



# STATE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION REPORT 2018

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TPB Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee  
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National Capital Region  
Transportation Planning Board

# Presentation Items

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- Purpose
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# Overview

- Public transportation services are an important component of the region's transportation system
- Three primary modes of public transportation in the region:
  - Rail – Rail services offer high-capacity, high quality transit along major corridors.
  - Bus – Bus services provide access across the region to schedule public transportation and carry about 45% of all transit trips in the region.
  - Paratransit – Paratransit services provide specialized public transportation to special needs customers, complementing rail and bus fixed route systems.
- Other modes and providers of public transportation – Private coach operators, taxicabs, private shuttle services, Transportation Networking Companies (TNCs) and other public transportation services in the metropolitan region.



# Purpose

- The purpose of this report is to provide a succinct overview of the state of regional public transportation. Why is this important?
  - Public transportation provides access to job opportunities for millions in the region and it offers those with limited mobility or travel choices more options.
  - Public transit provides alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles, reducing the number of vehicles on already-crowded roadways.
  - Fewer vehicles on area roadways leads to a reduction in overall energy use and helps lower the emissions of pollutants that cause health impacts as well as gases responsible for global climate change.
  - Public transportation makes Activity Centers better and more vibrant by increasing social interaction and pedestrian activity, enhancing safety.



# Highlights from 2018

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- WMATA
  - The delivery of the new 7000-series rail cars. Construction of Silver Line Phase II
- DASH
  - The creation of the Alexandria Transit Vision Plan. King Street Metro Access Improvement Plan
- DC Circulator
  - The addition of electric buses to the existing fleet. Free Wi-Fi on fleet
- RideOn
  - Solar powered bus shelters. Awarded grant to purchase electric buses
- OmniRide
  - The delivery of new motor coaches to replace the existing fleet. Rebranding of entire system
- VRE
  - New York Avenue Midday Storage Facility. Multiple station improvements
- MARC & VRE
  - Studying the feasibility of run through service
- NVTC
  - Envision Route 7 Phase III. I-66 Commuter Choice Program



# Trends

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- Overall, as the rest of the nation, ridership has been on a steady decline.
- However some regional providers have experienced a ridership increase
  - Arlington Transit
  - OmniRide
  - VRE
- Public transportation is a costly public good, and operating costs for the region's providers have been on an increase.
- Public transportation providers are investing and investigating new plans, vehicles, amenities, services, etc. to recapture the lost ridership.



# Responses Needed

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- While a majority of the public transit providers have given the requested information for the completion of this report, a number of responses are still missing
  - Arlington Transit
  - City of Fairfax CUE
  - Fairfax Connector
  - Frederick Transit
  - Prince Georges Co. The Bus
- The purpose of this report is to provide a quick overview of all of the regional public transportation providers. Full cooperation and participation is needed



# Next Steps

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- Continue accepting feedback and comments from public transit providers
- Finish a report in June
- Provide a presentation to the Technical Committee meeting in July





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