



**SILVER SPRING
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

AGENDA

**May 13, 2021 / 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.
Virtual Teams Meeting**

Chair – Valerie Spencer

Staff Contact: Jim Carlson / (240) 777-8382; (301) 318-0328
james.carlson@montgomerycountymd.gov

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- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Introductions/Agenda Review/Chair Comments | Valerie Spencer |
| 2. Minutes Review
March (©2) | |
| 3. Purple Line Update | Maricela Cordova
Purple Line Implementation Manager |
| 4. Metro Update | Gary Erenrich
MCDOT-Special Assistant to the Director |
| 5. Employer TDM Plans
Summary (©5) | Jim Carlson |
| 6. Employer Outreach Update | Van Eperen Team |
| 7. Updates: Police/TMD/DOT/Other County Updates | Sandra Brecher
Sgt. Kerry Moore
Iftin Thompson
Jim Carlson |

Adjourn / Next Meeting: June 10, 2021

Information Items:

- *Ride On Bus Schedule Changes Beginning May 9 Will Increase Service and Improve Efficiency*
- *15 Pit Stops for 'Bike to Work Day' May 21 Will Be Sponsored by MCDOT*
- *MCDOT Bicycle Swag Bag Contest Continues*
- *Metrobus to expand late-night service, restore more routes to support region's recovery effective June 6*
- *Metro to begin multi-year escalator replacement project starting with Gallery Place April 26*
- *Metro to extend service for sporting events if games run beyond normal closing time*

**Silver Spring
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
March 11, 2021**

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Item 1 & 2 -Introductions/Minute review: Member and guest introductions.

The Committee approved January's meeting minutes.

Item 3 - Metro Update: Gary Erenrich discussed Metro's budget and operations, explaining that the system was on track to deplete its funds come January 2022; however, new Federal funding passed by Congress will allow for continued operations and halting employee layoffs and to increase ridership.

Also reported:

- Bus ridership is back to 30% - 40% higher than rail
- The efforts to market transit emphasize comfort & safety
- Ride On is currently not charging fares (charging starting in April) although Metro is – how is fare differential affecting travel
- Our area received \$25 million from the Cares Act; however, Ride On requires \$125 million for operating

Committee discussion included:

- The adjustments planned for Metro due to Covid - surveys to capture riders & business comments
- Telecommunicating was at 10 percent pre-Covid and are currently at 30 percent during the pandemic, with people returning to work two days a week and teleworking the remaining days - predictions of a year before ridership returns
- Customizing service to maximize transit system efficiency; however, the data available for restructuring routes is pre-Covid
- The perceived funding issues for transit if teleworking reduces ridership, as driving and paying for parking becomes cheaper, and as commuters are not commuting a full work week
- Discussion regarding dropping fares to incentivize commuters to take transit – Metro has not raised fares in two years, and there are issues in charging peak fares when not giving peak service

Item 4 – Presentation Personal Rapid Transit: Sande Brecher introduced the presentation, commenting that personal rapid transit is not a substitute for the 355 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project as the funds for that project have been secured but another alternative. Peter James from Crystal Clear Robotics Company explained that Personal Rapid Transit (PRT) provides a point-to-point transit option to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and vehicles are equipped with UV light disinfection. Managing lanes is important for smart growth as traffic congestion will become worse in the future. Unlike conventional transit that stops at every stop along the route, which is time consuming, especially when transferring is factored in, PRT offers an even faster solution than cars. Also discussed:

- PRT is in line with Vision Zero principals of zero traffic deaths or serious injuries since it is computerized with laser sensors
- Baltimore study found that commuters have difficulty in employment access, many living in “transit deserts” and the need to provide equity

