



**Notice of Public Hearing
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Proposed New Entrance to Crystal City Metrorail Station
Arlington County, VA
Docket R21-01**

Purpose

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

**Hearing No. 638
6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, July 13, 2021**

***This hearing will be conducted virtually and can be viewed online at:
www.wmata.com/plansandprojects or www.youtube.com/metroforward/videos***

To participate via telephone: 855-925-2801, Meeting Code 8137

To participate via video: Advance registration by 5 p.m. July 12, 2021 required – see below

Public Hearing scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m.

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

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 John Pasek 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



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 a new East Entrance to the Crystal City Metrorail Station in Arlington County, Virginia. 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 participate in the hearing in one of two ways:

By telephone: Individuals should call (855) 925-2801 and enter Meeting Code 8137. No advance registration is required to participate.

By videoconference: Individuals wishing to participate in the hearing 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. on Monday, July 12, 2021. Please submit only one speaker's name per request.

HOW TO SUBMIT WRITTEN STATEMENTS

Testimony may be submitted online about this proposal at wmata.com/plansandprojects. Online submission will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 12, 2021 and will close on Friday, July 23, 2021 at 5 p.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 Secretary, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 600 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001. All comments must be received by the Office of the Secretary by 5 p.m. on Friday, July 23, 2021 to be included in the public record.

The comments received by the Office of the 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 upon request, and may be posted on WMATA's website, without change, including any personal information provided.

WHAT IS PROPOSED

WMATA proposes construction of a new East Entrance to the Crystal City Metrorail Station to improve access to the station from the east, facilitate multimodal connections with Metroway and Virginia Railway Express service, and provide additional internal station capacity to accommodate long-term passenger demand.

East Entrance Project

Arlington County, in coordination with WMATA, would construct a second entrance to the Crystal City Metrorail Station that would include stairs, elevators, and a new mezzanine level with fare gates and fare vending machines (the Project). The station currently has a single entrance between South Clark and South Bell Streets that includes a single street-to-mezzanine elevator.

The purpose of the Project is to improve access to the station from the east and provide additional internal station capacity to accommodate long-term passenger demand. The Project is needed because the station currently lacks a direct Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-accessible route for the many users who access the station from the east, particularly those with mobility challenges, and does not directly connect with the bicycle corridor and high-capacity transit modes east of the station, including the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) and Metroway. The single entrance also restricts internal station capacity and emergency egress.

To address these issues, Arlington County, in coordination with WMATA, proposes to include an entrance stair and two ADA-compliant elevators in a new entrance at the northwest corner of Crystal Drive and 18th Street South. This entrance would provide access to a new mezzanine connecting to the far east side of the existing Crystal City Station. The Project would also include support spaces for the new station entrance.

REFERENCE MATERIAL AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

The docket consists of this Notice of Public Hearing, an environmental report, and general plans for the new Crystal City Metrorail Station East Entrance. 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
600 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
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.

Arlington County and WMATA submitted the environmental report to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to support a Categorical Exclusion determination in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). 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.