



# WMATA Organizational Assessment

Prepared by:  
Gayland Moffat Consulting  
April 2007

# What Moffat Consulting Did

Time and money did not allow an in depth study

- Reviewed current organizational structure
- Identified organizational priorities
- Conducted executive interviews & employee focus groups
- Reviewed customer complaint data
- Base lined WMATA budget and staffing data
- Reviewed funding documents and studies
- Reviewed market and public opinion research
- Reviewed and critiqued current WMATA strategy and tactics

# Findings

## Structure

- Organization has excess administrative and managerial staff
- Organization is divided
  - Structurally
  - Culturally
- Operational resources are strained

# Recommendations

## Package of Savings - Increased Revenues - Costs

- Recommend a package containing the following elements
  - Savings
    - Administrative staff reductions
    - Cost reductions
    - Reallocate service hours of non-productive routes to overcrowded routes
  - Increased Revenues
    - Indexed fare increases in the future
    - Revenue enhancements - parking, advertising etc
  - Costs
    - Achieve and maintain market pay and benefits (ongoing)
    - Implement employee retention strategies
    - Invest in employee training and development
    - Review organizational process/policy and implement a management system

# Structural Change

Successful organizational change will also require:

- Reductions are only one part of the recommended package
- To be successful these savings must be combined with the other recommended:
  - Cost reductions;
  - Additional revenues; and
  - New investments in the organization.

# Potential Savings

\$26 Million

Issue	Annualized Savings
Organizational Structure and reduction of 220 administrative positions	\$22M*
Cut back on Professional and Technical Services	\$4M
Increase Operations staffing to reduce high overtime payments	TBD
Total Net Savings	\$26M
*Note: Actual savings will not be fully realized in the first year due to some positions that will be phased out.	

# Future Considerations

- The emphasis of this study was a macro level look at the WMATA organization. The assessment indicates that an organizational study of each of the specific areas of the organization may prove helpful to WMATA.
- The consultants recommend a deeper analysis in each area of the organization. These analyses should focus on structure, skills, culture, processes, and management styles. These recommended studies would likely result in additional efficiencies and improvements for WMATA.