- Pods are battery operated and can travel two kilometers in five minutes – battery size depends on vehicle travel miles, as these make up the majority of costs
- PRT is 120th the cost of light rail systems -1,000 miles of PRT system will carry 120 times the traffic volume
- Low environmental impact and cost effective in carrying freight
- Eliminates need of bridge widening or hanging guideways off bridges
- Six stations operate in midtown Dallas – modular infrastructure with no transit time loss
- Pods cost range is \$1,000-\$15,000 per vehicle

Mr. James reported that his company was able to convince MTA on the value of PRT compared to the monorail system, explaining how it can be elevated without moving utility lines or going off-route for transfers. Other Q & A from the Committee included:

- The addition of bikes and wheelchair access can be added to the system based on demand

Item 5 - Employer TDM Plans: **Jim Carlson** presented Companies TDM plans to be recommended for approval.

The Committee recommended the Transportation Director approve TDM Plans.

Item 6 – Employer Outreach Update:

- The results of the COG Employer Recognition nominees soon to be announced
- Discussion regarding the closing and new openings of business in the downtown Silver Spring area
- Helping Employers to complete the TDM Plans
- Upcoming BTWD on May 21st -virtual event, t-shirt pick up at participating bikes shops and fitness centers

Item 7 – Updates:

- **Sandra Brecher** provided an update on the Climate Action Plan draft
- The County Exec's FY21 Operating Budget- County Council reviewing
- A Covid Committee to get people vaccinated- targeting low income & people of color
- The Planning Board will give community presentations on the Silver Spring Master Plan- Tuesdays @7pm
- Business Improvement District – holding off on efforts to move forward with plan

Around the Room: The Committee discussed noise complaints in the DTSS to be directed to 3rd District police department.

Adjourn

Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee Attendance Sheet

March 11, 2021

Voting Members (12)			
Name	Affiliation	Present	Absent
Chamber Members (3)			
Chris Kabatt	Wells + Associates		X
Julie Statland	Statland & Katz, Ltd.		X
Vacant			
Citizens Advisory Board Members (3)			
Harriet Quinn	Kemp Mill, Four Corners, East SS	X	
Vacant	North & West Sector Plan Area		
Chris Perry	CBD Resident	X	
Employers less than 50 employees (3)			
Valerie Spencer	MayaTech	X	
Dar Maxwell	Panagora Group	X	
Vacant			
Employers with 50 or more employees (3)			
G. Michael Price	Discovery Communications	X	
Vacant			
Vacant			
Non-Voting Members (3)			
Sandra Brecher, DOT-Commuter Services	MCDOT Director or Designee	X	
Iftin Thompson	M-NCPPC	X	
Reemberto Rodriguez	Silver Spring Regional Center	X	
Sgt. Kerry Moore	Montgomery County Police	X	
Staff			
Nakengi Byrd	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
Jim Carlson	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
Guests			
Jennifer Bolick	Van Eperen & Co.	X	
Jay Elvove	SS Citizens Advisory Board	X	
Gary Erenrich	MCDOT	X	
Peter James	Crystal Clear Robotics	X	
Mel Tull	Lee Development	X	

Silver Spring TMD
Traffic Demand Management Plan Summary
May 2021

Code Requirements:

1. *Contact person designated to receive and distribute commuter information to employees*
2. *Information on transit and other commute alternatives distributed/ posted regularly (furnished by Commuter Services/CSS)*
3. *Facilitate CSS/TMD staff presentations and commuter information events for employees and HR/administrative staff. This could include benefits fares and other employer-sponsored events*
4. *Guaranteed Ride Home Promotion (free regional program offering emergency rides)*
5. *Annual Commuter Survey distributed to employees (short survey of transportation– supplied by CSS/TMD)*
6. *ADA information provided (transportation services for people with disabilities)*
7. *Permanent display area for bus schedules and other transportation information*
8. *Compile information on yearly TDM activities and submit Annual Report*

