

ZACHARY

PARKER

DC COUNCIL | WARD 5

WMATA's



Proposed
2025 Network

WARD 5 BUS NETWORK ENGAGEMENT MEETING

June 3, 2024
6:00 p.m.
with WMATA
on Zoom

Check out the
Ward 5 Scorecard at ward5.us/busscorecard
And provide public comment to WMATA at wmata.com/initiatives/plans/Better-Bus/





Agenda

6:00 – 6:10 – Introduction (CM Parker's Office)

6:10 – 6:30 – Presentation (WMATA)

6:30 – 6:40 – General Q&A on Proposed Network

6:40 – 7:00 – Feedback on Ward 5 Routes

7:00 – 7:15 – Final Questions and Closing

Background

- In April/May 2023, Councilmember Parker convened the **Ward 5 Bus Network Task Force** to develop and provide feedback to WMATA on their Visionary Draft Network.
- WMATA conducted months of community engagement on the Visionary Draft Network in 2023.
- Using this input, WMATA has now introduced the **Proposed 2025 Bus Network**, a new network that can be implemented right away without additional resources (which would be needed to implement a Visionary Network).
- The Proposed 2025 Bus Network will begin rollout in Summer 2025.

**ZACHARY
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DC COUNCIL | WARD 5



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
SUITE 102
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

ZACHARY PARKER
COUNCILMEMBER, WARD 5

COMMITTEE MEMBER
Facilities and Family Services
Health
Hospital and Health Equity
Housing
Transportation and the Environment

May 25, 2023

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Vice President Davis and Managing Director Cafiero,

Thank you and your team for soliciting community feedback on the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's Draft Visionary Bus Network. I am honored to present and endorse the attached recommendations from a task force of Ward 5 community leaders and residents. These recommendations are based on careful consideration of the Draft Visionary Network as frequent Metrobus riders in Ward 5, and include:

1. Ensure that Rhode Island Avenue has frequent and express service downtown;
2. Ensure the Trinidad community does not lose service comparable to the D8;
3. Introduce bus service to New York Avenue NE between Florida Avenue and Bladensburg Road;
4. Adjust the routing of proposed route [DC103](#) through the Washington Hospital, Children's Hospital, and VA Hospital campus to improve transfers and service to Michigan Avenue residents;
5. Restore service between Fort Lincoln and Colmar Manor;
6. Invest in a bus transfer facility at Fort Lincoln;
7. Reduce unnecessary stops at the Rhode Island Avenue-Brentwood Metro Station for the [DC302](#) and (if introduced) Rhode Island Avenue express service;

The Ward 5 Bus Network Scorecard

So far, Councilmember Parker's office has developed the Ward 5 Bus Network Scorecard. This takes the feedback from the letter sent by the Ward 5 Bus Network Task Force to WMATA last year and compares it to the Proposed 2025 Bus Network.

ZACHARY PARKER
DC COUNCIL | WARD 5


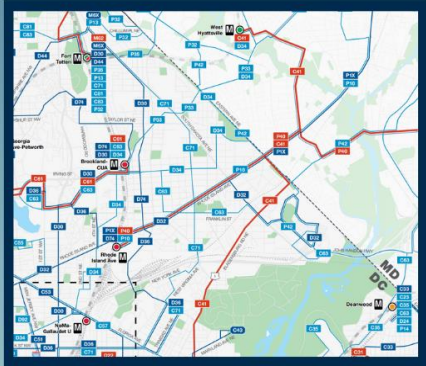
WMATA's **BETTER BUS** Proposed 2025 Network

WARD 5 SCORECARD

In Spring 2023, Councilmember Parker convened the Ward 5 Bus Network Task Force, which developed and provided feedback to WMATA on Phase II of the bus network redesign. Now, WMATA has released the 2025 Proposed Bus Network.

» *How does this new proposal compare to the task force's recommendations?* «

SCORES: GREAT, OKAY, or INCOMPLETE



The Ward 5 Bus Network Scorecard

You can view the full scorecard at ward5.us/busscorecard. Some of what we are most excited to see in the Proposed 2025 Bus Network:

- **Much improved service and access for Fort Lincoln neighbors**, including bringing back bus routes that connect them to Colmar Manor, the Rhode Island Ave-Brentwood Metro Station, and downtown.
- **Maintaining important service for the Trinidad community** comparable to the D8 (last Spring's proposal eliminated this route).
- **Providing bus service downtown along Rhode Island Ave** in the new D32 route.
- **Improving downtown transfers** for faster, smoother bus service across the city.

Next Steps:

Of course, there is more feedback to develop and share with WMATA on the Proposed 2025 Bus Network. That is why we are here tonight. We will continue to gather and elevate neighbors' feedback on this latest proposal. We will also re-convene the Ward 5 Bus Network Task Force to develop another letter of recommendations to send to WMATA.

Some of what is top-of-mind for us at this point...

Next Steps:

Confirm that the new D32 route to downtown along RIA is continuous and frequent.

Celebrate and support proposed D74 service, which would provide a new service along 12th and 10th Streets NE as well as a cross-town connection to Petworth and Columbia Heights.

Engage WMATA on frequency of proposed new C57 service, which provides a new option for residents of Trinidad and Carver Langston to access Union Market, Noma, and U Street NW.

Reiterate significant equity imperative for bus service to be introduced on New York Avenue to serve migrant and shelter populations.

Concern about service reduction proposed on North Capitol Street, which will see 15 minute headways on the proposed D30 route instead of 12 minute headways on the existing 80 route.