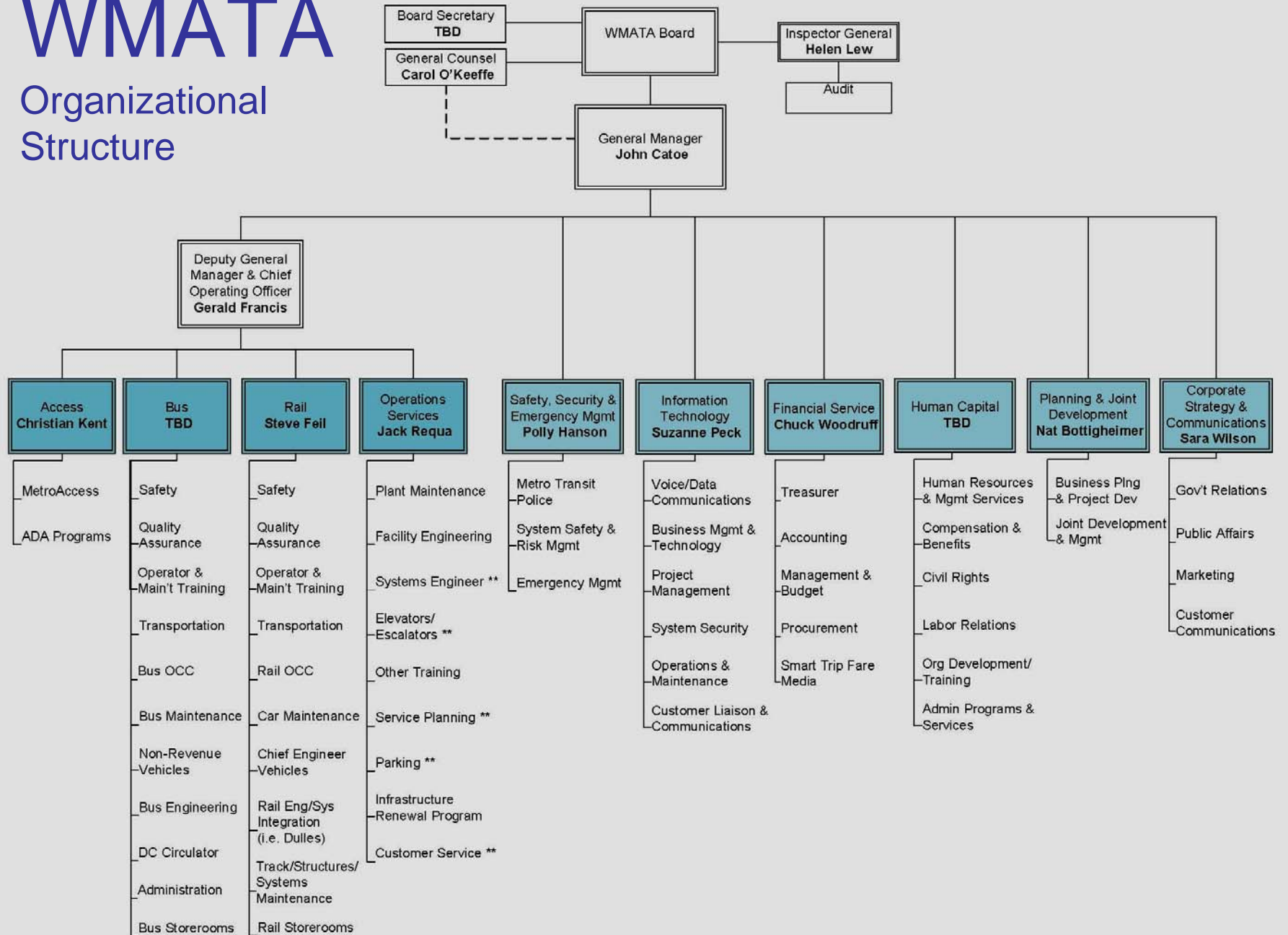
# Organizational Structure

- The following organizational structure is designed to:
  - Re-emphasize the importance of operational functions
  - Reflect the change in WMATA's core business (moving from builder to operator)
  - Focus attention on the WMATA values of safety / security, customer service, operational efficiency, and communications



# WMATA

## Organizational Structure



# Recommendation

## Resolution

- It is recommended that the Board accept the Moffat report recommendations and authorize the General Manager to make any additional changes to take advantage of additional efficiencies and organizational effectiveness in those departments that are direct reports.



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# Disclaimer



Given the need for immediate input on its organization structure and effectiveness, WMATA conducted an expedited procurement process to contract with Gayland Moffat Consulting. This expedited process only allowed for services valued at \$150,000 to be obtained. With the limited size of the contract and short timeframe, it was agreed that Gayland Moffat, Consulting would make initial, preliminary findings and observations about the organization structure and would provide recommendations for additional efforts by internal or external resources. This final report therefore is not a complete and comprehensive review of WMATA organization issues. Rather, it provides some initial observations, general findings, and provides recommendations for future efforts.



# Project Team

## **WMATA Guidance**

- John B. Catoe
- Sara Wilson

## **Consultants**

- Gayland Moffat
- Jerry Benson
- Andrea Burnside

# WMATA

## Organizational Assessment

- What we did
- What we found
- What we recommend
- What it saves





# WMATA Request for Proposal

Perform an organizational assessment,  
recommend a structure and identify potential  
savings.

# What We Did

Time and money did not allow an in depth study

- Reviewed current organizational structure
- Identified organizational priorities
  - Safety / security
  - Service to customers
  - Efficient organization
  - Communications
  - Board of Directors
- Conducted executive interviews
- Conducted focus groups
- Base lined WMATA budget and staffing data
- Reviewed funding documents and studies
- Reviewed customer complaint data



# What We Did

(continued)

- Reviewed Board Minutes
- Developed leadership intervention tactics
- Reviewed and critiqued current WMATA strategy and tactics
- Reviewed WMATA media
- Reviewed safety - related documents
- Reviewed market and public opinion research
- Reviewed Metro Access documents
- Reviewed organizational life cycle