Employer	Status	Recommend to MCDOT
Enterprise Community Development, Inc.	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: • Bike racks • Carpool matching	Yes
Negril Jamaican Eatery -Voluntary	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: • Carpool matching	Yes
Panera Bread	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: • Carpool matching	Yes
Associated Insurance Management, Inc.	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: • Pre-tax deduction • Flexible schedule	Yes
Association of Public Health Laboratories	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: • Car sharing • Direct benefit • Formal telework / 120 participate • Bike racks & lockers / reimbursement for bike expense • Flexible & compressed schedules	Yes
CCI Health and Wellness Services	Meets requirements - no voluntary measures	Yes
Cook Ross	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: • Formal telework / all employees, no plans to return to the office this year • New hire orientation • Bike racks, lockers, showers • Flexible schedules	Yes

International Partnership for Microbicides (IPM)	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: • Pre-tax deduction • Formal telework / 30 participate • Carpool matching • Flexible schedules	Yes
Toole Design Group	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: • Direct benefit • Formal telework / 60 participate • Bike racks, lockers, bikeshare membership subsidy, reimbursement for bike expense • Commute incentive program – employees earn gift cards for miles walking and biking • Flexible & compressed schedules	Yes
Solid Waste Association of North America	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: • Direct benefit / \$145 / 11 participate • Formal telework / 23 participate • Flexible & compressed schedules	Yes



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MCDOT Ride On Bus Schedule Changes Beginning Sunday, May 9, Will Increase Service and Improve Efficiency

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, May 5, 2021



Ride On bus service schedules starting Sunday, May 9, will be adjusted by Montgomery County's Department of Transportation (MCDOT) to increase overall service and improve efficiency. The changes reflect the continuing shift of resources toward schedule patterns prior to the COVID-19 health crisis. All County-operated transit services remain free of charge to riders at least through June 30.

Flash, the high frequency MCDOT service that has been operating since October on Colesville Road/ Columbia Pike (US 29) and Lockwood Drive, will continue to be fully operational. Flash destinations include Downtown Silver Spring, Four Corners, White Oak, Fairland, and Burtonsville.

The pilot on-demand Flex service in the Rockville and Wheaton/Glenmont areas remains suspended.

Ride On planners have monitored ridership data and on-time performance feedback to identify routes that could achieve more efficiency with schedule updates. The information led to the 30 routes that will have schedule changes starting May 9.

Routes that will have schedule changes and some improved frequencies include:

5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 14, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 39, 43, 46, 52, 54, 55, 56, 59, 73, 79, 81.

Extra buses continue to be stationed at all Metro stations in the County and are ready to deploy to nearby service routes experiencing levels of demand that cannot be met by buses under the standard schedule.

All Ride On buses returned to front-door boarding on April 5.

On Flash, all doors can be used by passengers. This measure makes more space available for passengers inside the buses. Mobility devices should use the front door and bike riders should use the rear/third door.

All Ride On routes are in operation, but ridership capacity remains limited to support safe distancing between riders. All passengers are required to wear a face covering to board and must continue wearing the covering for the entire time on the bus. All buses have a supply of face coverings for riders who cannot

provide their own.

Riders are asked to maintain maximum physical distance between themselves and other riders who are not from the same household.

Bus interiors will continue to be cleaned by the County's Department of General Services twice daily with hospital-grade viral disinfectant. Bus filter and ventilation systems are treated each night with a disinfectant.

For the most up-to-date service information, riders should follow @RideOnMCT on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. In addition, information is available at RideOnBus.com or by subscribing to "Ride On Services" email alerts. Riders can receive text alerts by texting MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311. Also, riders can visit the website RideOnBus.com or call 311 within the County or 240-777-0311 outside the County.

For other transportation updates, follow @MCDOTNow on Twitter, visit the department website at montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot, subscribe to MCDOT news releases, or subscribe to MCDOT's 'Go Montgomery!' newsletter.

