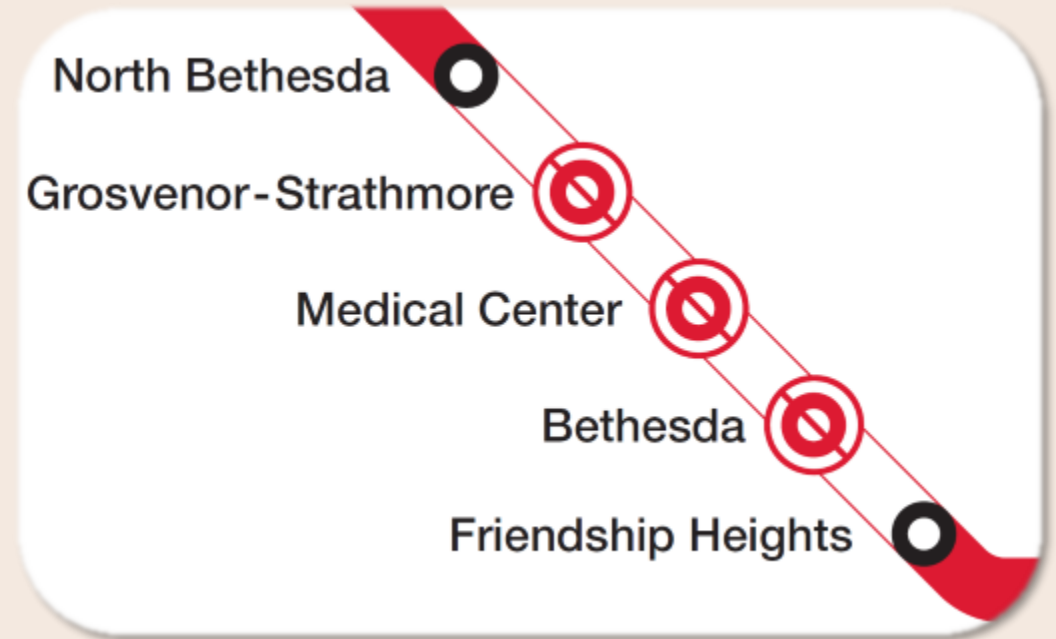




Red Line Summer 2026 Major Construction

July 6 – September 6, 2026:
North Bethesda to Friendship Heights

Community Informational Session
Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center
May 6, 2026



Project Overview

Connecting Bethesda Station to the MTA Purple Line

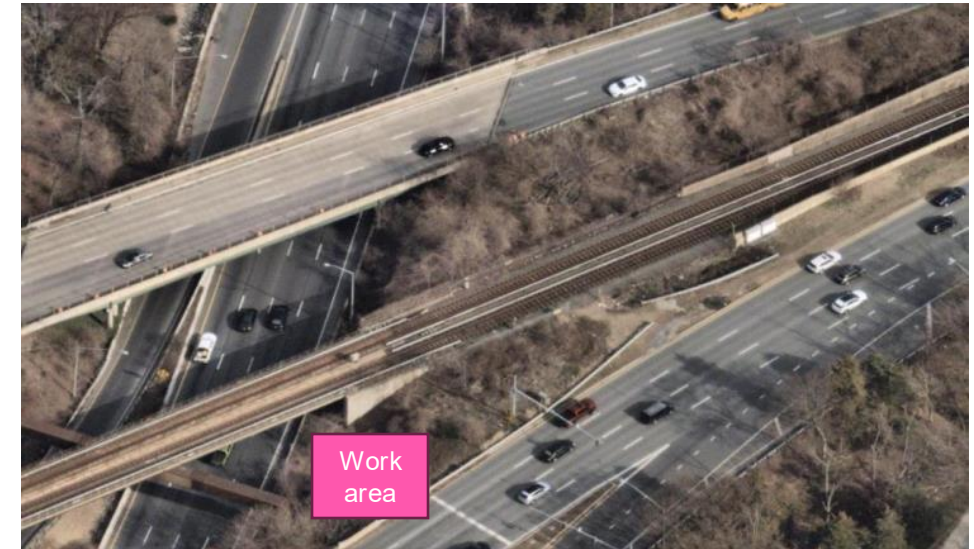
- Metro is coordinating with the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) to construct a new mezzanine that will connect Metro's **Bethesda** station to **MTA's Purple Line** station.
 - Will provide a new southern access point to Bethesda station.
 - Installation of mezzanine structure and decking, electrical and communications infrastructure, fire safety system upgrades, escalators, elevators, and stairs
- Construction of the mezzanine began in August of 2025 and will continue through Summer 2027, with the full opening of the MTA Purple Line currently set for the end of 2027.



