

Gold Line Project – Phase 1

September 2026 Update

Gold Line Overview

The Gold Line is Metro and DDOT's bus rapid transit (BRT) project that will make it easier to travel east-west across DC with faster, more reliable bus service, and safer streets.

Phase 1 will connect the RFK Campus through H Street & Benning Road NE to Union station, providing access to Metro's Red Line, Amtrak, MARC, VRE, and intercity buses. Future phases will include extensions east of the Anacostia River and west to Rosslyn.

The Gold Line will upgrade today's D20/D2X service along H Street and Benning Road NE, providing faster daily trips and additional capacity to support events at RFK Stadium.

What is BRT?

BRT is high-frequency bus service designed to make trips faster, easier, and more reliable. Buses travel in dedicated lanes, get priority at traffic signals, and stop at enhanced stations for quicker boarding.



Key Gold Line Features

1. Fast, frequent, reliable buses 24X7
2. Dedicated, center-running lanes away from the curb to keep buses moving quickly
3. Signal priority for shorter waits at traffic signals
4. New accessible bus stations with improved amenities and near-level boarding
5. Faster boarding through any door



Image intended for educational purposes only and does not represent a final Gold Line design.



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Gold Line Benefits

Better Everyday Travel

- Faster, more reliable service for 16,000 daily customers
- Easier access to jobs, schools, and everyday destinations
- Stronger connections to Union station and regional transit
- Safety improvements on a high-injury corridor

More Customers, More Business Opportunity

- More customers and foot traffic
- Easier commutes for employees
- More RFK Campus visitors supporting local businesses
- Increased confidence for investment and growth
- More curb space for deliveries and freight

More Ways to Reach RFK

- High-capacity event access
- Direct link from Union station
- Seamless regional connections
- Relief for crowded rail lines

Proven Success in Other Cities

BRT already runs in regions near D.C. and across North America including:



New York, New York



Boston, Massachusetts



Richmond, Virginia

Project Schedule

The Gold Line is in early planning stages. What's ahead:

2026

Summer & Fall

BRT background and project concepts

Community Feedback

2027

Early

Select preferred alternative

Spring

Identify final design and construction funding

Summer

Complete environmental review and preliminary design

2028-2030

Summer 2028

Begin construction

Spring 2030

Complete construction

Summer 2030

Service begins