

September 13, 2022 Community Meeting Q and A

Metro has prepared the below Questions and Answers (Q&A) addressing comments raised at the September 13, 2022 community engagement meeting on the Northern Bus Garage Reconstruction Project. Several of these topics have been addressed at prior community meetings for this Project.

### **Project Overview**

#### **Q: What is the traffic signal plan for 14<sup>th</sup> & Decatur Streets?**

A: The intersection will be fully reconstructed and modernized in compliance with the latest District Department of Transportation (DDOT) specifications, including:

- Sidewalk widths
- Call buttons
- ADA cut ramps
- Audible notifications, hold lights, etc.

#### **Q: What traffic impacts should the community expect during the construction phase? Will there be any changes to the signaling at 14<sup>th</sup> and Decatur or 14<sup>th</sup> and Buchanan Streets?**

A: At this time, there are no planned changes to the traffic signal timing at 14<sup>th</sup> and Decatur or 14<sup>th</sup> and Buchanan Streets. Metro, along with DDOT, will assess the traffic flow during construction.

#### **Q: Will local residents be able to use the electric vehicle charging spaces?**

A: Northern Bus Garage is a secure facility, and the electric vehicle charging spaces are reserved for Metro employees and employees of the Project's retail spaces.

#### **Q: What percentage of Metro's leadership and decision-making roles are held by minorities?**

A: Metro embraces a diverse employee and leadership culture. Currently, 51% of Metro's executive and senior management roles are held by minority employees.

### **Environmental Management**

#### **Q: Is the plan to get rid of the underground, mechanical and service equipment?**

A: Metro plans to remove all manmade infrastructures at the site that are not part of the historic fabric scheduled to remain, including pipes, concrete piles, etc. We will be working closely with the District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) as well as the Fire Marshall's office to ensure all equipment is removed in a safe and responsible manner.

#### **Q: Will the community be notified prior to the removal of any toxic substances at the site?**

A: Metro will adhere to all DOEE requirements and will continue to update the community on relevant project activities and news.

#### **Q: Can an overview of the stormwater management plan be shared in the next community meeting?**

A: Yes, we will share an overview of the stormwater management plan at our next community meeting.

**Q: What is Tier 1 contamination?**

A: The District of Columbia has soil and groundwater standards. DOEE provides guidance for site-specific risk-based screening levels and site-specific target levels for remediation, which are organized into “tiers.” For soil and groundwater levels on site that meet the Tier 1 threshold, DOEE has directed Metro to conduct remediation. Additional information about DOEE’s remediation guidelines can be found on their website, [doee.dc.gov](https://doee.dc.gov).

**Q: How are aqueous and chlorinated substances removed from the site?**

A: Metro follows all DOEE remediation guidelines. If aqueous or chlorinated substances are found, they will be removed according to DOEE standards and will be sent to a licensed facility for management.

**Q: Have noise pollution and air quality impacts been taken into consideration?**

A: Yes. Metro did a noise assessment for this Project. The noise assessment is available as part of the Project’s [Documented Categorical Exclusion](#) which is available on the project site, [wmata.com/northernbusgarage](https://wmata.com/northernbusgarage). Additionally, we are investing in a substantial air filtration system for the facility that will scrub the air inside the facility before it is released outside the facility. A detailed outline of Northern Bus Garage’s new air filtration system was reviewed at multiple community meetings, including the March 16, 2021 meeting, the [presentation](#) and [video](#) from that meeting are available on the project page.

**Preconstruction Survey**

**Q: Will property owners have to agree to a claims adjustment process in order to participate in the preconstruction survey program?**

A: No, property owners do not have to agree to a claims adjustment process in order to participate in the preconstruction survey program. We strongly encourage property owners within a 200-foot radius of the garage to participate in the program.

**Q: If a property owner chooses not to agree to the preconstruction survey, what happens if damage is found at a later date?**

A: Eligible property owners are able to submit a claim through the claims process even if they have not participated in the optional preconstruction survey. Those property owners who elect to participate in the preconstruction survey may benefit from a more streamlined claims process, should they need to submit a damages claim.

**Community Engagement**

**Q: Does Metro advertise these community meeting?**

A: Yes. In addition to sending approximately 280 email invitations to registered stakeholders, meetings are also regularly promoted by:

- Installing a banner on the fence along 14<sup>th</sup> Street at the Northern Bus Garage site, approximately two weeks before each community meeting
- Posting on NextDoor and social media

- Distributing flyers to local businesses along 14<sup>th</sup> Street and posting meeting announcements on utility poles along that block approximately three weeks prior to meetings

**Q: Is there any reason why these meetings have to stay virtual?**

A: Metro will be exploring hybrid options (permitting in-person and virtual participation) for future community engagement meetings.