Project Overview

Passenger Facility Investments at Grosvenor-Strathmore

- To reduce the need for additional closures in future months, Metro is investing in infrastructure at **Grosvenor-Strathmore** during this period:
 - Reconstruction of the platform edge with edge lights, granite edge, and improved surface tiles
 - Replacement of platform tiles and expansion joints and dry fire standpipe system
 - Removal & reinstallation of pylons, shelters, & wind screens
 - Replacement of globe lights in the platform level and over the escalators
 - Enhancement of Passenger Information Displays (PIDs)
 - Maintenance of south Grosvenor Aerial Structure (raised railway)
 - Miscellaneous minor concrete & other repairs

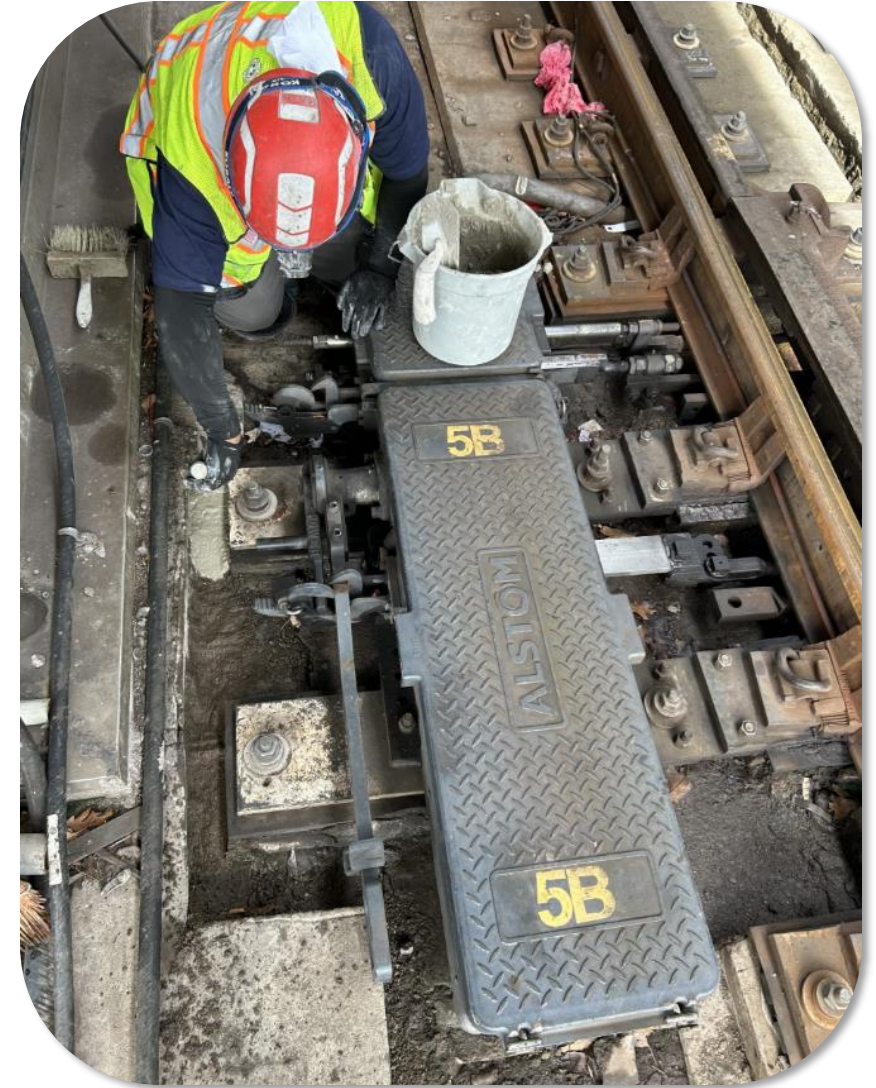


Grosvenor Aerial Structure Maintenance

Project Overview

Passenger Facility Investments at Medical Center

- Metro will also take this opportunity to conduct important infrastructure upgrades at **Medical Center**, including:
 - Preventive maintenance of assets from Automatic Fare Collection, Power (multiple divisions), and Communications (Communication and IT)
 - Decommissioning of legacy power infrastructure and installation of new assets, switchgear demolition and installation, and lighting renewal at platform edge and tunnel areas.