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Para Difusión Inmediata: miércoles 5 de mayo de 2021

Habrán cambios en el horario de los autobuses Ride On del Condado de Montgomery a partir del domingo 9 de mayo que aumentarán el servicio y mejorarán la eficiencia

A partir del domingo 9 de mayo, los horarios del servicio de autobuses Ride On serán ajustados por el Departamento de Transporte del Condado de Montgomery (MCDOT, por sus siglas en inglés) para aumentar el servicio general y mejorar la eficiencia. Los cambios reflejan el cambio continuo de recursos hacia patrones de programación antes de la crisis de salud de COVID-19. Todos los servicios de tránsito operados por el condado siguen siendo gratuitos para los pasajeros al menos hasta el 30 de junio.

Flash, el servicio de MCDOT de alta frecuencia que ha estado operando desde octubre en Colesville Road / Columbia Pike (US 29) y Lockwood Drive, continuará en pleno funcionamiento. Los destinos de Flash incluyen el centro de Silver Spring, Four Corners, White Oak, Fairland y Burtonsville.

El servicio piloto bajo demanda Flex en las áreas de Rockville y Wheaton / Glenmont permanece suspendido.

Los planificadores de Ride On han monitoreado los datos de pasajeros y los comentarios sobre puntualidad para identificar rutas que podrían lograr una mayor eficiencia con actualizaciones de horarios. La información conllevó a los cambios de horario de 30 rutas a partir del 9 de mayo.

Las rutas que tendrán cambios de horario y algunas frecuencias mejoradas incluyen:

5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 14, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 39, 43, 46, 52, 54, 55, 56, 59, 73, 79, 81.

Los autobuses Extra continúan estacionados en todas las estaciones de Metro en el condado y están listos para desplegarse en rutas de servicio cercanas que experimentan niveles de demanda que los autobuses no pueden satisfacer con el horario estándar.

Todos los autobuses Ride On comenzaron a abordar por la puerta delantera el 5 de abril.

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15 Pit Stops for 'Bike to Work Day' on Friday, May 21, Will Be Sponsored by MCDOT; Telecommuters Encouraged to Participate

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, May 4, 2021



Fifteen pit stops sponsored by Montgomery County's Department of Transportation (MCDOT) will be part of the annual region-wide celebration of "Bike to Work Day" on Friday, May 21. Commuter Connections and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association host the free event that offers the first 15,000 bikers to register and

participate a free 20th anniversary commemorative T-shirt.

All participants who register for Bike to Work Day 2021 are entered into a raffle for a chance to win a new bike. This year, BicycleSPACE will donate bicycles from the Brooklyn Bicycle Company, All-City and Brompton. Winners need not be present when the names are drawn.

Due to COVID-19 protocols, this year's celebration will feature non-traditional pit stops throughout Montgomery County. Telecommuters can bike to pick up their free BTWD t-shirts at a pit stop. People biking to work can continue to their place of business and telecommuters are encouraged to bike a "fake commute" or take a break during their workday.

"For 20 years, Montgomery County has been celebrating Bike to Work Day and has aggressively directed policy efforts, budgetary investments and communication to support bicycling safety," said Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich. "We have worked toward better access and infrastructure, and we will continue to create more opportunities and improved safety for bicyclists. Bicycling is good for the health of our residents and our environment. We encourage bicycling for commuting, exercise and as a great way to get around Montgomery County."

The County has increased the number of pit stops it sponsors to encourage teleworkers to participate. Even those working at home can get exercise and bike to a t-shirt pickup point (pit stop) and then head back home to work for the day.

To register for the event, participants should visit the Find Your Pit Stop map to plan a route for the day of the event.

