



**Notice of Public Hearing**  
**Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority**  
**Proposed Changes to Transit Facilities at**  
**Capitol Heights Metro Station**  
**Capitol Heights, Maryland**  
**Docket R23-05**

**Purpose**

**Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority on proposed changes to transit facilities at the Capitol Heights Metro Station in Capitol Heights, Maryland as follows:**

Hearing No. 654

**Wednesday, November 8, 2023**

**Open House 6:30 p.m.**

**Public Hearing 7:00 p.m.**

Capitol Heights Elementary School  
601 Suffolk Ave  
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

***This hearing will also be conducted virtually, and testimony can be provided via phone or video (see below). The hearing can be viewed online at:***

***[youtube.com/metroforward](https://youtube.com/metroforward)***

**To listen via telephone: (206) 899-2028, Meeting Code 231 232 090#**

Please note that this date is subject to cancellation. In the event of a cancellation, Metro will post information about the rescheduled hearing on [wmata.com](https://wmata.com)

Sign language interpretation will be provided. Any individual who requires special assistance or additional accommodation to participate in this public hearing, or who requires these materials in an alternate format, should contact the Office of the Board Corporate Secretary at 202-962-2511 or TTY: 202-962-2033 as soon as possible in order for Metro to make necessary arrangements. For language assistance, such as an interpreter or information in another language, please call 202-962-1082 at least 48 hours prior to the public hearing date.

For more information please visit  
[wmata.com/plansandprojects](https://wmata.com/plansandprojects)



## **PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) regarding the environmental report and general plans for changes to transit facilities at the Capitol Heights Metro Station, Capitol Heights, MD. At the hearing, WMATA will receive and consider public comments and suggestions about the proposal. The proposed design concepts may change as a result of this hearing.

## **HOW TO REGISTER TO SPEAK AT THE PUBLIC HEARING**

All organizations or individuals desiring to be heard with respect to the proposal will be afforded the opportunity to present their views and make supporting statements and to offer alternative proposals. Public officials will be allowed five minutes each to make their presentations. All others will be allowed three minutes each. Relinquishing of time by one speaker to another will not be permitted.

Individuals can provide testimony at the hearing in one of three ways:

**In person:** Individuals wishing to provide testimony in person during the hearing are encouraged to pre-register by emailing [speak@wmata.com](mailto:speak@wmata.com) or calling (202) 962-2511 by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. Please submit only one speaker's name per request. Advance registration to provide in-person testimony is not required.

**By videoconference:** Individuals wishing to provide testimony during the hearing via videoconference are required to furnish, in writing, their name and organizational affiliation, if any, via email to [speak@wmata.com](mailto:speak@wmata.com) by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. Please submit only one speaker's name per request.

**By telephone:** Individuals should call (206) 899-2028 during the hearing and enter Meeting Code 231 232 090#. Advance registration to provide testimony via telephone is not available.

## **HOW TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY NOT AT THE PUBLIC HEARING**

Testimony may be submitted online about this proposal at [wmata.com/plansandprojects](https://wmata.com/plansandprojects). Options to submit testimony online include completing a survey, providing written comments or uploading letters or other documents. Online submission will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 7, 2023 and will close on Monday, November 20, 2023 at 9 a.m. This is in addition to your ability to speak at a public hearing. For those without access to computers or internet, testimony may also be mailed to the Office of the Board Corporate Secretary, SECT 2E, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, P.O. Box 44390, Washington, DC 20026-4390. All comments must be received by the Office of the Secretary by 9 a.m. on Monday, November 20, 2023 to be included in the public record.

The comments received by the Office of the Board Corporate Secretary, along with the online submissions and public hearing comments, will be presented to the WMATA Board of Directors and will be part of the official public hearing record. Please note all statements are releasable to the public and may be posted on WMATA's website, without change, including any personal information provided.

## **WHAT IS PROPOSED**

Metro proposes changes (“Modifications”) to the Capitol Heights Metro Station (“Metro Station”) transit facilities and facility access to enable joint development, increase ridership and improve safety. The recommended changes are made after significant evaluation of future demand for the transit and parking facilities at the Metro Station.

The Modifications include:

- Relocating the bus loop and Kiss & Ride facilities
- Reducing the Kiss & Ride capacity to eight spaces
- Eliminating the 372-space Park & Ride lot

In 2017, Metro held a public hearing and received Board approval to eliminate the Park & Ride only. However, the joint development project did not advance at that time and as a result Prince George’s County and Metro have revised the development plans to also include changes to the bus and Kiss & Ride facilities.

The changes to the transit facilities will be funded and constructed by Metro’s future joint developer, which will be selected through a future solicitation.

In accordance with the WMATA Compact, the Modifications require an Environmental Evaluation (“EE”) to assess the potential effects of this action on the human and natural environment in terms of transportation, social, economic, and environmental factors. Impacts identified in the EE are summarized in **Table 1**.

For more information, please refer to the provided Environmental Evaluation.

**Table 1. Environmental Impacts of Modifications**

<b>Environmental Feature</b>	<b>Permanent Impacts</b>	<b>Construction-Related (Temporary) Impacts</b>	<b>Minimization &amp; Mitigation Efforts</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	Reconfiguration of the bus facilities eliminates left-turn bus movements onto the site from the arterial roads, which will improve safety.  Elimination of the Park & Ride and reduction of Kiss & Ride spaces will generate less traffic at the station and align with pick-up/drop-off demand.	Disruption to pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular circulation during construction.	Interim locations for bus services, pick-up/drop-off, and bicyclist and pedestrian access will be maintained at all times during construction.  Updated traffic controls and signage to reflect changes.  Customers seeking longer-term parking options will be directed to use Park & Ride facilities at Addison Road Metro Station. Other on-street parking options may also be created after development of the site.
<b>Stormwater</b>	None-total impervious areas of transit facilities to be reduced.	Minor sediment or erosion risk.	Controls to be applied per Maryland and Prince George’s County requirements.
<b>Air Quality and Noise</b>	No impacts resulting from changes to transit facilities.	Dust or noise from construction-related equipment and operation.	Cleaning, minimizing night-time work, noise control measures.

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION**

The docket consists of this Notice of Public Hearing, an environmental report, and general plans for the proposed changes to transit facilities at the Capitol Heights Metro Station. These documents are available online at [wmata.com/plansandprojects](http://wmata.com/plansandprojects) and may be inspected during normal business hours at the following location:

WMATA  
Office of the Board Corporate Secretary  
300 7th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20024  
202-962-2511  
(Please call in advance to coordinate)

## **WMATA COMPACT REQUIREMENTS**

WMATA's Compact requires that the Board, in amending the Mass Transit Plan, consider current and prospective conditions in the transit zone should the project be built. The transit zone includes Prince George's County, Maryland and considerations include, without limitation, land use, population, economic factors affecting development plans, existing and proposed transportation and transit facilities, any dislocation of families or businesses; preservation of the beauty and dignity of the DC Metro Area; factors affecting environmental amenities and aesthetics, and financial resources. The mass transit plan encompasses, among other things, transit facilities to be provided by WMATA, including stations and parking facilities, and the character, nature, design, location and capital and operating cost thereof. The mass transit plan, in addition to designating the design and location of transit facilities, also provides for capital and operating expenses, as well as "various other factors and considerations, which, in the opinion of the Board, justify and require the projects therein proposed" all as more particularly set forth in WMATA's Compact.