 - Additional work may be added and performed during this period.

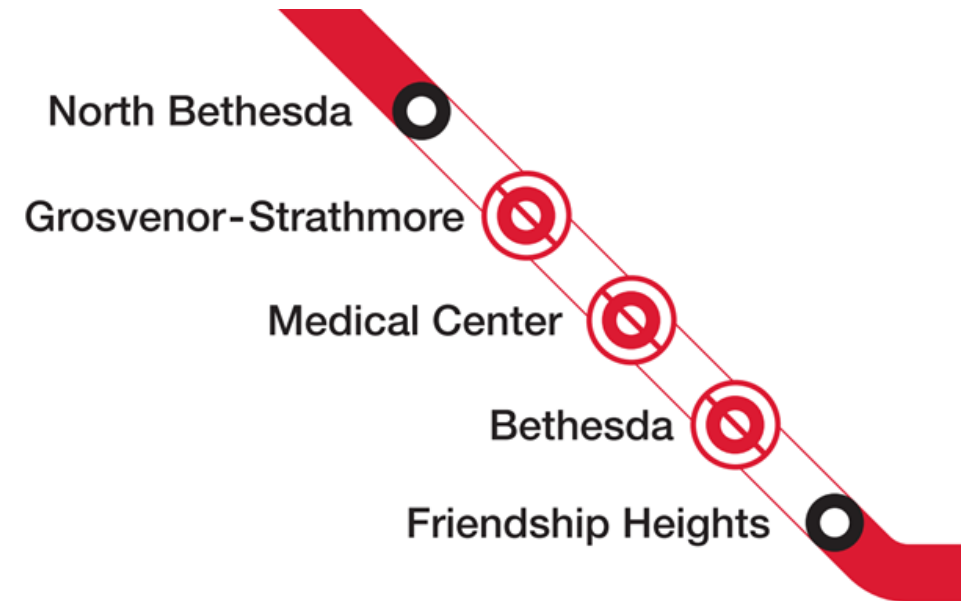


Customer Impacts

Baseline Impact

From July 6-Sept. 6, 2026, there will be no train service between North Bethesda and Friendship Heights

- Between North Bethesda and Friendship Heights, trains will be replaced by free shuttle buses, as Grosvenor-Strathmore, Medical Center, and Bethesda stations will be closed for construction.
 - Pending Metro Board of Directors approval, Metro plans to offer free parking to customers at North Bethesda and Grosvenor-Strathmore stations during this period
- On the rest of the Red Line, trains will operate every 6 minutes during the daytime and every 10 minutes during the late evenings in two separate segments:
 - Shady Grove to North Bethesda
 - Glenmont to Friendship Heights



Key Stakeholders

- **Red Line** and nearby rail and bus customers
- **Jurisdictional Partners:** Montgomery County (MCDOT), State of Maryland (Maryland Department of Transportation)
- **Transit Partners:** RideOn, MTA Commuter Bus, Maryland Area Rail Commuter (MARC) train, Capital Bikeshare
- **Community Stakeholders:** major employers, Transportation Management Districts (TMDs), neighborhood associations, faith communities, etc.