The MCDOT-sponsored pit stops will be at:

- All American Bicycle Center, Damascus
- Andes Bike Shop, Gaithersburg
- Bike Center Ltd., Gaithersburg
- Chevy Chase Athletic Club, Chevy Chase
- Germantown Cycles, Germantown
- Griffin Cycle, Bethesda
- Just Riding Along Bike Shop, Laytonsville
- MCDOT Mobile Commuter Store, Silver Spring (Briggs Chaney Park and Ride lot)
- MCDOT Mobile Commuter Store, Germantown (Walmart Service Center)
- MCDOT TRiPS Store, Silver Spring (Paul S. Sarbanes Transit Center, second floor)
- REI Store, Bethesda
- Silver Cycles, Silver Spring
- Terrapin Cycles, Bethesda
- TREK Bicycle, Rockville
- Takoma Bicycle, Takoma Park

Riders should check the time of operation for a pit stop at which they plan to stop. Pit stops will be operating at various hours.

MCDOT also has announced a "Bicycle Swag Bag Contest" to promote Bike to Work Day by featuring a different bike path/trail in the County each week through Sunday, May 30. Bike riders are asked to submit a favorite picture of themselves enjoying their ride along the featured trail and to tag @mococommuter and #MoCobikes on Twitter and Instagram or by e-mail to commuter.services@montgomerycountymd.gov to be entered into a weekly drawing.

This week's featured location is the Bethesda Trolley Trail. Winners have previously been selected for submitting photos from the Capital Crescent, Sligo Creek, Carl Henn Millennium and Matthew Henson trails. For more information on the contest and future locations can be found at ow.ly/8WBi50Ega7e.

Riders are asked to practice safe social distancing and to wear a face covering and helmet while riding.

To learn more about Commuter Services, visit its website at montgomerycountymd.gov/commuter and follow @MoCoCommuter on Twitter and Instagram.

For transportation updates, follow @MCDOTNow on Twitter, visit the department website at montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot, subscribe to MCDOT news releases, or subscribe to MCDOT's 'Go Montgomery!' newsletter.

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Para publicación inmediata: lunes 3 de mayo de 2021

El 'Día de ir en bicicleta al trabajo' se celebra el viernes 21 de mayo, habrá 15 paradas patrocinadas por el Departamento de Transporte del Condado de Montgomery y se exhorta la participación de teletrabajadores

Habrà 15 paradas a través de todo el Condado de Montgomery patrocinadas por el Departamento de Transporte del Condado como parte de la celebración regional anual del "Día de ir en bicicleta al trabajo" Bike to Work Day el viernes 21 de mayo. Commuter Connections y la Asociación de Ciclistas del Área de Washington organizan el evento gratuito que ofrece primeros a los primeros 15.000 ciclistas en registrarse y participar la oportunidad de ganar una camiseta conmemorativa del 20 aniversario gratis.

Todos los participantes que se registren para el "Día de ir en bicicleta al trabajo 2021" ingresan automáticamente en una rifa para tener la oportunidad de ganar una nueva bicicleta. Este año, BicycleSPACE donará bicicletas de Brooklyn Bicycle Company, de All-City y de Brompton. Los ganadores no necesitan estar presentes cuando se sorteen los nombres.

Debido a los protocolos COVID-19, la celebración de este año contará con paradas no tradicionales en todo el Condado de Montgomery. Los teletrabajadores pueden ir en bicicleta para recoger sus camisetas gratuitas en una parada. Las personas que van en bicicleta al trabajo pueden continuar hasta su lugar de empleo y se

alienta a los teletrabajadores a hacer un “viaje falso” en bicicleta o tomar un descanso durante su jornada laboral.

El condado ha aumentado el número de paradas que patrocina para animar a los teletrabajadores a participar. Incluso aquellos que trabajan en casa pueden hacer ejercicio e ir en bicicleta a un punto de recogida de camisetas (pit stop) y luego regresar a casa para trabajar el resto del día.

Para registrarse para el evento, los participantes deben visitar el mapa Find Your Pit Stop para planificar una ruta para el día del evento.

