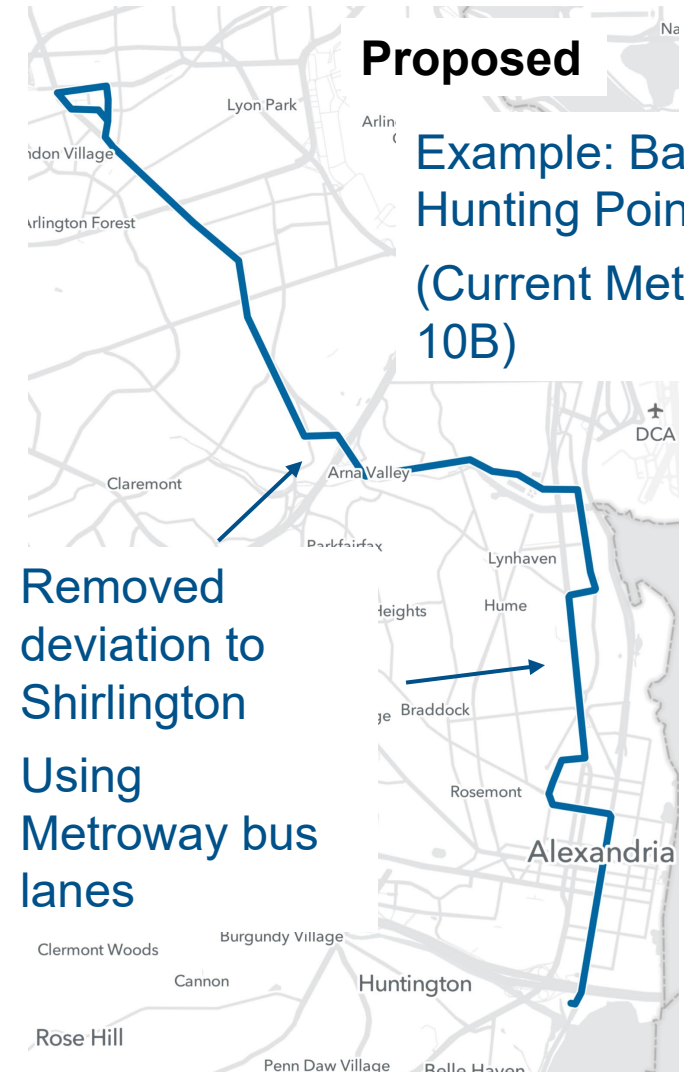
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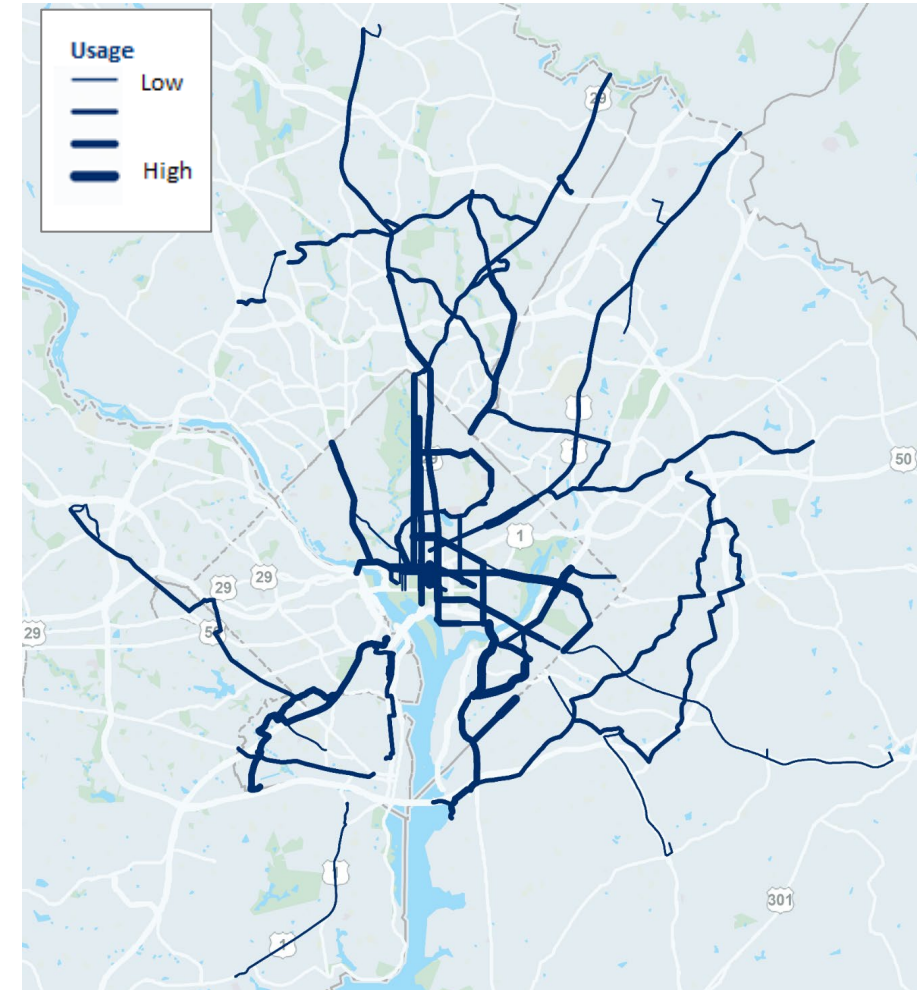
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# The Draft Visionary Network...

