

## **Meeting Summary:**

The Northern Bus Garage Reconstruction Project hosted its virtual winter community meeting on February 6, 2024. During the meeting, the team provided an overview of the project, updates on construction progress and environmental management. This Q&A addresses both the questions that were answered during the meeting and those that remain unanswered. A recording of the meeting is available at [wmata.com/northernbusgarage](https://wmata.com/northernbusgarage).

## **Project Overview and Updates:**

### **Q: How can the community get an update on the overall project, including scope of work and construction timeline?**

A: The quarterly meeting presentations, videos, and Q&A sessions are added to the project website, [wmata.com/northernbusgarage](https://wmata.com/northernbusgarage), following each meeting.

### **Q: Since Metro is in the process of pouring and setting the foundation for the new garage, why can't it consider adding a platform or podium that would allow for the future potential of residential housing?**

A: Metro did explore the possibility of incorporating housing into the garage's design, but ultimately decided that Northern Bus Garage was not suitable for both a bus garage and housing. An [email](#) on this topic was shared with the community on Feb. 9 and was previously addressed during the Oct. 13, 2020 community meeting. You can view the Q&A and additional resources from that meeting and others [here](#).

### **Q: Why is residential space being included at Western Bus Garage and not at Northern?**

A: Similar to Northern Bus Garage, residential space was being considered as part of the Western Bus Garage design. However, due to Metro's budget deficit, the Western Bus Garage Replacement Project is currently on hold, and no plans for the new facility have been finalized.

### **Q: Is there a new timeline for the project to be completed?**

A: At this time, we are still expecting project completion in the second quarter of 2027. The timing could shift based on various factors including the design updates necessary to support a 100% battery-electric bus fleet.

### **Q: How will this new garage benefit the community?**

A: In addition to being Metro's first all-electric vehicle facility, the Northern Bus Garage will reopen with community benefits such as retail space, a community room, and permanent Art in Transit artwork. The garage will also provide much-needed service to customers and communities throughout the District of Columbia and parts of Maryland.

### **Q: What is the status of the permanent Art in Transit installation?**

A: At this time, it's too early in the project timeline to start planning for the permanent art installation. We will begin engaging the community in 2025 through updates at the community meeting, and a survey to gather feedback on details such as artwork location.

**Q: Now that the design no longer includes diesel infrastructure, can Metro expand the retail space or provide additional community benefits?**

A: While infrastructure to support diesel buses is no longer required, that space is needed to support our transition to electric bus operations, which will require additional electrical equipment, overhead bus chargers, etc.