Las paradas patrocinadas por MCDOT estarán localizadas en:

- All American Bicycle Center, Damascus
- Andes Bike Shop, Gaithersburg
- Bike Center Ltd., Gaithersburg
- Chevy Chase Athletic Club, Chevy Chase
- Germantown Cycles, Germantown
- Griffin Cycle, Bethesda
- Just Riding Along Bike Shop, Laytonsville
- MCDOT Mobile Commuter Store, Silver Spring (Briggs Chaney Park and Ride lot)
- MCDOT Mobile Commuter Store, Germantown (Walmart Service Center)
- MCDOT TRiPS Store, Silver Spring (Paul S. Sarbanes Transit Center, second floor)
- REI Store, Bethesda
- Silver Cycles, Silver Spring
- Terrapin Cycles, Bethesda
- TREK Bicycle, Rockville
- Takoma Bicycle, Takoma Park

Los ciclistas deben de verificar el horario de operación de la parada en la que planean detenerse. Las paradas estarán operativas a varios horarios.

MCDOT también ha anunciado un "Concurso de bolsas de botín de bicicletas" para promover el “Día de ir en bicicleta al trabajo” presentando un carril o sendero para bicicletas diferente en el condado cada semana hasta el domingo 30 de mayo. Se les pide a los ciclistas que envíen una foto favorita de ellos mismos disfrutando de su paseo a lo largo del sendero destacado y etiquetar a @mococommuter y #MoCobikes en Twitter e Instagram o enviarla por correo electrónico a commuter.services@montgomerycountymd.gov para participar en un sorteo semanal.

La ubicación destacada de esta semana es Bethesda Trolley Trail. Los ganadores han sido seleccionados previamente por enviar fotos de los senderos Capital Crescent, Sligo Creek, Carl Henn Millennium y Matthew Henson. Para obtener más información sobre el concurso y ubicaciones futuras, se puede visitar ow.ly/8WBi50Ega7e.

Se les pide a los ciclistas que practiquen un distanciamiento social seguro y que usen una cubertura facial y un casco mientras participan.

Para obtener más información sobre Commuter Services, visite el sitio web montgomerycountymd.gov/commuter y síganos en las redes sociales @MoCoCommuter en Twitter e Instagram.

Para obtener actualizaciones de transporte, siga a @MCDOTNow en Twitter, visite el sitio web del Departamento en montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot, suscríbase subscribe a los comunicados de prensa de MCDOT y también suscríbase subscribe al boletín de noticias "Go Montgomery!" de MCDOT.

Release ID: 21-058

Media Contact: Hannah Henn 240-777-8389



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MCDOT Bicycle Swag Bag Contest Continues

For Immediate Release: Monday, May 3, 2021



The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) promotes this year's Bike To Work Day by featuring a different bike path/trail in Montgomery County each week through Sunday, May 30. Bike riders are asked to submit a favorite picture of themselves enjoying their ride along the featured trail to be entered into a weekly drawing. This week's featured location is The Bethesda Trolley Trail. Previously featured trails were the Capital Crescent, Sligo Creek, Carl Henn Millennium and Matthew Henson trails. For more information on the contest and future locations can be found at: tinyurl.com/4r7kd52w.

Participants can post giveaway entry photos and tag @mococommuter (on Twitter or Instagram) along with the hashtag #MoCoBikes to be entered into that week's drawing for a Bicycle Swag Bag prize. Residents that do not use social media can email photos to commuter.services@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Prize drawings are held on Monday morning of the following week and winners are notified via direct message on their Twitter/Instagram accounts or by email. The contest is open to persons 18 years and older, and you must be a Montgomery County resident or be an employee of a company located in Montgomery County.

Where and when appropriate, please remember to practice safe social distancing, and wear a face covering and helmet while riding.

To learn more about Commuter Services, visit our website at montgomerycountymd.gov/commuter and follow @MoCoCommuter on Twitter and Instagram.