Regional Corridor Impact: MD 355

- For the MD 355 (Wisconsin Ave) area adjacent to the closed Metro stations, auto and bus travel times are variable based on time of day and traffic conditions
- Corridor serves as a commuter and commercial corridor to access key activity centers and major employers
- Anticipate travel time to increase as Red Line users seek alternatives

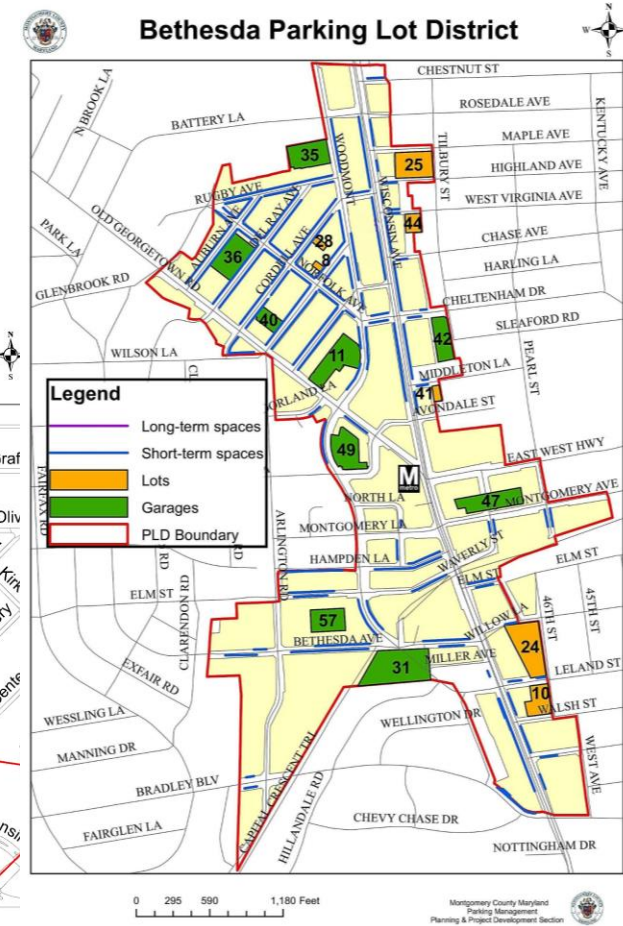
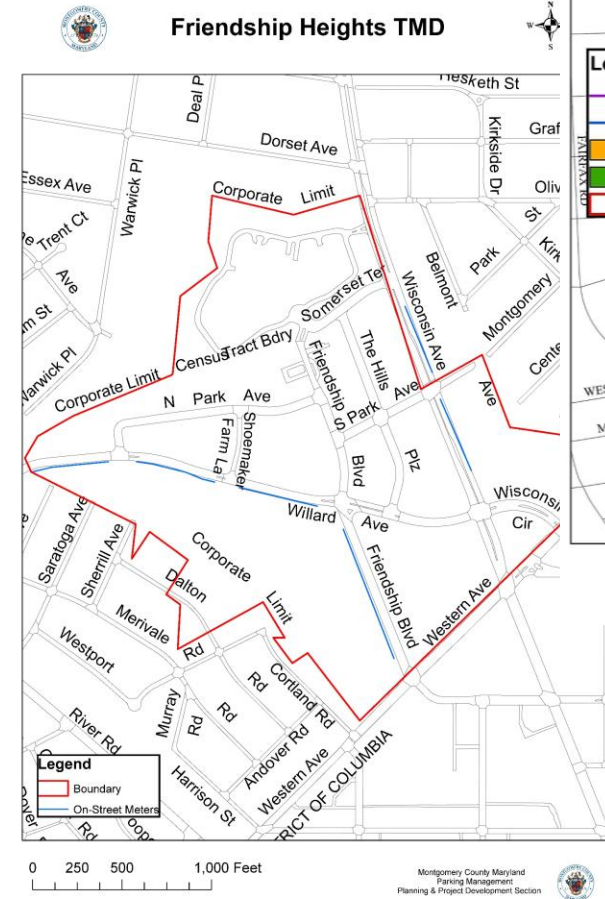


Northbound look the intersection of Wisconsin Ave and Marinelli Rd

Curbside Parking Impact

Along the MD 355 corridor, Bethesda has the most intense curbside uses

- Peak period parking restrictions will become all-day parking restrictions (6:30 AM – 9:30 PM)
- Roughly 160 on-street spaces impacted (2% of publicly available parking in Bethesda and Friendship Heights)
- Focused business engagement continues to share alternative parking and loading needs for travelers