Better Bus Network Redesign

Ward 5 Briefing

June 3, 2024

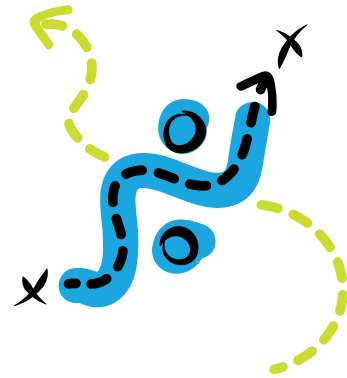


Now is the Time to Redesign the Bus Network

Buses are a major part of the region's transportation network, providing transit service when and where people want to travel and complementing the rail network.



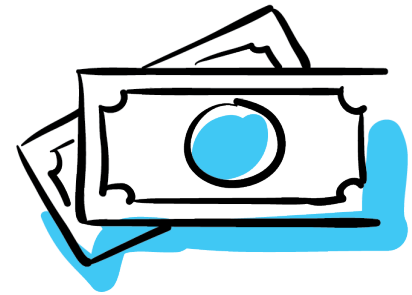
Our region is growing



People's travel patterns are changing

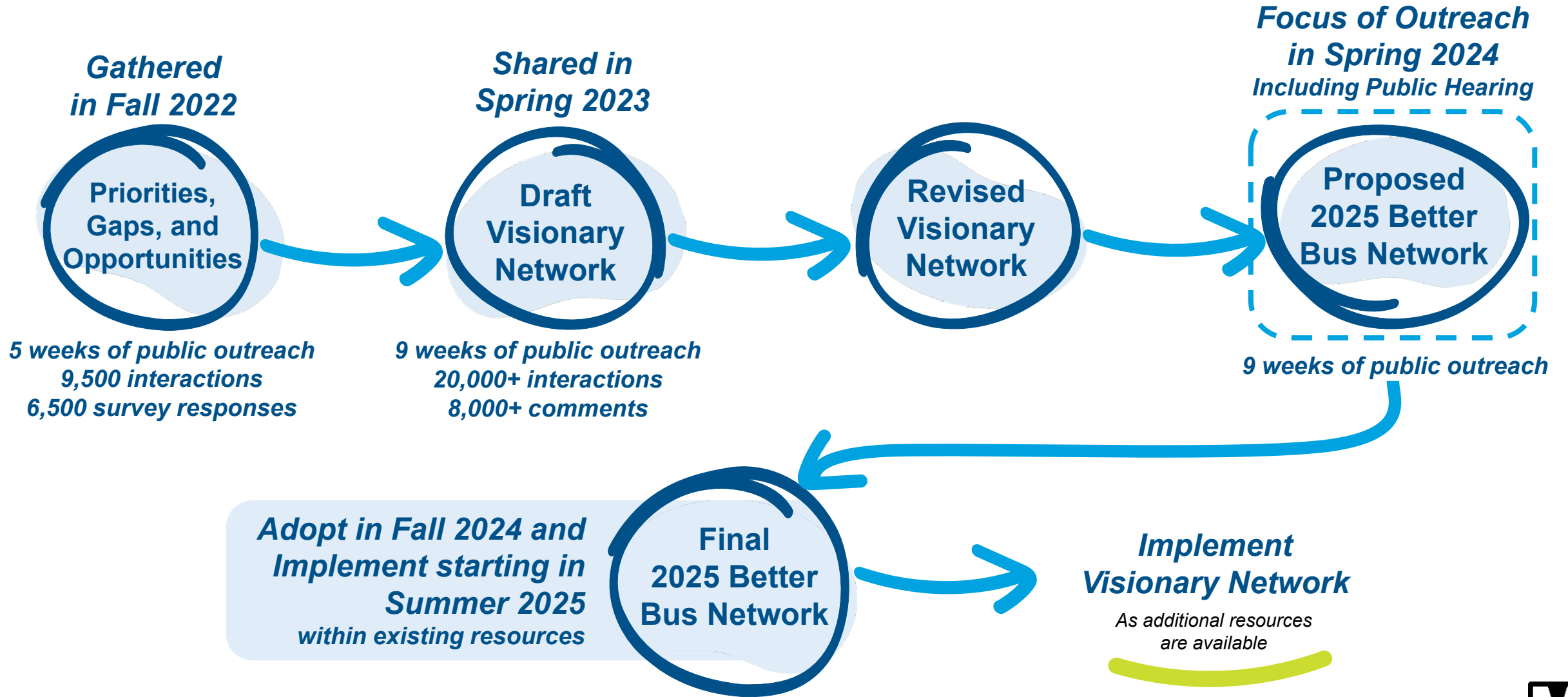


Need to prioritize the customer experience



Need to use limited resources efficiently

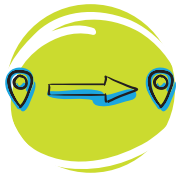
The Region's Input Builds a Better Bus Network



The Proposed 2025 Better Bus Network Attracts More Customers Using the Same Level of Resources



- More frequent all day, all week service, including midday, evening, Saturday, and Sundays

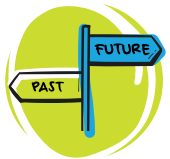


- More connections to job centers, transit stations, hospitals and other places people want to travel



- More convenient and direct service, saving customers time and improving operations

- More reliable service using bus lanes



- New route names making the network more understandable

Could attract
**13,000 more daily
weekday trips** and
avoid **4,300 metric
tons of GHG
emissions** a year



With additional investment, the Visionary Network can improve access, frequency, and convenience and attract many more customers