For transportation updates, follow @MCDOTNow on Twitter, visit the department website at montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot, subscribe to MCDOT news releases, or subscribe to MCDOT's 'Go Montgomery!' newsletter

Release ID: 21-056

Media Contact: Hannah Henn 240-777-8389



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ICYMI

The latest edition of [@MCDOTNow](#) 's Go Montgomery is now available.

News and information about transportation, including roads, transit, hiker-biker trails and pedestrian safety.

To view= [@MCDOTNow](https://ow.ly/lhDz50EK2XU) 's [@MontCo_Highways](#) [@MoCo_DTE](#) [@MCDOT_Parking](#) [@MOCOSRTS](#)



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Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

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For immediate release: May 6, 2021

Metrobus to expand late-night service, restore more routes to support region's recovery effective June 6

Metrobus customers will soon have more options, with expanded late-night service, additional routes restored and improved service on selected routes throughout DC, Maryland and Virginia.

Beginning Sunday, June 6, late-night service will extend until 2 a.m. on 36 of the busiest routes throughout the region, providing customers who work or travel late at night a way to get to work and home. The changes are part of improvements to more than 60 Metrobus routes to provide more frequent, reliable service and restore routes.

In April, Metrobus ridership on weekdays averaged about 180,000 passenger trips each day, providing essential transportation for people to get around the region. The service changes will bring Metrobus service to 85 percent of pre-pandemic service levels with more buses, more often to accommodate the growing return of bus riders.

Service Information, effective June 6, 2021

Service will extend until 2 a.m., seven days a week:

DC: 32, 33, 36, 38B, 52, 70, 80, 92, A6, A8, G8, H4, L2, P6, S2, U5, V2, W2, W4, X2

MD: A12, C4, D12, F4, J2, K6, P12, T18, Y2, Z8

VA: 1A, 7A, 10A, 16E, 23B, 28A, 38B

Service restored to pre-pandemic levels:

DC: 60, W3 (Saturday)

MD: C29 (Saturday)

Weekend service restored:

DC: 62

Weekday service restored:

VA: 18J, 23B, 23T, 26A, 28F

New or extended routes to increase AM/PM rush hour service:

MD: C26

VA: 11C (New), 17K, 21C (New), 22F

Service adjustments will be implemented to improve service and reliability on the following routes (check [timetables](#) for schedule information):

DC: 30N, 30S, 32, 36, 64, 96, A2, A4, M4, W3, W5

MD: D13, D14, G12, G14

In addition, **beginning July 10, 2021**, Fairfax Connector will assume operations of five Metrobus routes – 3T, 15K, 3A, 29C, 29W - to restore and provide enhanced service to key areas in Fairfax County with connections to the McLean, East Falls Church, West Falls Church, and Pentagon Metrorail Stations. The routes will be operated by Fairfax Connector as follows:

- Fairfax Connector [Route 703](#) (formerly Metrobus 3T)
- Fairfax Connector [Route 715](#) (formerly Metrobus 15K)
- Fairfax Connector [Route 803](#) (formerly Metrobus 3A)
- Fairfax Connector [Route 834](#) (formerly Metrobus 29C)
- Fairfax Connector [Route 835](#) (formerly Metrobus 29W)

Click on route for schedule details. Additional information may also be found on the [Fairfax Connector](#) (<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/>) website.

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Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

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For immediate release: April 21, 2021

Metro to begin multi-year escalator replacement project starting with Gallery Place April 26

As part of a \$179 million investment to improve safety and reliability, Metro will begin work to replace the oldest, least reliable escalators in the system starting with Gallery Place Station, Monday, April 26. It's the first of 130 escalators to be replaced over seven years.

Construction on the 9th and G streets entrance escalators near the Smithsonian American Art Museum and National Portrait Gallery is expected to last approximately six months, and will require the entrance to be closed. This will allow Metro and its contractor KONE to work on both escalators concurrently, reducing the duration of the project by three months. The Gallery Place entrances at 7th and H streets and 7th and F streets will remain open for customers to enter and exit the station.

