



March 2024

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

In This Issue...



What's next for the Network Redesign



Behind the scenes: Bus service planning



Meet Metro's Fleet of the Future

Network Redesign Next Steps: The Proposed 2025 Better Bus Network!

Last year, [you gave us feedback](#) on the draft Visionary Network—the new bus network our region deserves. We've used your comments to revise the Visionary Network and develop the **proposed 2025 Better Bus Network**, including new route names!

In spring 2024, we will present the proposed Network for your review and feedback. The proposed Network can be operated with the resources we have today, lays the foundation for implementing the Visionary Network when more resources are available, and is transformative by responding to changing travel needs and increasing access to opportunity for the communities that need it most.

Better Bus Dispatch subscribers will be the first to learn about the proposed Network and how to share feedback—stay tuned!

Behind the Scenes: Bus Service Planning

Have you ever wondered what goes into creating a new bus network? Andre Stafford, Senior Transit Service Planner at Metro, is here to walk you through the bus service planning process and the tech and tools that made it all possible.

Click below to watch!



The Future of Transit is Near: Meet Metro's Fleet of the Future!

Metro is giving the public a sneak peek at its all-digital, world-class new railcars and zero-emissions buses from **March 20 through April 3**. The Fleet of the Future Expo will be held on the National Mall at 12th Street and Madison Drive NW near the Smithsonian National Museum of American History and National Museum of Natural History.

It's the first time Metro has hosted the public to see a mock-up of its newest trains on the National Mall since the first 1000-series train cars in 1968.

Guests can tour the railcar and a new 60-foot electric bus, learn more about the design, and provide feedback during the event.

Metro's new battery-electric buses have zero tailpipe emissions, which means improved air quality. They're also much quieter and have a smoother ride with less vibration since electric buses don't have an internal combustion engine. Improved customer amenities include digital passenger information screens, USB charging ports, and new fare boxes.



You can also take pictures in a train-themed photobooth and with our Baby Bus mascot-themed photo cutout. Visitors can view rare, historic photos of old train and bus fleets and take a Metro history quiz.

Join us for the fun! The Expo on the National Mall will be open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[VISIT THE FLEET OF THE FUTURE PAGE](#) →

Tell a Friend About Better Bus!

Help us help your friends and neighbors be among the first people to learn more about the proposed 2025 Network and how to share feedback! This month, forward the Better Bus Dispatch to two friends. We're glad to keep you up to date through our Better Bus Dispatch, and we hope you will bring in others to learn more about this project too.

[CLICK HERE TO FORWARD!](#)

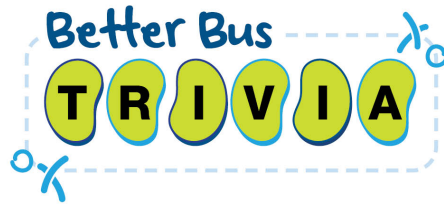


Test Your Knowledge!

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

On July 24th of what year did Metro install its first bus shelter?

- [A. 1971](#)
- [B. 1974](#)
- [C. 1982](#)
- [D. 1989](#)



How did you do on our last quiz?

Before the Metrobus system was created, the Washington, DC region was served by a number of smaller, private bus companies that were eventually bought out and merged to create Metrobus. How many of these private bus companies were there? **The correct answer is four companies!** These included **DC Transit System Inc.**, the **Washington Virginia & Maryland Coach Company**, the **Alexandria Bancroft & Washington Transit Co.**, and the **Washington, Marlboro, and Annapolis Motor Lines**.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the history of Metrobus (and study up for future Better Bus Trivia questions) with our new interactive e-book.

If you got the answer correct, great job! Check back in the next edition to see how you did on this quiz.



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