# Organizational Structure

- The following organizational structure is designed to:
  - Re emphasize the importance of operational functions
  - Reflect the change in WMATA's core business (moving from builder to operator)
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# WMATA

## Organizational Structure



The final organization structure will be presented at the Board meeting

# Structural Change

Successful organizational change will also require:

- Reductions are only one part of the recommended package. In order to be successful these savings must be combined with the other recommended cost reductions, additional revenues and new investments in the organization



# Structural Change

Successful organizational change will also require:

- Develop and implement a reduction in force methodology and post reduction healing strategy and plan which includes:
  - Do the reductions correctly, demonstrate proper dignity, respect, and caring for the people leaving. Include communications, outplacement help and financial bridging in the package
  - Develop and implement a plan for the care and reintegration of the survivors

# Structural Change

Successful organizational change will also require:

- Continuous communications
- People involvement / investment
- Culture change



# Structural Change

Successful organizational change will also require:

- Strong new vision, strategy and plans for the new organization
- Process improvement
- Additional resources and resource reallocation

# Organizational Concept

- Staff functions that support operations should be “decentralized / matrixed” to increase accountability to internal customers
- The goal is to incorporate support functions into the business of their internal customers but keep them centralized for technical expertise, consistency and professional development





# Potential Savings

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# Recommendations

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- Recommend a package containing the following elements
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    - Invest in employee training and development
    - Review organizational process/policy and implement a management system

# Findings

## Structure

- Organization has excess administrative and managerial staff
- Organization is divided
  - Structurally
  - Culturally
- Operational resources are strained

# Findings

## Structure

- Organization out of alignment with priorities
  - WMATA's business has changed from building to service provision but - structure has not kept up
- Organizational structure is not able to support internal or external expectations
- Some critical functions are not meeting needs of the organization
- Police are viewed positively internally and externally

# Findings

## Structure

- Some unnecessary functions
- Some functions in the wrong responsibility area
- Some duplications of functions
- Long range transportation planning could be more effective

# Findings

## Structure

- Strong core of dedicated staff
- Insufficient numbers of front line supervisors in operations
- Feelings that new hires are less skilled and under trained when they come to work