The entrance escalators to be replaced at Gallery Place were first installed in 1976 by Westinghouse Escalator Company, which is no longer in business. With spare parts difficult to find and after decades of exposure to the elements prior to a canopy being built, these escalators were among the poorest rated in the Metro system.

The existing escalators rise approximately three stories high (28 feet) and will be demolished and removed piece by piece using heavy equipment. As part of construction, additional electrical and infrastructure work will also be necessary before new heavy duty, transit-grade escalators can be installed. The two new escalators are being custom manufactured by KONE at a factory in Illinois specifically for Metro and cannot simply be purchased off-the-shelf.

Metro's escalators are one of the work horses of the system, carrying millions of customers every year in and out of Metro's 91 stations. Today 94 percent of Metro's escalators are available to customers at any given time, thanks to a major overhaul of Metro's escalators that began in 2011 to replace or rehabilitate to "like new" condition the worst performing escalators systemwide. Consistent upkeep is required to keep these units in a state of good repair.

In addition to Gallery Place, the 130 new escalators will be spread across 32 different stations with the next escalator replacement expected to begin at New Carrollton Station as soon as late May. Additional station and schedule details will be provided when available. In the meantime, more information is available on Metro's [escalator, elevator and canopy projects](#) page, including a list of stations included in the project.

The escalator replacement project is funded through Metro's Capital Improvement Program. With 617 escalators, Metro operates and maintains the largest fleet of escalators in North America.

About Metro's Capital Improvement Program

Metro is investing in system safety, reliability and the region's economy through its 10-year, \$15 billion Capital Improvement Program. For the first time in Metro's history, the capital program is bolstered by dedicated funding from Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The capital program will improve the customer experience and keep the region's infrastructure in a state of good repair by investing in new railcars and buses, improving stations and platforms, upgrading fire-suppression and emergency response systems, replacing and repairing tracks, tunnels, bridges, signals, and communications systems, rebuilding decades-old bus garages and providing modern customer amenities such as passenger information systems. In spending local taxpayer dollars for capital projects, Metro is seeking to reinvest in our hometown economy, creating jobs and encouraging participation from disadvantaged, minority-owned, and small businesses in the region.

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Metro to extend service for sporting events if games run beyond normal closing time

As thousands of sports fans and workers return to the ballpark, stadium and arena to support the region's professional sports teams, Metro will be there to get them home even if the game goes beyond Metro's normal closing time.

Beginning Tuesday, April 27, through the end of the year, Metro will "flex" service for an additional 30 minutes after the game ends, (until midnight), and will waive the fees normally charged to the team for extra late-night service. The rail station closest to the sporting venue will be the only station open for customers to enter. All other stations will be "exit only." Anyone in line at that time will be accommodated.

The "flex" service will support the region's economic recovery and provide fans and employees of the region's professional sports teams - Wizards, Capitals, Nationals, Mystics, DC United, and The Washington Football team – an easy, convenient way to get to and from games.

"Metro is proud to be a part of this community, and we are excited to welcome back fans and workers who support our home teams," said Metro General Manager/CEO Paul J. Wiedefeld. "We welcome them to ride Metro on game day with the assurance that Metro will be there for them on the ride home."

If Metrorail service is extended beyond the normal closing time, the following stations would remain open as follows:

Nationals/DC United – Navy Yard

Wizards/Capitals – Gallery Place

Washington Football Team – Morgan Blvd

Mystics – Congress Heights

Information on the last train times can be found on the [station page](http://www.wmata.com/stations) (<http://www.wmata.com/stations>) at [wmata.com](http://www.wmata.com).

Metro adjusted operating hours last year due to the pandemic, closing at 11 p.m. seven days a week as rail ridership remains well below pre-pandemic levels.

Customers are reminded that under federal law masks are required when riding Metro (<https://www.wmata.com/service/covid19/masks-required.cfm>) for your safety and the safety of others.

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