



January 2023

Welcome to the **Better Bus Dispatch**—your up-to-date news source for Metro's **Better Bus** initiative!

Technically Speaking...

Happy New Year! 2023 holds a lot of excitement for all of us, including the development of a new and improved bus network. The Better Bus Network Redesign team is using [what we learned from you this past fall](#) to create solutions that make the bus better for you. So, how do we do that?

We evaluated data on travel patterns in the region and the current bus network to identify where we can improve service. We are using this information, combined with your feedback, to design a new bus network for the region. Check out the examples below of what we learned and what that might mean for a new bus network.

Findings



Three-quarters (74%) of the region's residents live within a 5-minute walk of a bus stop **but only 22% have access to high-frequency service, even during the peak periods.**



Low-income populations have better access to bus service than other residents—with 83% of low-income residents living within ¼ mile of a bus stop, compared to 74% of all residents.

Solutions

We will craft the new networks to **provide more people with access to high-frequency service.**

We won't change what is working well today—we will **continue to serve these communities**, many of whom rely on and benefit the most from bus service. **This is important to making our region more equitable.**



Residents of Equity-Focus Communities—which includes people of color, people from low-income households, and people with disabilities—**have access to fewer jobs, grocery stores, and educational facilities by transit than the rest of the region.**

We will look at **new connections** and **improvements to existing service** to provide better access to essential services.

Find a [full summary of our findings](#) and next steps at the link below!



Behind the Scenes

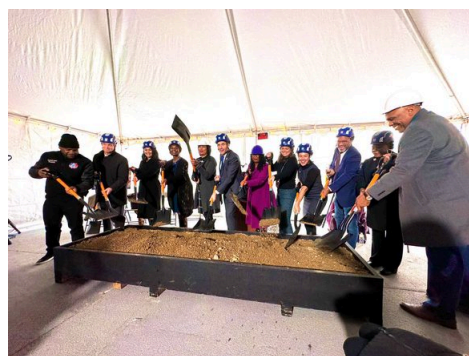
Our data-driven analysis is helping us make decisions that will better serve *you*. In the video below, William Jones, Program Manager, Regional Mobility Planning at Metro, shares three interesting tidbits we've learned from our analysis and provides some insight on our next steps! Click below to watch.



Better Together: Northern Bus Garage Announcement!

Metro is working hard on the entire Better Bus Initiative, and the network redesign is just one part of this important work. There are several other ways Metro is working to improve the bus experience for you.

Did you know we're also committed to transitioning to a zero emission bus fleet? This week, we celebrated a significant milestone and announced Northern Bus Garage will re-open with a fully electric bus fleet! Click to learn more



Metro leadership and special guests from the Federal Transit Administration, the District of Columbia, and the community breaking ground on the Northern Bus Garage Reconstruction Project.



The rebuilt Northern Bus Garage will have the capacity to house up to 150 zero-emission buses.

Tell a Friend about Better Bus!

We're glad to partner with you on this important project and keep you informed through our Better Bus Dispatch. We invite you to help others get involved, too, with our [Forward to a Friend](#) campaign. You can spread the word so others in our community can join us all in building a Better Bus network for our National Capitol Region.

Make it a New Year's resolution to [forward this newsletter](#) to three friends by the end of the month! The more people who receive this newsletter, the more people who can stay informed, share their feedback, and make the bus better for everyone.

[Click here to forward!](#)

Test Your Knowledge!

How well do you know the region's bus network? For bragging rights only... 😊

By what year has Metro committed to converting to a 100% zero-emission bus fleet?

- [A. 2029](#)
- [B. 2030](#)
- [C. 2038](#)
- [D. 2045](#)



How did you do on our last quiz?

What is the bus route with the highest ridership in the Metrobus system?


The correct answer was **Route 70 (Georgia Avenue-7th Street)** which had 6,132 customers on an average weekday in 2022. Kudos to all of you who guessed correctly, and good luck on this next quiz! Check back in the February edition to see how you did.



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