



Planning, Development and Real Estate Committee

Board Action Item VII-C

October 16, 2008

**Approval of Priority Corridor Network Report
and Implementation Strategy**

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Board Action/Information Summary

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Action <input type="radio"/> Information	MEAD Number: 100111	Resolution: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
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TITLE:

Approval of Priority Corridor Network Plan

PURPOSE:

Approval of the Metrobus Priority Corridor Network Plan list of corridors and near term schedule for project planning and implementation of Metrobus service adjustments, MetroExtra service additions and coordinated capital investment programs by jurisdictional stakeholders.

DESCRIPTION:

The Metrobus Priority Corridor Network Plan reflects a strategy for improving bus service travel times, reliability, capacity, productivity and system access and is consistent with the Regional Transportation Vision, Regional Bus Study, Core Capacity Study and APTA Peer Review. The included service and capital projects would constitute a six-year implementation program affecting 24 corridors across the region and impacting half of all bus riders in the current Metrobus system.

Staff, working with jurisdictional stakeholders, have prepared comprehensive Corridor Plans to provide for integrated service and capital investments, including new MetroExtra routes and to improve the performance of all routes in the corridors. Implementation will include investments in bus stops, running way enhancements, street operations management and safety and security strategies to reduce travel times and provide more reliable and safe service.

A focus on Priority Corridors will benefit the most riders in the shortest time-frame; improve Metrobus customer service, reliability, quality and performance; build transit markets; and influence development patterns. A defined plan will also facilitate fleet acquisition and address garage capacity issues by establishing a time frame for performance of necessary coordination.

The service zone described by the 24 corridors currently encompasses nearly 750,000 households with 1.8 million residents and 1.6 million jobs. By 2015, this market is anticipated to grow by 14%. The proposal includes 246 line miles of

service and would provide capacity to serve an additional 10 million riders per year.

The Regional Bus Study evaluated corridors throughout the region and identified those with sufficient current or future potential to warrant running way improvements to support faster and more reliable transit services. Corridors with daily transit ridership over 5,000 per day were considered as candidates. Out of 31 corridors studied, a sub-group of 16 were recommended for "Rapid Bus" (MetroExtra) treatment. Since the Regional Bus Study was completed, some of the corridors on the final list have been consolidated while others have been separated to facilitate implementation. Changes in jurisdictional priorities and development patterns have also necessitated a revision of the list to the current recommended 24.

FUNDING IMPACT:

There is no funding impact from accepting recommendations to implement the Priority Corridor Network Plan. Final individual project recommendations will be returned to the Board for consideration prior to implementation. The funding impact will be determined at that time.

RECOMMENDATION:

Accept recommendations for the Priority Corridor Network Plan subject to future Board review and approval prior to implementation of individual service enhancements.



Metrobus Priority Corridor Network and Implementation Schedule

Presented to the Board of Directors:

Planning, Development and Real Estate Committee

October 16, 2008





Purpose

Acceptance of the Metrobus Priority Corridor Network Plan list of corridors and near-term schedule for project planning and implementation.



Pike Ride passengers at Pentagon City



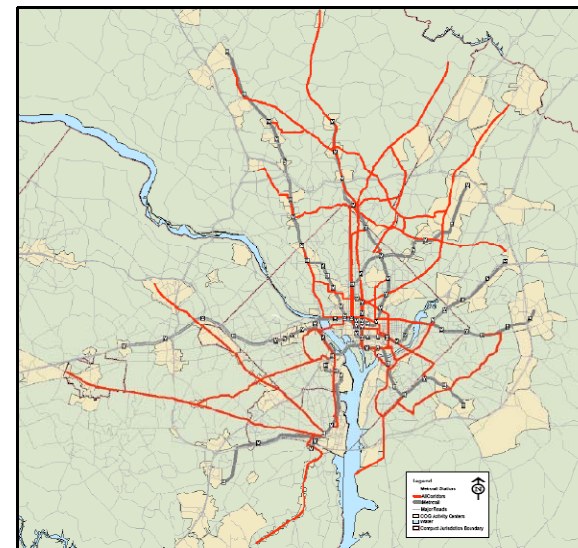
30s Line passenger at Eastern Market



Background

- Staff proposed in May 2008 a process for studying and improving bus service along high-ridership corridors throughout the region
- Board concurred and asked staff to confirm list of corridors and work with jurisdictions regarding sequencing of project implementation.