# Findings

## Structure

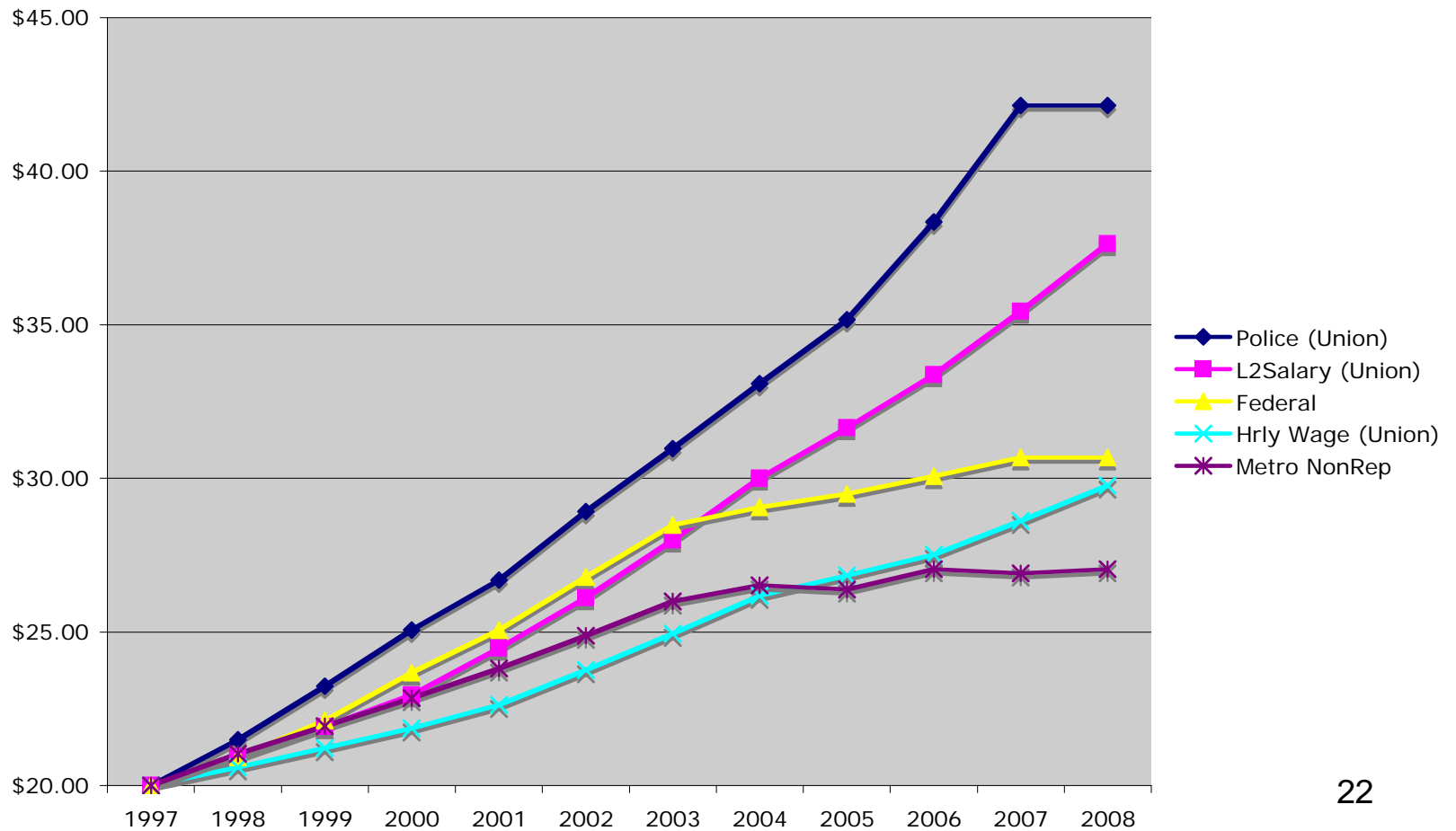


- General sense that represented (Union) employees have received better salary increases than non represented employees
- General sense of wage compression between supervisors and their represented (Union) employees
- 21 percent of WMATA employees are currently eligible for retirement (early or full). A loss of these employees would severely impact WMATA's ability to meet its mission.

# Findings

## Structure

Assume 5 employees each making \$20 per hour in 1997





# Recommendations

## Structure

- Modify organizational structure to reduce silos
- Reduce and reallocate staff resources
- Staff maintenance and operations supervision completely
  - Will require examination and correction of compensation and benefit compression
- Analyze every functional area to find additional opportunities to improve efficiency and reallocate resources

# Recommendations

## Structure

- Understand then decide and manage the service portfolio and mix of services between rail - bus - access - capital programs
- Increased focus on and management of the bus system
- Determine what can be learned from the perceived high performance of the police department

# Recommendations

## Structure

- Regain “Employer of Choice” status
  - Pay - eliminate pay and benefit compression, examine and rebalance fairness internally and with the market
  - Benefits - examine and rebalance fairness internally and with the market
  - Invest in employee development

# Recommendations

## Structure

- Mitigate current retirement risks
  - Develop and implement a program that encourages “retirement eligible” employees to continue to work for WMATA.
  - Aggressively pursue succession and backfilling programs to replace organizational knowledge and critical positions that will be lost due to retirements.

# Findings

## Processes

- Inefficient processes in maintenance and operations
  - There are savings possible in these areas
- More and more maintenance needs to be done - with less and less time to do it
- Processes, programs, policies, procedures, projects and technology are launched without integration

# Findings

## Processes

- Absence of a “Management System”
- Organization at risk due to being non competitive in the labor market pay and benefits
- Inconsistent application of rules and processes

# Recommendations

## Processes

- Conduct a strategic integration of any new process, policy, or technology
- Decide on and implement a Management System (see description on slide #43)
  - ISO
  - TQM
  - SOPs
  - LEAN (Toyota)

# Recommendations

## Processes

- Apply policies, work rules, and processes consistently / fairly.
- Implement a non compliance process
  - When processes and process results are not in compliance with standards
  - Process to identify, track, route, analyze, fix and verify the fix



