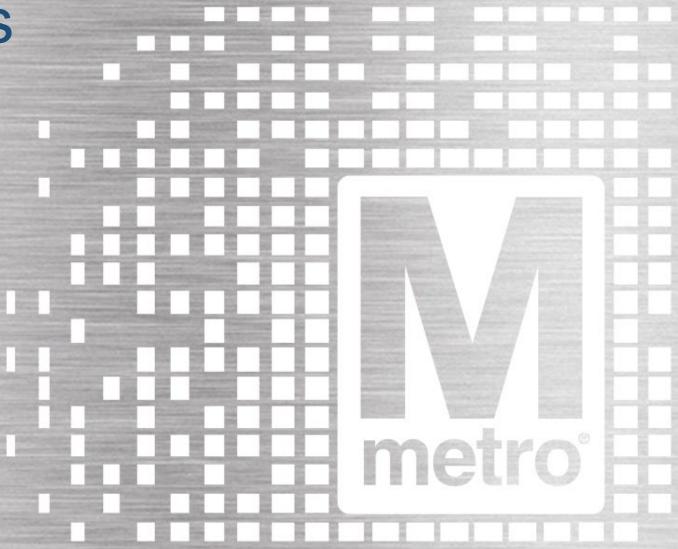
# Zero-Emission Bus Transition Plan

Riders' Advisory Council

July 6, 2022



### Agenda

1. Team Introductions	2 min
2. Purpose and Goals	2 min
3. Project Background	8 min
4. Risk Identification and Discussion	15 min
5. Next Steps	3 min



### **Team Introductions**

- Attendees
  - Maya Alunkal, WMATA
  - Heather Martin, WSP
  - Chris Wenz, WSP
  - Charles T. Brown, Equitable Cities
  - Sandy Brennan, Foursquare ITP



### Purpose & Goals of Today's Meeting

### Purpose:

- Identify potential risks and impacts related to ZEB transition from a rider perspective.
- Discuss potential ways to reduce these risks.

#### Goals:

- Develop a list of potential risks or challenges (Part 1)
- Develop a list of potential mitigations to risks (Part 2)



### Project Background

- Metro will:
  - Transition to a 100% zero-emission bus fleet by 2045.
  - By end of 2030, all new bus purchases will be zero-emission buses (ZEBs).
- Over the next 20+ years, Metro will procure and utilize ZEBs.
  We want to deploy these buses in a manner that benefits communities.
- The ZEB Transition Plan will build on the work already started and review how Metro can strategically meet these goals.



### **Zero-Emission Buses**

- Propulsion system that eliminates tailpipe emissions
- Two available options in today's market: battery-electric (BEB) and hydrogen fuel cell buses (HFCB)
- Both propulsion systems have pros & cons, and they both require substantial infrastructure investment to support energy needs
- Approx. 3,500 ZEBs in service (approx. 2-3% of U.S. transit fleet)



Battery-Electric Buses (BEB)

- Majority of ZEBs in U.S. transit service are BEBs
  - More widely available than HFCB
  - Compatible with majority of existing service
- Range: Approx. 150 miles
- Approx. 3,300+ BEBs in U.S. transit service



### Not Just About Vehicles







Charging & Utility Infrastructure



Maintenance



Planning & Scheduling



Workforce & Training





### What does it mean for riders and communities?

- Cleaner air (lower asthma and respiratory disease rates)
- Quieter (less stress and annoyance)
- New technology (potential for service disruptions)
- Increased reliance on electric grid (potential for service disruption)



### Identifying Risks and Challenges

Risk: the likelihood of or exposure to failure.

Challenge: an intricate or difficult problem.

Question: Based on your experience as a rider and community member, what are the potential risks and impacts of ZEB implementation?

## The following slides will help frame this conversation around these topic areas:

- Service disruptions to riders
- Community impacts from service outages
- Facilities construction
- Charging infrastructure construction and maintenance



### Discussion: Risk Identification

### Service Disruptions to Riders

[risk/impact]

#### Service Disruptions to Communities

[risk/impact]

#### [risk/impact]

En-route Charging?

#### **Construction Impacts**

[risk/impact]

#### Others?

[risk/impact]



### Discussion: Risk Mitigation

### Service Disruptions to Riders

[risk/impact]

#### Service Disruptions to Communities

[risk/impact]

#### **Construction Impacts**

[risk/impact]

#### En-route Charging?

[risk/impact]

#### Others?

[risk/impact]



### Next Steps

- Consultant team will integrate this into:
  - Equity reviews: methodology / prioritization / mitigation
  - Workforce development: Training needs
  - Facility Assessments: Facility needs / physical improvements
- WMATA will report back to the RAC:
  - How feedback was incorporated into final ZEB Transition Plan



### **ZEB** in the Transit Industry



#### Rapid growth of ZEB

Approx. 3,500 battery electric and 200 hydrogen fuel cell buses manufactured for U.S. usage to date

Most are pilots; only a handful of 25+ vehicle deployments

Bloomberg predicts 70% of bus procurements will be battery electric by 2030



### Challenges with ZEB deployments

SEPTA's fleet of 25 electric buses out of service for 6+ months

NY MTA facing electric grid, electric rate, and bus depot resiliency challenges

MBTA range dropped to 60 miles in cold temps



#### Federal support

"Provide every American city with 100,000 or more residents with high-quality, zero-emissions public transportation options through flexible federal investments with strong labor protections"

IIJA funding will expedite fleet transition



### **Equity Work to Date**

Metro's Objective: prioritize equitable ZEB deployment

- Two workshops with WMATA staff: Equity Workshop & upcoming Risk Workshop
- Today's discussion with RAC
- Equity analysis work to identify the bus divisions and routes where riders and communities would benefit most from ZEBs