- Provide at least **30-minute frequency throughout the day for most routes**
- Provide **30 new routes, including more connections between Metrorail branches and emerging activity centers**
- Create a **regionwide 24-hour bus network** including overnight connections to the region's airports
- Create even **more consistent frequent service all day and all week**



Benefits to Customers and the Region from the Visionary Network*

Attract **twice as many new customers** than the proposed 2025 network

Avoid **9,200 metric tons of GHG emissions** annually

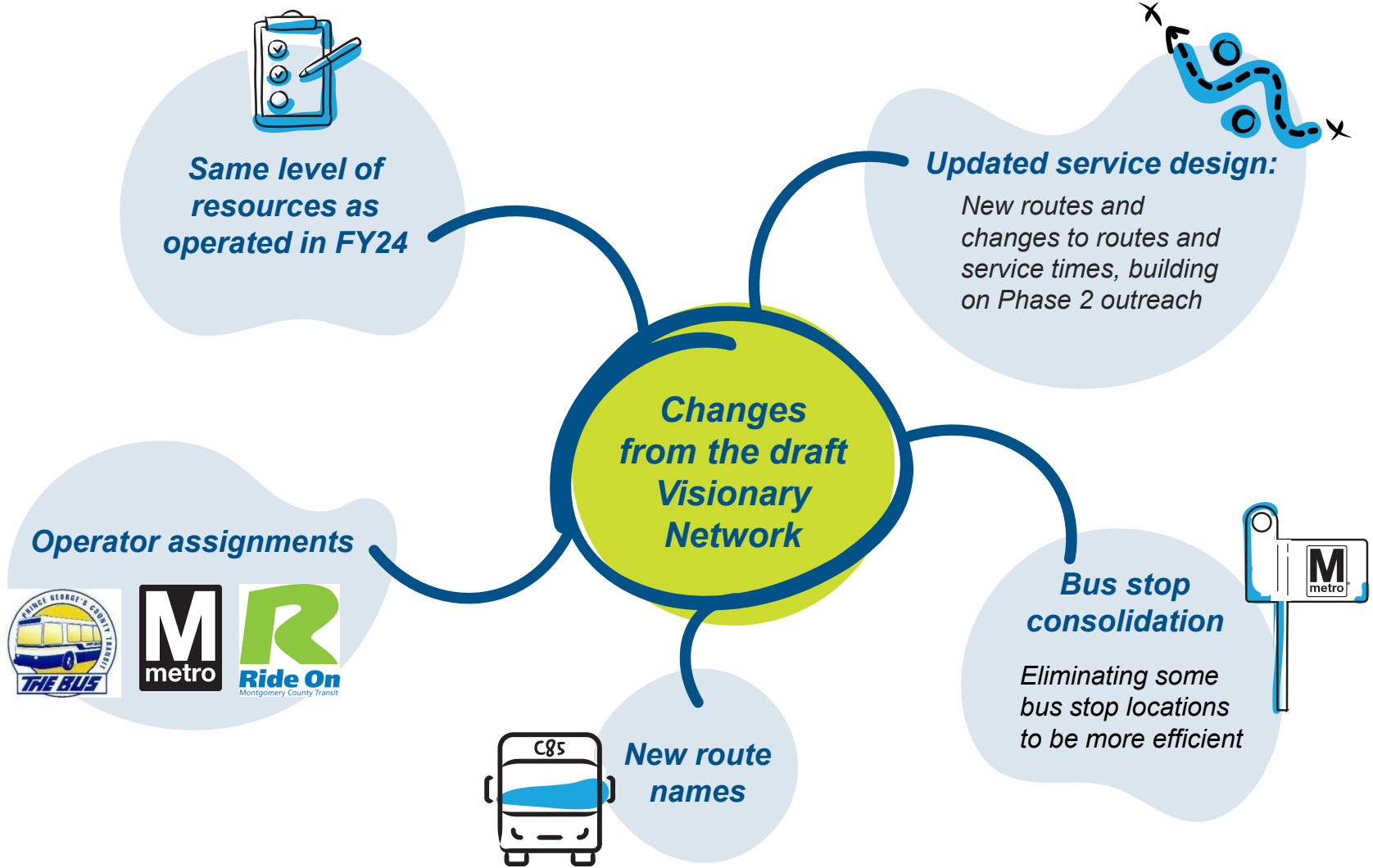
Save **3x more time** on an average weekday for transit customers

Make an **additional 200k weekday trips** convenient to take on transit

Provide **access to 17k more jobs** within 60 mins on transit for residents of the region

*Metrics compared to proposed 2025 Better Bus Network

The Proposed 2025 Better Bus Network Delivers Customer and Operator Improvements



Tradeoffs Are Required to Balance Competing Needs

Only so much can be achieved using currently available resources

Because the Proposed 2025 Better Bus Network prioritized:



Consistent service levels throughout the day and the week



Providing better service in Equity Focus Communities



Making service faster and more direct



It resulted in:



Some areas having less-frequent service during rush periods



Reducing service in areas with low ridership



Some customers will have to travel further to get to a bus stop



The Proposed 2025 Better Bus Network... *Better Connects the Region*

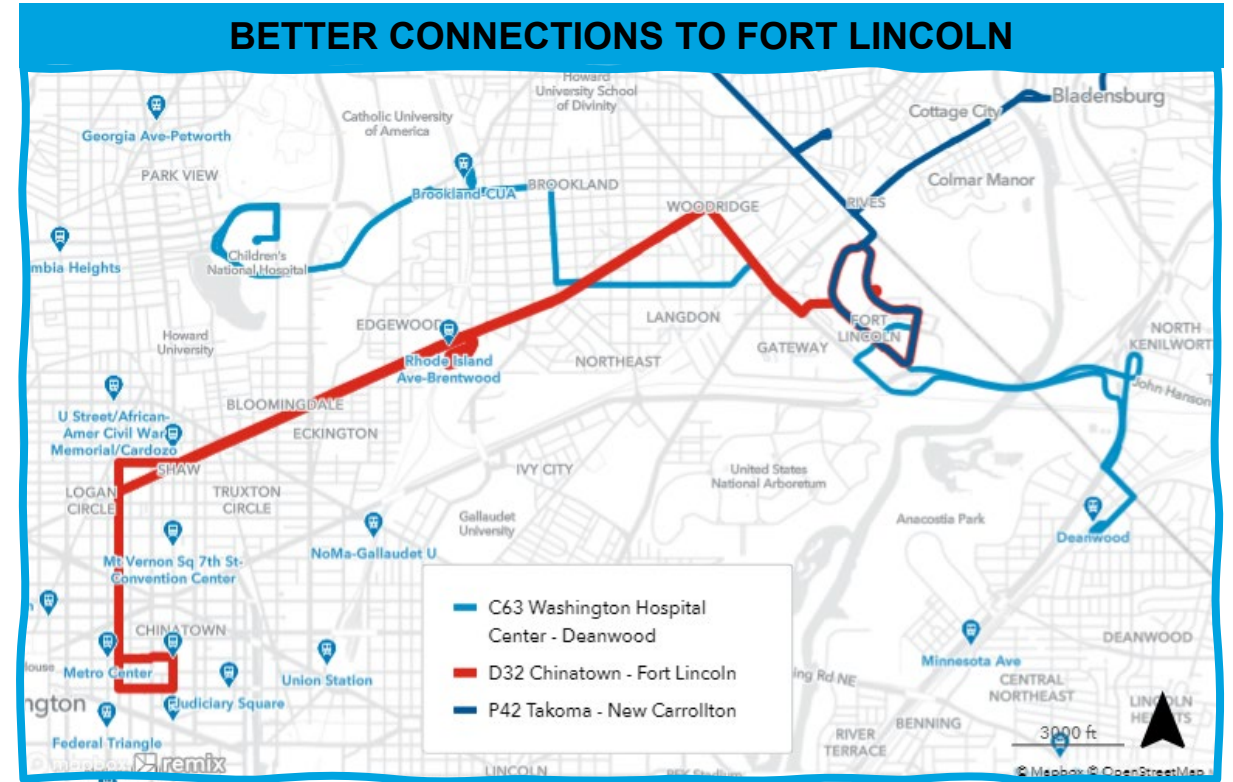
By linking people with jobs, destinations,
and other transit modes



12k more jobs within 60 minutes on transit during the morning rush.

4-6% more bus trips connect destinations between the District, Maryland, and/or Virginia on weekdays

More residents – especially people of color and residents of low-income households – will have **easier access to hospitals, colleges, and grocery stores** at all times of day.



National Harbor





The Proposed 2025 Better Bus Network... *Makes the Bus More Convenient*

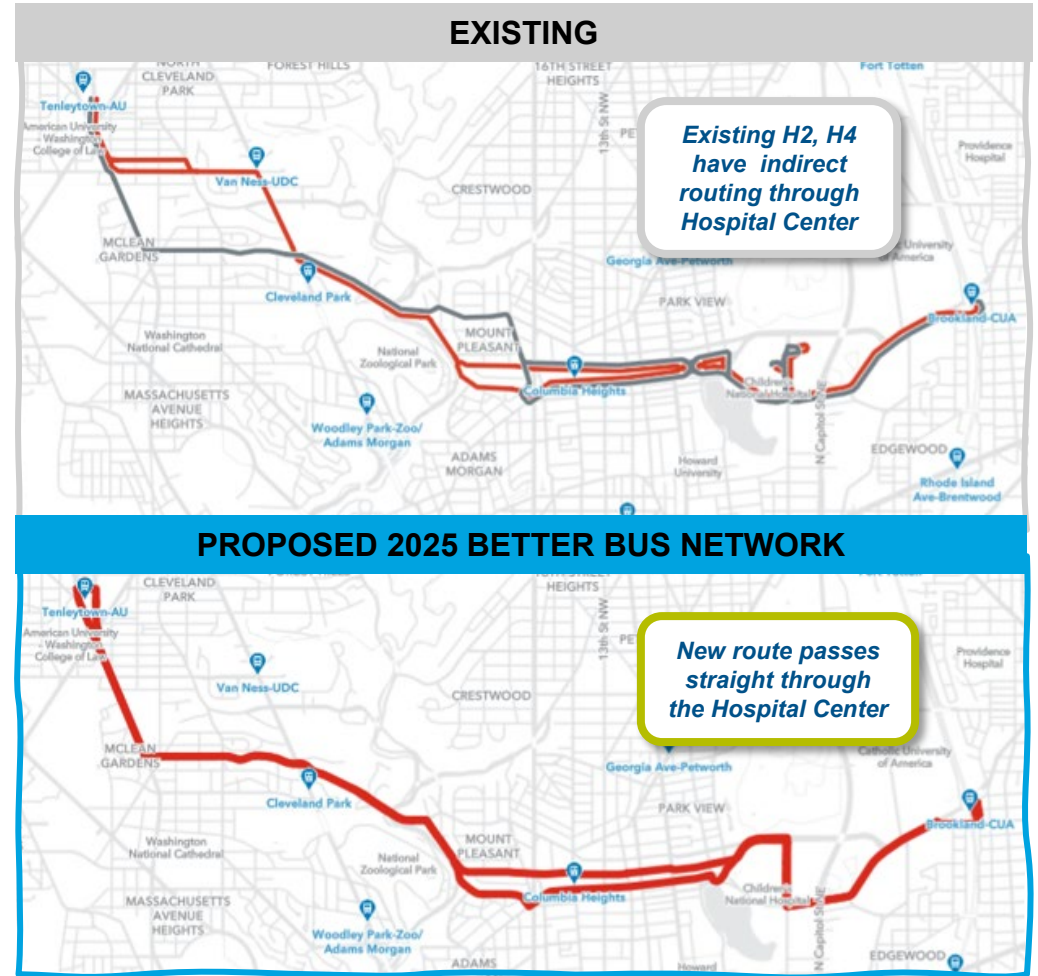
By creating more direct, easier to understand, and more frequent service