# Recommendations

## Processes

- Inventory existing policies, rules and SOPs to determine if they are up to date and adequate
- Initiate a program to systematically update and disseminate policies, rules, and SOPs
- Update training, efficiency testing, and training record keeping

# Recommendations

## Processes

- Improve accident incident investigation and resolution process - these determinations will feed the non compliance process
- Improve after action debriefing on major incidents - disseminate findings and actions - these determinations will feed the non compliance process
- Triage all internal and external input before deciding what is assigned for action

# Recommendations

## Processes

- Suspend pay for performance system until you get to internal pay equity and market pay - maintain a performance planning and feedback process
- Design and train employees in decision making to reflect WMATA's values

# Recommendations

## Processes

- Add a Long Range Transportation function and process
- Assign a group of internal and external people to creatively generate new solutions to existing infrastructure problems

# Findings

## Funding / Money

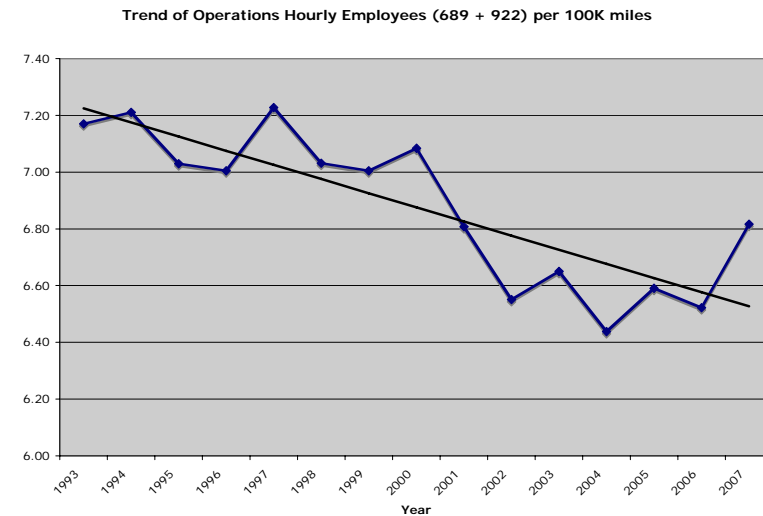
- Satisfaction with fares on bus and rail is over 80%. Fare satisfaction increased on bus and held steady on rail\*.

# Findings

## Funding / Money



- Operations' (Local 689 and Local 922) hourly positions per 100K miles) have trended down over the last 15 years.



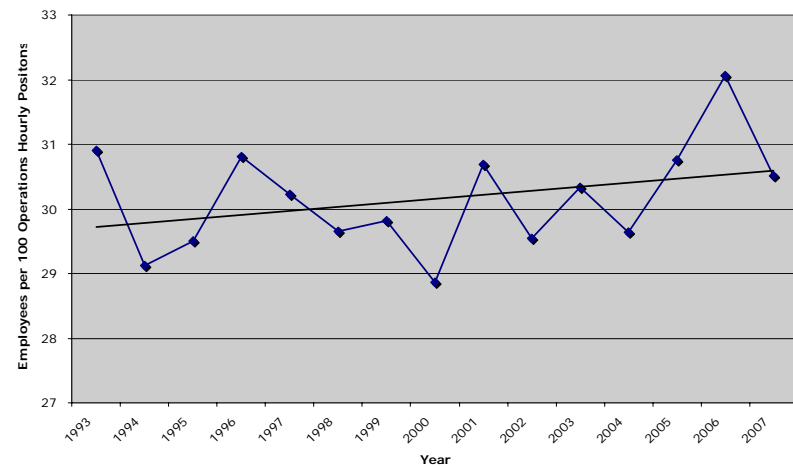
# Findings

## Funding / Money

- Support positions (Non Represented and Local 2) per 100 Operations hourly positions have trended up over the last 15 years



Trend of Support Positions per 100 Operations Hourly Positions  
("Support" = Non Contract + OPEIU - "Operations Hourly" = 689 + 922)