Mitigation

Alternate Travel Options

Metro Express and Local Shuttles



MARC, MTA Commuter Buses, & Ride On



Transportation Demand Management



Micromobility



Dedicated Bus Lane Feasibility

In June 2025, Metro requested that the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) consider installation of dedicated bus lanes along MD 355 to speed up shuttles during the Summer 2026 Major Construction

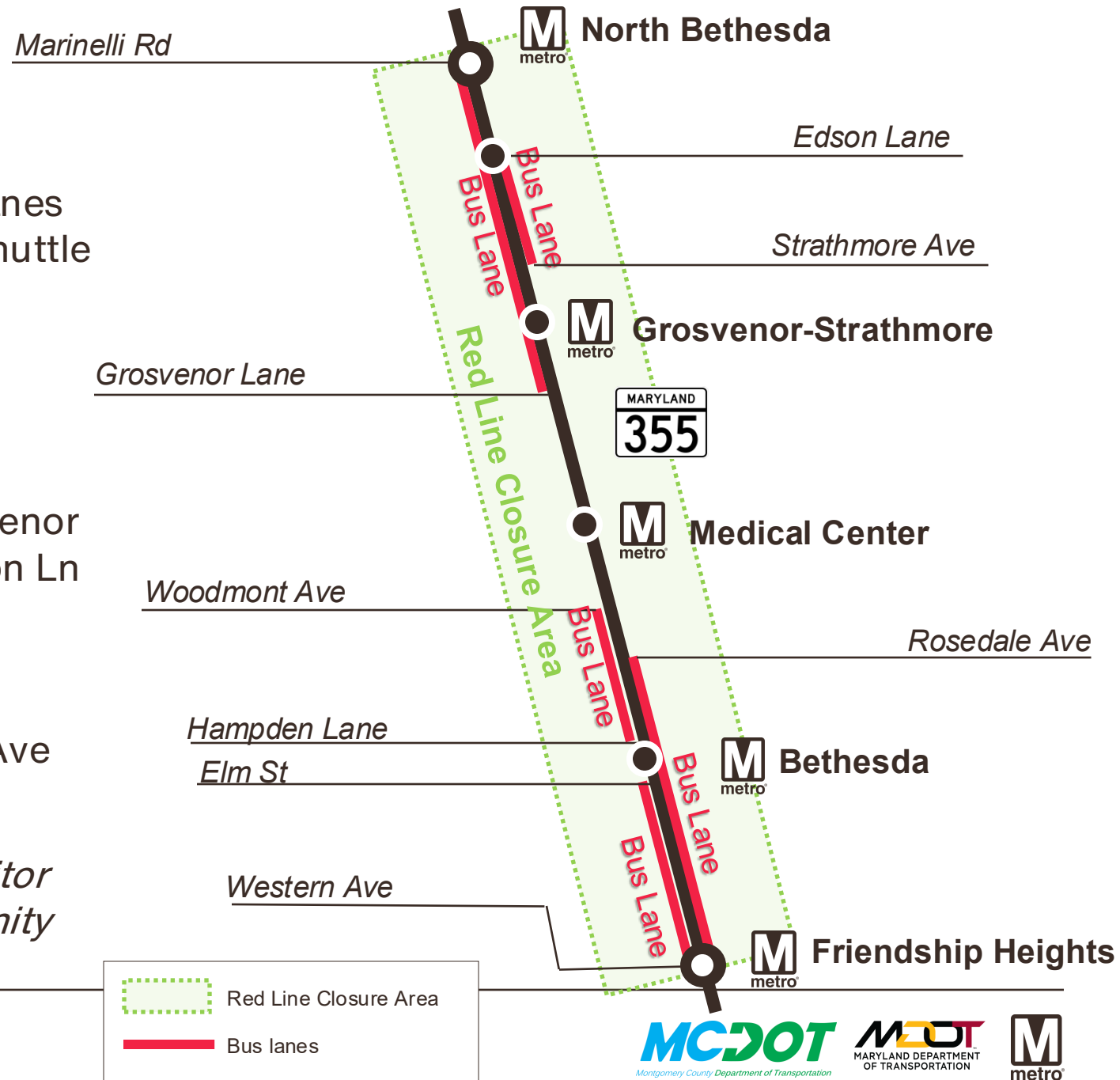
- **Findings:** Shuttle and bus travel times are improved with general traffic experiencing few impacts
 - Shuttle travel time improved by 4 minutes with negligible impact on personal vehicular travel time
- An interagency working group evaluated feasibility
 - Traffic analysis
 - Shuttle & Bus Operations
 - Apply lessons learned from MD 97 (Georgia Ave) in 2024

