



**Notice of Public Hearing
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Proposed New Entrance to Ballston Metrorail Station
Arlington County, VA
Docket R24-01**

Purpose

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority on a proposed New Entrance to the Ballston Metrorail Station in Arlington County, VA as follows:

Open House 6:00 p.m.

Hearing No. 664
6:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 10, 2024
Arlington Central Library
Auditorium
1015 N Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22201

Please note that these dates are subject to each facility's cancellation policy. In the event of a cancellation, Metro will post information about a new hearing on wmata.com.

The location for all Metro public hearings are wheelchair accessible. Sign language interpretation will be provided. Any individual who requires special assistance or additional accommodation to participate in these public hearings, 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



In accordance with Section 15 of the WMATA Compact, Metro will conduct a public hearing at the location listed in this notice. Information on this hearing will be provided at nearby Metrorail stations, at Arlington County libraries and online at wmata.com.

HOW TO REGISTER TO SPEAK AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

All organizations or individuals desiring to be heard with respect to this docket will be afforded the opportunity to present their views, 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 a hearing are encouraged to pre-register by emailing speak@wmata.com or calling (202) 962-2511 by 12 p.m. the day of the hearing at which you wish to testify. Please submit only one speaker's name per request. Individuals can also sign up at the hearing to provide testimony; advance registration to provide in-person testimony is not required.

By videoconference: Individuals wishing to provide testimony via videoconference are required to furnish, in writing, their name and organizational affiliation, if any, via email to speak@wmata.com by 5 p.m. the day prior to the hearing at which you wish to testify. Please submit only one speaker's name per request.

By telephone: Individuals should call (206) 899-2028 during the hearing and enter Meeting Code 675 991 902#. Pre-registration to provide comments by telephone is not available.

HOW TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY NOT AT A PUBLIC HEARING

Testimony about this proposal may be submitted at wmata.com/plansandprojects. This website will open by 9 a.m. on Saturday, November 9, 2024, and will close at 5 p.m. on Friday, December 20, 2024. The website will also provide the opportunity to upload documents and submit freeform comments. 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 Board Corporate Secretary by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 20, 2024, to be included in the public record. Please reference "New Entrance Ballston" in your correspondence.

The comments received by the Office of the Board Corporate Secretary, along with the survey results and public hearing comments, will be presented to the Board and will be part of the official public hearing record. Please note all statements are releasable to the

public upon request, and may be posted on WMATA's website, without change, including any personal information provided.

For those who do not have access to computers or internet, note that copies of the docket in its entirety can be requested from Metro's Office of the Board Corporate Secretary by calling 202-962-2511, and are available for inspection during normal business hours at Metro's Headquarters at 300 7th Street SW, Washington, DC 20024. Please call 202-962-2511 in advance to schedule an appointment.

WHAT IS PROPOSED

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), is proposing the construction of a second entrance to the Ballston-MU Station (Proposed Project), serving the Ballston neighborhood of Arlington County, Virginia. The new west entrance to the Ballston Metrorail Station would improve access to the station from the west.

Ballston-MU Station proposed West Entrance Project

WMATA operates the Ballston-MU Metrorail Station, serving the Metrorail Orange and Silver lines. Arlington County is preparing permits and providing funding for the Proposed Project on behalf of WMATA who will be implementing the Proposed Project.

The Ballston-MU Station (station) is currently accessed at the street level via a single entrance at the intersection of N Stuart Street and Fairfax Drive. Ticket machines, fare gates, and platforms are located below grade; access is provided by two escalators and three elevators: one on the southwest corner of the intersection and two on the northwest corner. The Proposed Project would construct a new west station entrance with a new stairway at the southwest corner of the Fairfax Drive/N Vermont Street intersection, two new ADA-compliant elevators and an emergency access stair and access hatch at the southeast corner of this intersection. A new underground chamber/mezzanine structure with ticket machines and fare gates as well as a new pedestrian tunnel between the mezzanine and the station platform would be constructed below ground. Additional street-level elements would also be introduced to improve pedestrian safety and circulation including a new crosswalk across Fairfax Drive, and an improved crosswalk and ADA-compliant reconstruction of curb ramps across N Vermont Street.

REFERENCE MATERIAL AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

The docket consists of this Notice of Public Hearing, an environmental report, and general plans for the New Entrance to the Ballston Metrorail Station. These documents are available online at wmata.com/plansandprojects and may be inspected during normal business hours at the following location:

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

You can also request to have these materials mailed to you by calling the Office of the Secretary at 202-962-2511.

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 Arlington County 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.

The environmental report and general plans for the project are available for public review at the locations identified in the reference materials section above.

The work and changes depicted in this information package constitute the proposed amendment to the mass transit plan for purposes of the WMATA Compact.