Save existing customers 10,000 hours every weekday

Routes are more direct to save time and avoid confusion

More than 140k people will now have access to service that comes at least every 30 minutes midday and weekends, as compared to service that comes less than twice an hour today

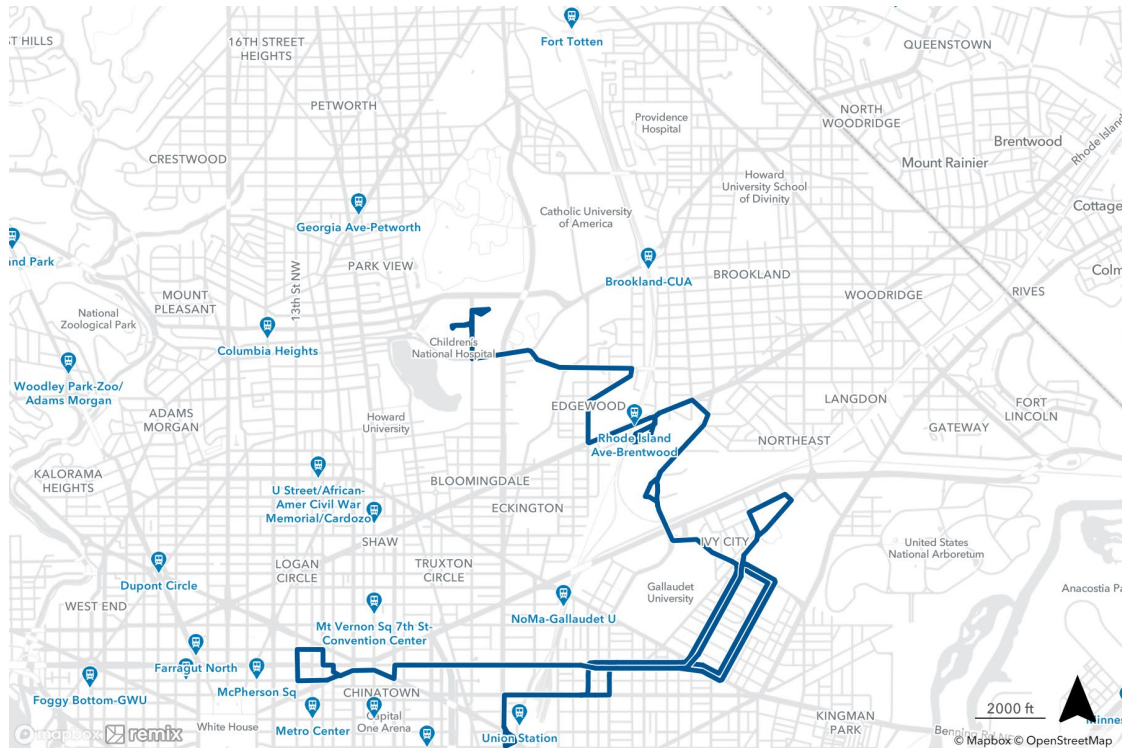
4% more of the trips made in the region will be convenient to take by transit, with biggest improvements during the weekday PM rush and evening