Travel Time Impact			
Mode	Existing Travel Time	No Bus Lanes	With Bus Lanes
Shuttle	22-24 min	25-30 min	23-26 min
Personal Vehicle	22-24 min	25-30 min	25-29 min

Dedicated Bus Lanes

- Beginning in mid-May, SHA will install bus lanes on portions of MD 355 to help support the shuttle service
- Approximately seven and a half (7.5) lane-miles will be in two main segments*:
 - Northern segment:** Marinelli Rd to Grosvenor Ln southbound; Strathmore Ave to Edson Ln northbound.
 - Southern segment:** Woodmont Ave to Hampden Ln, Elm St to Western Ave southbound; Western Ave to Rosedale Ave northbound.

**MDOT, Metro, and MCDOT will closely monitor performance of bus lanes and solicit community feedback*

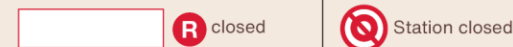
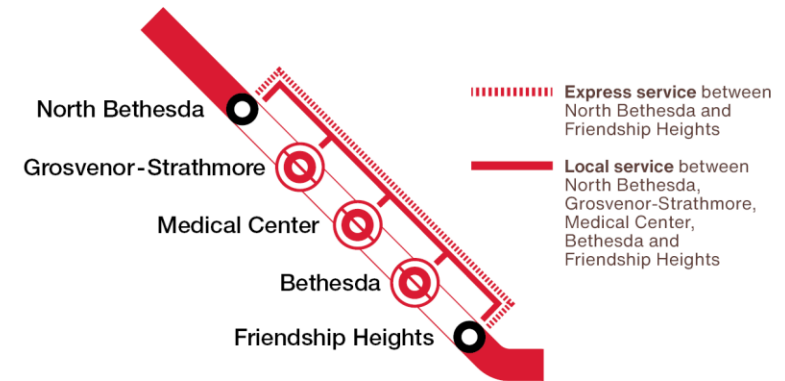


Shuttle Service Planning

- Customers will be provided with free local and express shuttle service that will use the dedicated bus lanes to bypass station closures for the duration of the work.
- A local shuttle will serve North Bethesda, Grosvenor-Strathmore, Medical Center, Bethesda, and Friendship Heights, stopping at each station.
- An express shuttle will provide **direct** service to North Bethesda and Friendship Heights, bypassing intermediate stations.
- Customers can expect a shuttle every 5-8 minutes. A “virtual tunnel” will allow customers to transfer from rail to shuttle and back to rail without being double-charged.

Free Shuttle Service

Effective July 6 - Sept. 6 | Shuttles available during Metro Rail operating hours



