

# STARTING THE STATE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION REPORT 2020

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**Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee**  
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# Presentation Items

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- Purpose
- Review of 2019 SOPTR
- 2020 State of Public Transportation Report
- Next Steps



# Purpose

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- The purpose of the report is to provide a snapshot of public transportation activities in the region
- The report includes transit ridership and financial data, however the focus is on recent accomplishments and upcoming activities
- Data comes from the 2019 National Transit Database, which was released October 2020
- Accomplishments, plans, and studies come from past TPB RPTS meetings / input from organizational representatives



# Sections of the SOPTR

## Executive Summary

- Overview of regional transit statistics in the national capital region by mode

## COVID-19's Impact on Public Transportation

- Timeline of events / responses
- Overview of health / safety impacts and responses from service providers

## Part I: Fixed Route Transit Services

- Profile sheets that include information on ridership, operational expenses, fleet size, and number of routes

## Part II: Other Public Transit Services

- Provides information on other transit services such as paratransit and commuter services

## Part III: Regional Public Transportation Organizations

- Information on organizations that operate, provide research, or project development for public transportation

## Part IV: Public Transportation Accomplishments

- Significant transportation projects or studies occurring during CY 2019

## Part V: Transportation Planning Board

- Information on how the TPB is assisting with regional public transportation.



# Review of the 2019 SOPTR

## PART I - FIXED ROUTE PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICES – PROFILE SHEETS

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY (WMATA) METRORAIL  
<https://www.wmata.com>



### OVERVIEW

Metrorail provides safe, clean, reliable transit service for more than 600,000 customers a day throughout the Washington, DC area. The system is one of the busiest in the United States, serving 91 stations in Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. The Metrorail urban rail system is the second largest urban rail system in the country, serving a 1,500 square-mile area. Metrorail includes 118 miles of network and 91 stations.

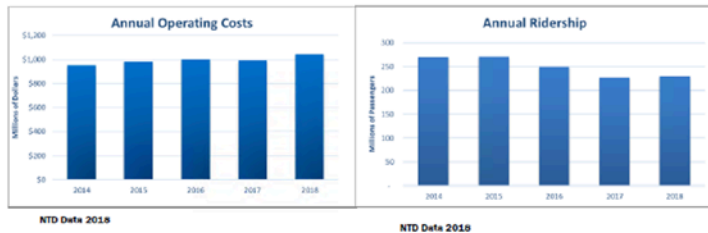
### RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Delivery of the 7000-series rail cars
- Construction of Silver Line Phase II continued, an 11.5-mile transit extension with six stations that will provide service to Dulles International Airport and to Ashburn, VA.
- Construction of the Potomac Yard station began.
- Major Platform Rehabilitation project completed at six stations in Northern Virginia.

### SYSTEM CHARACTERISTICS

Vehicle Fleet: 1290 Passenger Cars. 91 Stations  
 Service Type: Heavy Rail

### PROVIDER DATA



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## Part V: Transportation Planning Board Activities

TPB REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE (RPTS)

## PART IV - PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY (WMATA)

## PART III - REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATIONS

NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (NVTC)

## PART II - OTHER PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICES - OVERVIEW

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY (WMATA)  
 METROACCESS

### Overview

MetroAccess is the fifth largest paratransit service in the country. MetroAccess is a shared ride, door-to-door transportation service for people with disabilities who are unable to use fixed-route public transit. MetroAccess transports approximately 2.1 million passengers annually. Service is provided to locations in Fairfax, Arlington, Prince George's, and Montgomery counties, the District, and the cities of Fairfax, Falls Church, and Alexandria that are located within 1/4 mile of a Metrobus or Metrorail line.

The Abilities-Ride program offers MetroAccess customers a new, more flexible option for travel within Maryland. Metro has partnered with Regency Taxi and Silver Cab to provide on-demand taxi services without sharing a ride - at a discounted rate.

### Recent Accomplishments

- 120 new MetroAccess vehicles placed into service

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (MDOT MTA)

### Overview

Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA) is a transportation business unit of the Maryland Department of Transportation and one of the largest multi-modal transit systems in the United States. MDOT MTA operates Local Buses (CityLink and LocalLink), Commuter Buses, Light RailLink, Metro SubwayLink, Maryland Area Regional Commuter (MARC) Train Service, and a comprehensive Paratransit (MobilityLink) system. MDOT MTA also manages the Taxi Access system and directs funding and state-wide assistance to Locally Operated Transit Systems (LOTS) in each of Maryland's 23 counties, Baltimore City, Annapolis, and Ocean City.

### Milestones

- Launched the Performance Improvement Page on the MDOT MTA website that shares OTP data by mode and route, as well as other critical performance data, making the agency more transparent than ever.
- CharmPass, a new mobile transit fare app, has shown rapid growth since its launch with more than 220,000 downloads and nearly \$2 million in paid fares.
- The newly constructed Camden Station and BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport rail stations now welcome riders from all over the world with amenities and comforts worthy of these historic gateways to Maryland.

MDOT MTA COMMUTER BUS

### Overview

MDOT MTA Commuter Bus Service is a vital link that connects thousands of Maryland's suburban residents with jobs in Baltimore and Washington D.C. Commuter Bus is managed by private



# Review of the 2019 SOPTR

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- WMATA
  - Major Platform Rehabilitation project completed at six stations in Northern Virginia. Bus Transformation Project study completed.
- DC Circulator
  - H and I Street NW bus lanes planned, implemented, and made permanent in 2019. Circulator went fare free from 2/2019 – 9/2019 seeing a 36% increase in ridership.
- The Bus
  - Awarded federal transit grant to purchase electric buses.
- NVTC
  - Commuter Choice Program has awarded \$20 million to 23 projects in the I-66 corridor and issued a third call for projects. End of 2019 prepared to sign a Memorandum of Agreement to run a similar program in the I-395/I-95 corridor.



# The 2020 SOPTR

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The 2020 report will still contain much of the information from the 2019 report, however it will be updated:

- Primary data source will be from the NTD.
- Accomplishments, plans, and studies come from past Regional Public Transportation Subcommittee meetings and input from agency/organization representatives.

What's new for the 2020 report?

- More outreach and coordination efforts with agencies/entities that may have had a small contribution to the report.
- Information on COVID-19 impacts and responses across service providers.
- Start collecting responses from public transit providers early (March. 2020) for a final report (June 2021)
- Taking additional input for items to be added into the report that were not covered last year.



# Next Steps

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- Send out new questionnaire to gather information from public transit providers.
- Compile data from the NTD to update ridership numbers, operating costs, fleet sizes, etc.
- Provide regular updates on the progress of the 2020 SOPTR.
- Provide drafts for input, questions, or comments.
- Presentation to Tech.
- Final report by June 2021.





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**Transportation Planning Board**