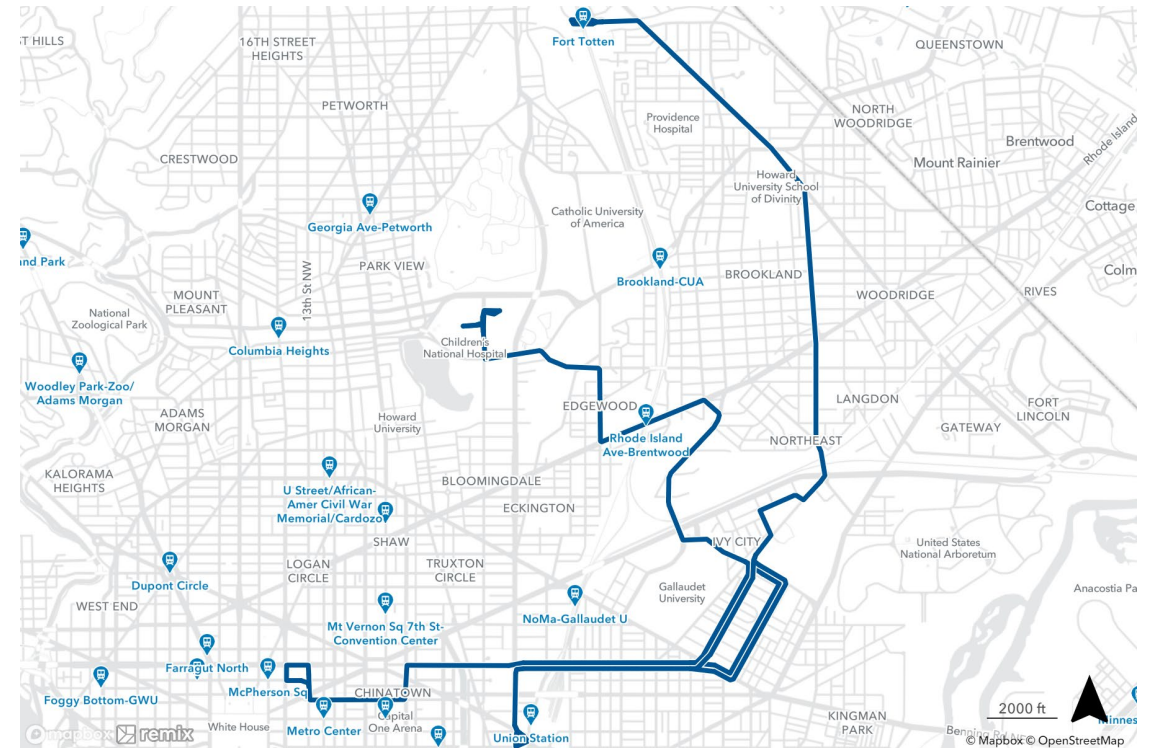
The Proposed 2025 Better Bus Network... *Was Shaped by Your Feedback*

EXISTING



- Trinidad has one-seat rides to Washington Hospital Center, Rhode Island Ave Station, Ivy City, Union Station, and Franklin Square
- In Phase 2, Councilmember Parker, ANC Commissioners, and members of the public requested we maintain existing connections and levels of service in Trinidad

PROPOSED 2025 BETTER BUS NETWORK



- Trinidad has the same one-seat rides with a new connection to Fort Totten.
- Maintained existing level of service in the Proposed 2025 Network with improved level of service in the Revised Visionary Network.



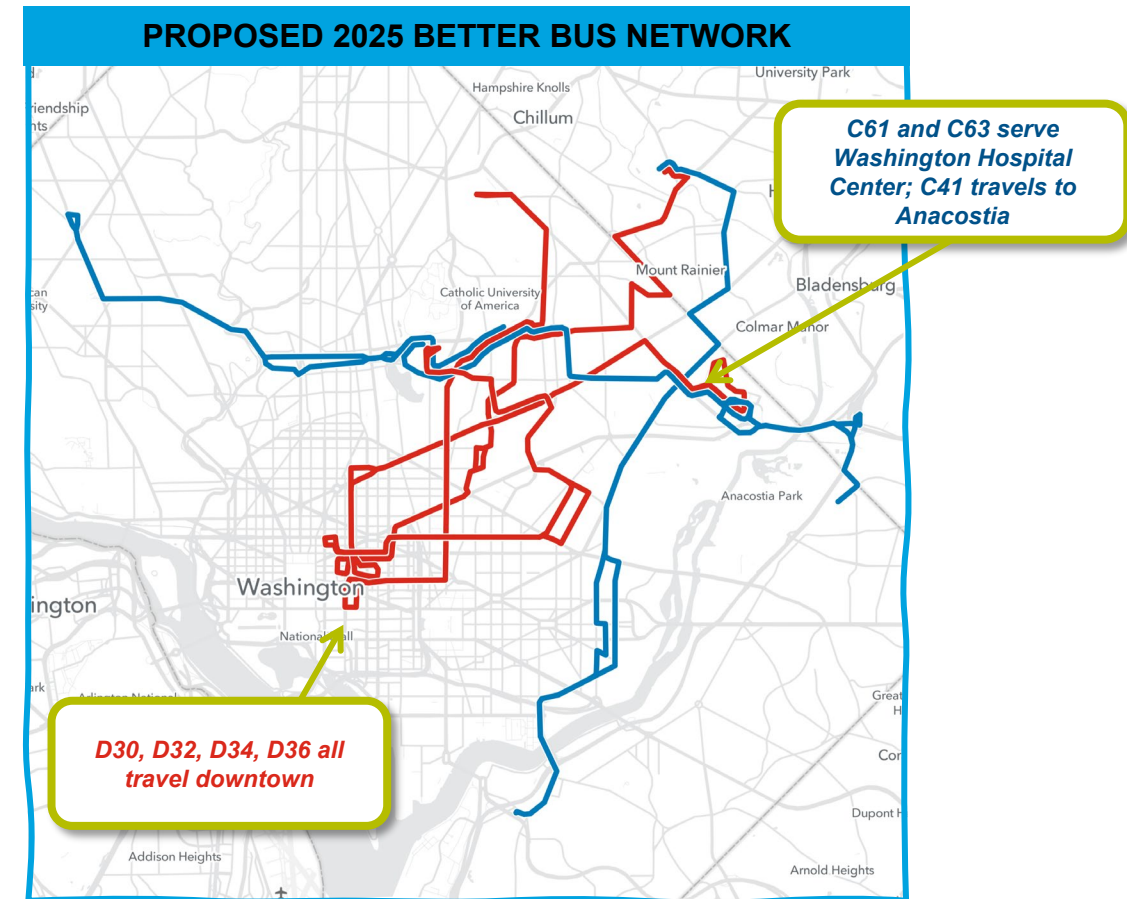


The Proposed 2025 Better Bus Network... *Is More Intuitive and Easier to Understand*