Shuttle Service Planning

Service Plan: July 6-Sept. 6, 2026

Local Shuttle

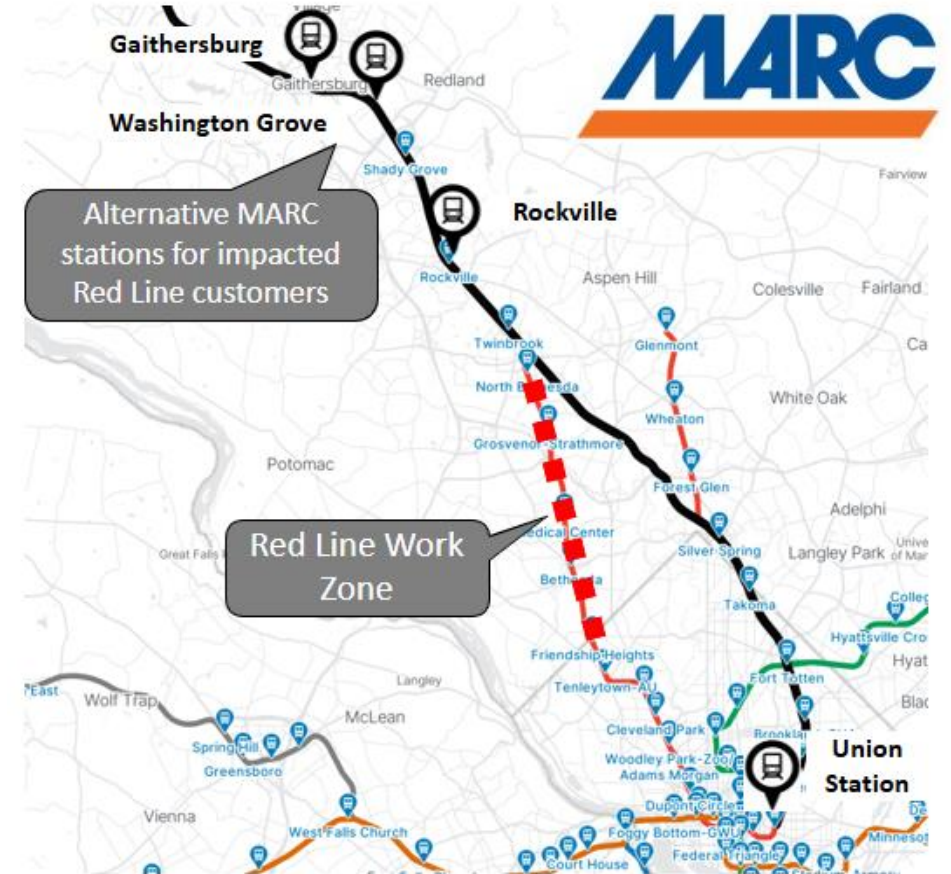
Stations Served	(5) North Bethesda, Grosvenor-Strathmore, Medical Center, Bethesda, and Friendship Heights.
Average Trip Time Between Stations	10 minutes
Service Span	During Metro Rail Hours

Express Shuttle

Stations Served	(2) North Bethesda, Friendship Heights
Average Trip Time Between Stations	26 minutes
Service Span	During Metro Rail Hours

Travel Alternatives for Customers

- Metro's free shuttle buses
- Existing Ride On and Metro Bus routes will continue to operate as scheduled
- People may consider using the existing routes to access the eastern side of the Red Line or MARC Commuter Rail
- MARC train will provide reduced fares from Rockville station for customers headed to D.C. (Union Station)
 - Could absorb morning and afternoon/evening weekday commute trips, but no weekend or midday weekday service



Reducing Traffic Volume on Roads

- Biking
 - Identify/sign routes connecting North Bethesda to D.C.
 - Increased bike capacity on some MARC Brunswick line trains
 - New secure bike and ride facilities at Rockville station
 - Capital Bikeshare
 - Operates 77 bikeshare stations in Montgomery County
 - Membership promotions for impacted customers
- Encouraging businesses to consider expanding telework/hybrid schedule options and carpool coordination
- Exploring additional Park and Ride opportunities



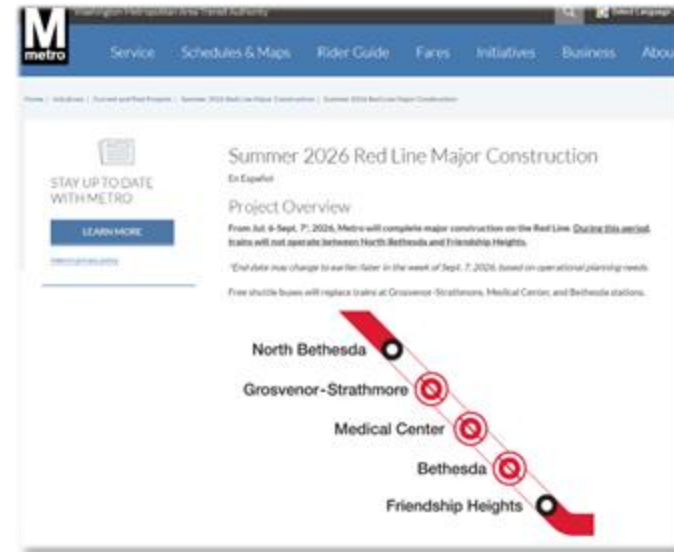
Community Engagement



Community Engagement

Metro and its partners are executing a large-scale customer awareness plan for the major construction using best practices

