

STARTING THE STATE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION REPORT 2021

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Presentation Items

- Purpose
- Review of 2020 SOPTR
- 2021 State of Public Transportation Report
- Next Steps



Purpose

- 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 2020 National Transit Database, which was released October 2021
- 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 2020SOPTR

STATE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION 2020 Report

DRAFT



PART VI: TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD ACTIVITIES

PART V - PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS
MAJOR STUDIES COMPLETED AND LIST OF STUDIES IN PROGRESS

PART IV - REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATIONS

PART III - OTHER PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICES - OVERVIEW

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY (WMATA)

PART II - FIXED ROUTE PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICES PROFILE SHEETS
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY (WMATA) METROBUS
<https://www.wmata.com>

Metro

Overview
Metrobus provides more than 400,000 trips each weekday serving 11,500 bus stops in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia. Metrobus is the sixth busiest bus agency in the United States, with a fleet of more than 1,500 buses.

Recent Accomplishments

- Newly updated Metrobus Service Guidelines create a clear and formalized approach to decisions, assist in the provision of more equitable service, improve customer experiences, and align Metrobus with peers locally and nationally.
- First recommendation from the Bus Transformation of Transportation (DOT) project, including the expansion of bus priority lanes (red paint) and advanced priority software with the District, and advanced priority software with the District, and advanced priority software with the District.

System Characteristics
Vehicle Fleet: 2,555 Buses, 319 Routes, 14 Main routes
Service Type: Fixed Route

Provider Data

Figure 3: Percentage of Normal Transit Ridership by Speed Level Compared to Selected Transit Providers (as of December 1, 2020)

Figure 4: Overview of COVID-19 responses by Service Provider in the NCR

Source: SOPTR (Questionnaire and online review of service providers' COVID-19 policies)

Review of the 2020 SOPTR

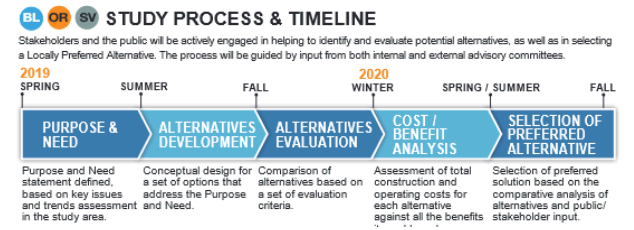
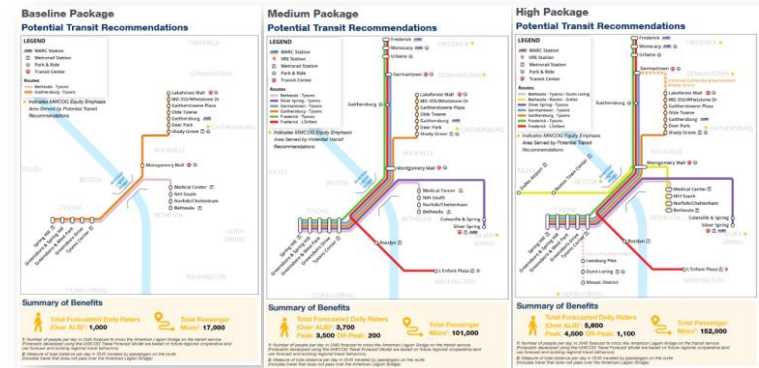
- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic many service providers implemented social distancing measures, reduced service and suspended fare collection
- 10 additional electric buses were procured in the region
- New app improvements like apple/google pay for Metro fares, crowding info & fare capping
- Studies underway continue
 - I-495 American Legion Bridge Transit / TDM Study
 - Blue/Orange/Silver Line Corridor Reliability and Capacity Study

AGENCY	SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS	REDUCED SERVICE	SUSPENDED FARE COLLECTION	OPERATOR BARRIERS	REAR DOOR BOARDING	INCREASED PASSENGER COMMUNICATIONS
WMATA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DASH	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DDOT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CUE	✓		✓		✓	✓
Connector	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Frederick County	✓		✓	✓	✓	
VanGO	✓					
Ride On	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
The Bus	✓	✓	✓		✓	
PRTC	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓**	✓
VRE	✓	✓		N/A		✓
Total	100%	82%	82%	80%	73%	55%

* PRTC has operator barriers on all local buses and is currently testing barriers on commuter buses.

**PRTC's three buses with rear doors allowed rear-door boarding

Source: SOPTR Questionnaire and online review of service providers' COVID-19 policies.



The 2021 SOPTR

The 2021 report will still contain much of the information from the 2020 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 2021 report?

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



Next Steps

- 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 2021 SOPTR
- Provide drafts for input, questions, or comments
- Presentation to TPB Tech
- Final report by June 2022



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