## *Improves the Customer Experience*

By providing more bus service in dedicated/prioritized facilities

- More bus service operates on streets with bus priority, **making service faster and more reliable to ride and operate**
  - 84% more on Sundays
  - 64% more on Saturdays, and
  - 39% more midday
- **Maximizes jurisdictional partner investments** in bus priority infrastructure



# Draft Visionary Network Considerations



**Data and public, bus operations, jurisdiction partner input** formed the basis for the draft Visionary Network



Implementing the draft Visionary Network will require a **35 percent increase in funding for bus in the region**



Network does not specify which **operator will operate the service** nor have we yet specified stops or stopping patterns

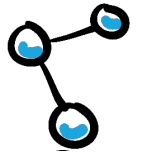


**Temporary bus route numbers** to accommodate new routes and changes to existing routes

A blue dashed arrow pointing upwards and to the right, positioned to the left of the title.

# Engagement Approach

# How Will We Be Engaging the Public?



We're reaching a wide variety of customers in a wide variety of ways at a wide variety of events!  
Customers will find the Better Bus blue-shirt teams...



...chatting at pop-ups



...surveying on buses



...interacting on social media



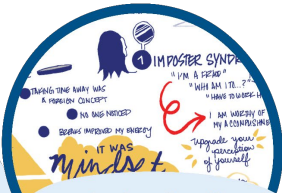
...informing virtually at webinars in each jurisdiction

We're hosting  
50 events in 50 days  
to celebrate  
50 years  
of Metrobus!

...engaging with community-based organizations



...listening at community workshops

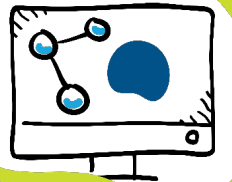


...capturing feedback through visual notetaking



...hearing from youth audiences

Those who can't make it to our events can visit [wmata.com/betterbus](https://wmata.com/betterbus) to explore the new network and provide feedback virtually...



...or respond by phone!



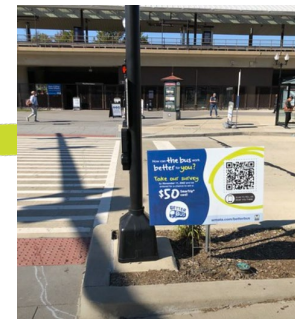
# Better Bus Virtual Experience Lab



Experience the  
Visionary Network  
*Online!*



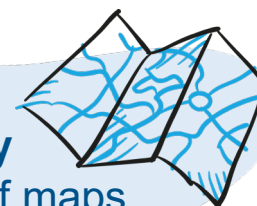
**Envision Your Trip**  
Compare your trip on the  
current network to the  
Visionary Network



**Comment on  
Your Route**  
Leave route-by-route  
feedback on an  
interactive comment map



**Map Library**  
Explore an atlas of maps  
of the Visionary Network,  
including route profiles





# Upcoming Opportunities

# Upcoming Workshops

| Workshop Location                | Date              | Time           | Jurisdiction |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| West Hyattsville Library         | Saturday, May 6   | 1:30 – 4:30 PM | Maryland     |
| Arlington Central Library        | Wednesday, May 10 | 3 – 7 PM       | Virginia     |
| Turkey Thicket Recreation Center | Saturday, May 20  | 10 AM – 2 PM   | DC           |
| Creative Suitland Arts Center    | Sunday, May 21    | Noon – 3 PM    | Maryland     |



# Remaining Lunch and Learn Webinars

| Workshop Location | Date            | Time            |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Virginia Focus    | Thursday, May 4 | 12:00 – 1:30 PM |
| DC Focus          | Tuesday, May 9  | 12:00 – 1:30 PM |



# Thank you!

What can we clarify?