- Website (project page, press releases, service advisories)
- In-person outreach
- Community meeting(s)
- Notification and wayfinding signage (physical and digital)
- Social media and paid advertisements
- Stakeholder email updates
- Handouts and collateral materials




Stakeholder Outreach

Agency partners are conducting targeted engagements with employers located along the corridor

- Joint Transportation Management District (TMD) and Montgomery County Council T&E Committee briefings took place in March
- Work with Bethesda Urban Partnership, TMDs, Commuter Services, Regional Service Center, Chamber, Federal installations and others to share information, promote travel alternatives, and answer questions
- Preparing graphics and customer information focused on parking

Red Line Summer 2026 Major Construction

Effective July 6-Sept. 6



Stations Closed: Grosvenor–Strathmore, Medical Center, and Bethesda

No Red Line train service between North Bethesda and Friendship Heights. Stations will be closed and inaccessible during this time.


Free Shuttle Bus Service

Free shuttle buses will replace trains during the closure:

Local Service Between:
North Bethesda → Grosvenor–Strathmore → Medical Center → Bethesda → Friendship Heights

Express Service Between:
North Bethesda ↔ Friendship Heights

Shuttle buses will run every 5-8 minutes during Metro Rail operating hours.



About this Improvement Project


In coordination with the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), Metro is advancing critical infrastructure improvements on the Red Line.


This work includes:


- Construction of a new mezzanine at Bethesda to connect Metro Rail with the future Purple Line
- Rehabilitation of the Grosvenor–Strathmore platform
- Replacement of aerial structural components near Grosvenor–Strathmore and Medical Center stations

Other project benefits include:

- A simpler, more direct transfer between Metro Rail and the Purple Line
- Improved safety and reliability of station infrastructure
- Upgraded station conditions, including lighting, drainage, and platform improvements
- Continued investment in long-term system performance



 wmata.com/summer2026
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Next Steps

Agency partners will continue to work through spring and early summer 2026

- Additional traffic analysis and finalization of bus lane boundaries for construction of the lanes in mid-May 2026
- Finalization of the performance monitoring plan for bus lanes/shuttle and traffic data
- Continued community and business outreach
- Refinement of additional measures to reduce traffic volume and marketing

Q&A

In-Person

1. Use the mic at the front of the room

Participate on Microsoft Teams

1. Use the Q&A Box for questions or tech assistance, or

Dial-in By Phone: +1 206-899-2028

ID: 143 352 825#

Livestreamed and recorded on YouTube @metroforward

Frequently Asked Questions

Red Line Summer 2026 Major Construction – July 6 – September 6, 2026

Where can I find more information about the project?

wmata.com/summer2026

How long will this construction last?

Work will begin on July 6 through September 6, with service resuming on September 7, 2026.

How frequent will the shuttle buses run?

Shuttle buses will run every 5-8 minutes during Metro Rail operating hours.

Which stations will be closed?

Grosvenor-Strathmore, Medical Center, and Bethesda stations will be closed during this time.

Will parking remain open at the closed stations?

Free parking will be available at North Bethesda and Grosvenor-Strathmore stations during the construction.

Will the shuttle buses and bus stops be accessible to people with disabilities?

Yes, all shuttle buses (standard Metrobus and coach buses) will be ADA-accessible. Please ask a staff member at a shuttle bus stop for further assistance.

Does Metro allow strollers and how should they be stored on shuttles/buses?

Strollers are permitted on buses. Customers may be asked to store them in the coach bus's storage compartment or collapse them while riding on a Metrobus.