By renaming bus routes to make a more consistent and legible system

Approach to New Route Names:

- First character =
 - **D** (downtown routes) or **C** (crosstown routes) for DC
 - **M** for Montgomery, **P** for Prince George's
 - **A** for Arlington and Alexandria, and **F** for Fairfax County and Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church
- Second character = a number for route's corridor/neighborhood
- Third character = a number to distinguish it from the other routes or an X for limited stop
- Local providers can also apply this approach



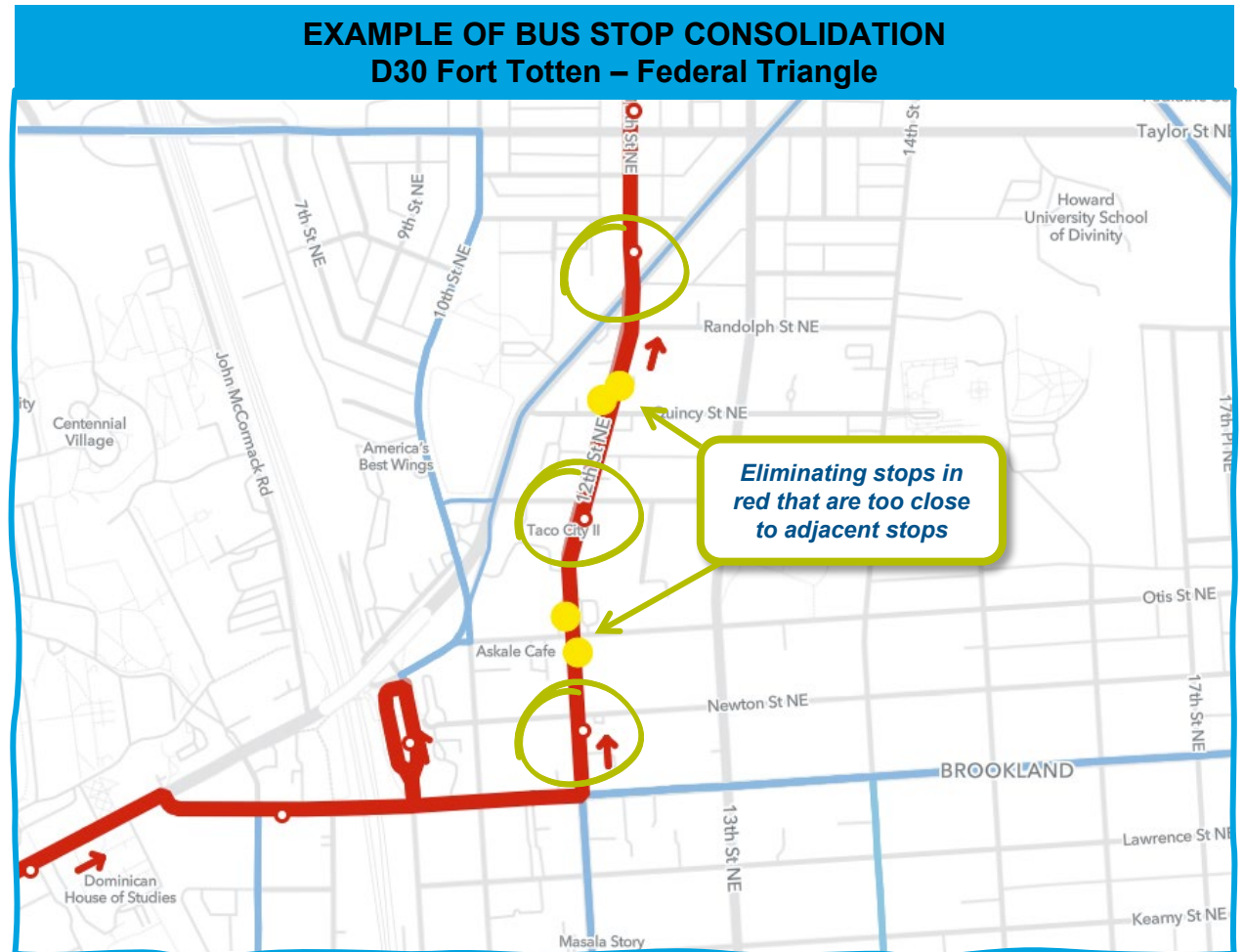
The Proposed 2025 Better Bus Network...

Creates Faster, More Reliable Travel Time

By eliminating some bus stops that are too close together

Eliminate 600+ bus stops (of 9,500 stops Metrobus uses) that:

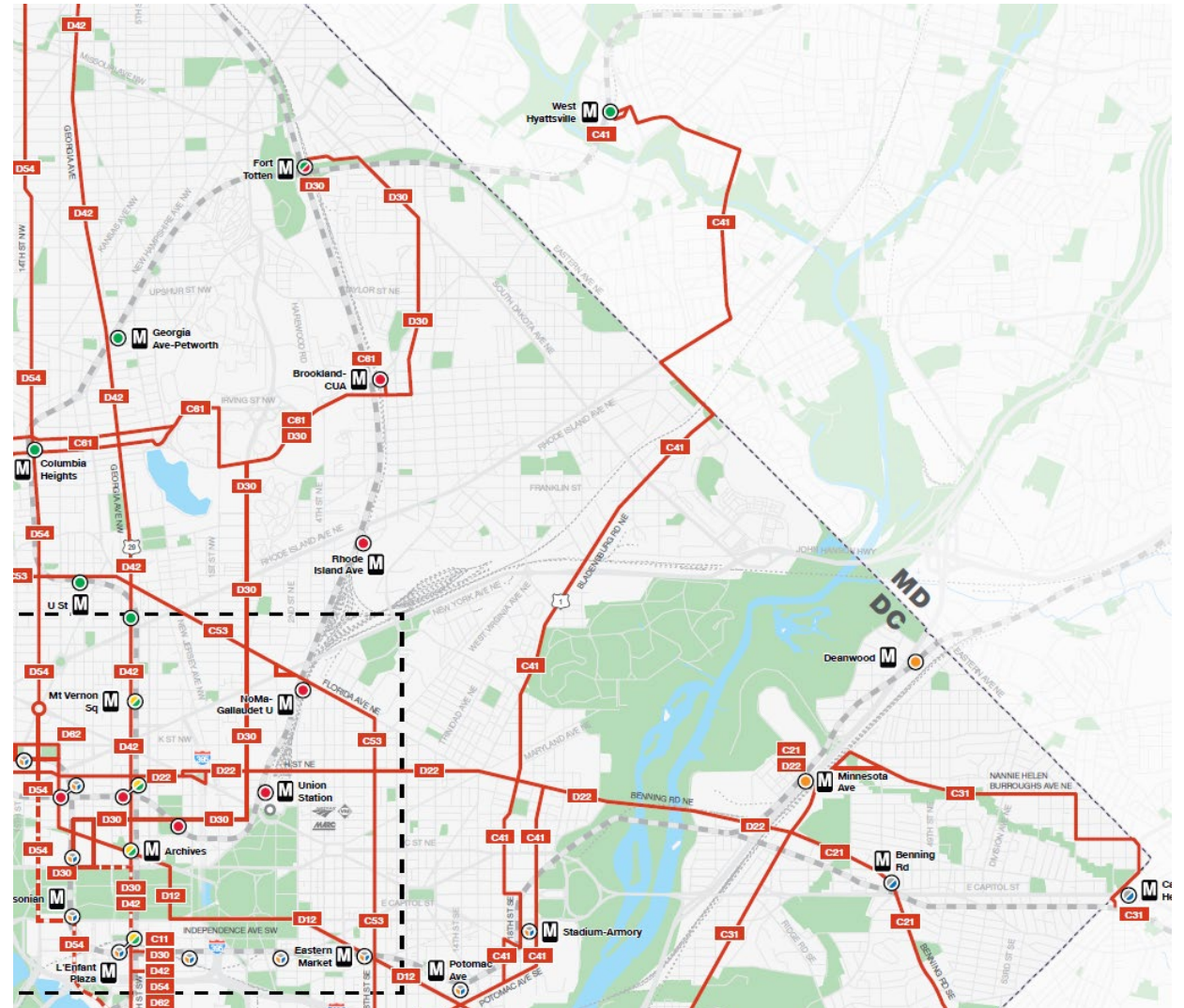
- Are too close to the next stop, based on Metrobus service guidelines
- Have low ridership (boardings and alightings)
- Do not provide safe pedestrian access (sidewalks and crosswalks)



The Proposed 2025 Better Bus Network...

Maintain Existing Overnight Service

- Maintain overnight service on the 13 routes closest to the existing 13 routes with overnight service
- Visionary Network further expands number of routes with overnight service





Questions & Comments



Next Steps



Multiple Opportunities to Provide Feedback

See wmata.com/betterbus for the most current schedule of events



DC Discovery Day



Columbia Heights Educational Campus

Thursday, June 20, 2024
3:00 – 7:00 p.m.

- Interactive “**expo**” to **learn** about **proposed network & provide feedback**
- **Separate** Public Hearing room

Ride-Alongs

- Focus on **high-change routes & areas not reached** by other events

Pop-Ups

- Targets high-change areas, high ridership, equity focus communities

Rhode Island Metro Station

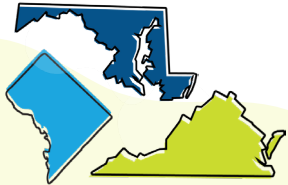
Monday, June 17
3:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Online Opportunities to Explore the Routes

Discover the proposed 2025 Better Bus Network on the Discovery Hub at wmata.com/betterbus



Use the Map Library to Explore the Proposed 2025 Better Bus Network



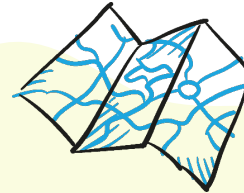
Explore State Maps

Review all routes in the proposed 2025 Network for DC, VA, and MD



Review Route Profiles

Review details for each route in the network



View Neighborhood Profiles

See summaries of proposed changes by geographic area



Learn About New Route Names

Understand how new route names were developed

Online Opportunities to Share Your Input

Discover the proposed 2025 Better Bus Network on the Discovery Hub at wmata.com/betterbus



*Share Your Input on
the Proposed 2025
Better Bus Network*



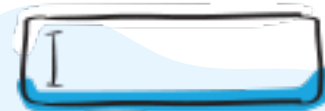
Comment Using An Interactive Map

Leave route-by-route
feedback on an
interactive map



Take a Survey

Tell us what you think
of the proposed 2025
Network



Provide Written Comments

Leave a digital
comment concerning
the network



Upload A Document

Share a document
concerning the
network

Next Stop: Better Bus

- Feedback received from the public and various groups will help us to refine the 2025 Better Bus Network
- Share updated 2025 Network with the Board in fall 2024 for adoption