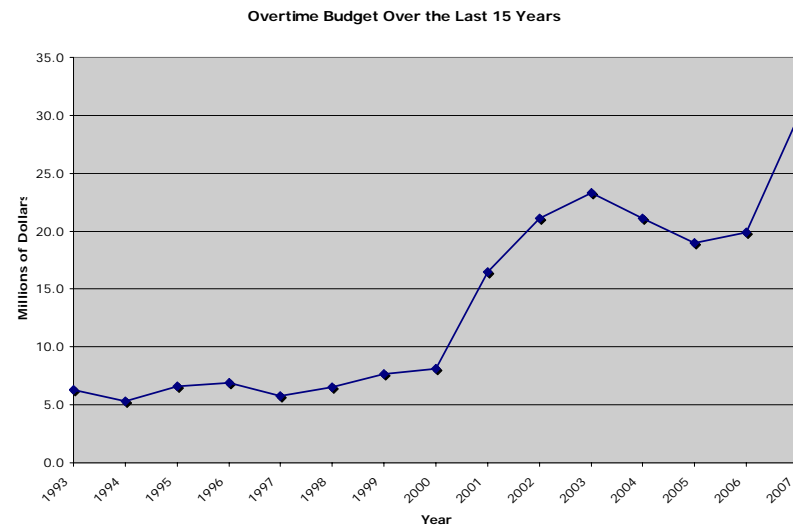


# Findings

## Funding / Money



- Overtime is increasing and may have become institutionalized

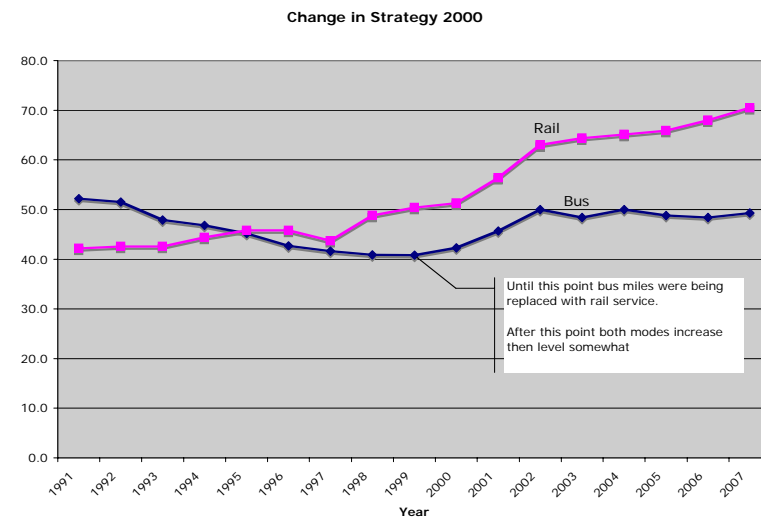




# Findings

## Funding / Money

- Business model appears to have changed in 2000
  - Prior to 2000, bus miles were being reduced as rail miles were added
  - After 2000, bus miles were added in addition to rail miles
  - May have resulted in systemic change to cost structure and service portfolio



# Recommendations

## Funding / Money

- Consider all alternative revenue sources
  - New advertising models (sell impressions vs. space)
- Reduce and then contain growth in staff and support positions.
- Consider creative service delivery models and public private partnerships.

# Recommendations

## Funding / Money

- Study the historical budget and staffing levels to understand and evaluate why the portfolio of services changed and what has happened to staff allocations between operations and support positions
- Determine the appropriate support staffing levels
- Fully staff to reduce overtime
- Understand what drove costs up after the miles leveled out in 2002

# Future Considerations

- The emphasis of this study was a macro level look at the WMATA organization. Our assessment indicates that an organizational study of each of the specific areas of the organization may prove helpful to WMATA.
- The consultants recommend a deeper analysis in each area of the organization. These analyses should focus on structure, skills, culture, processes, and management styles. These recommended studies would likely result in additional efficiencies and improvements for WMATA.

# Management System

- A "Management System" is the framework of processes and procedures used to ensure that an organization fulfills all tasks required to achieve its objectives. The system should include: accountability (an assignment of personal responsibility), improvement objectives, scheduled activities, understanding and control of key processes, measurement of performance relative to objectives, monitoring of process failure points, a mechanism for identifying and correcting nonconformities, management review and creation of an upward spiral of continuous improvement.