Priority Corridor Network Implementation Sequence							
Projects	Study/Implementation						
	< 2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Previous	Plan-Implement						
Year 1							
Year 2							
Year 3							
Year 4							
Year 5							





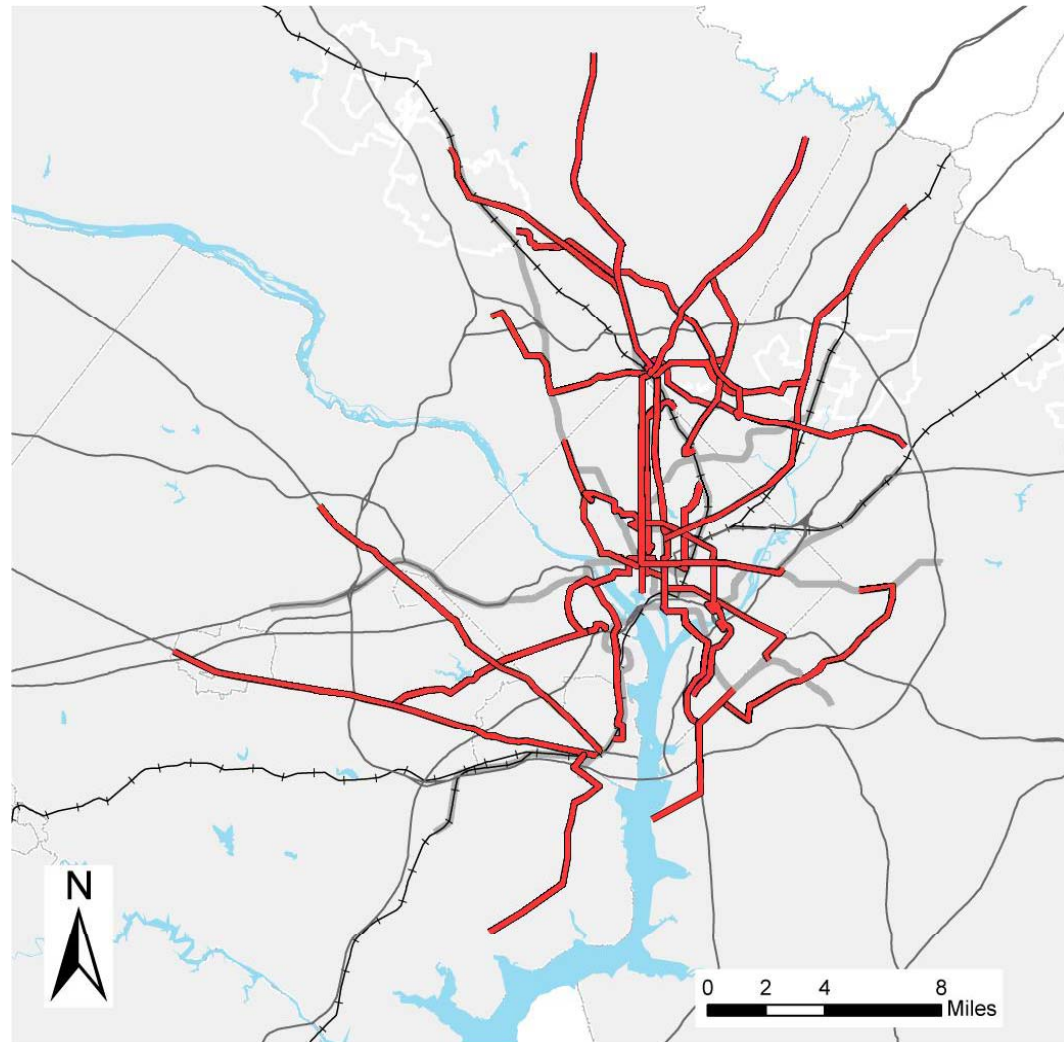
Actions Since May 2008 Presentation

- WMATA Board:
 - Accepted Bus Network Evaluation findings documenting need for 135 Metro Matters expansion buses at June 2008 Board meeting
 - Approved implementation of 30s Line recommendations
- Staff worked with Jurisdictional Coordinating Committee (JCC) to review Plan details:
 - July, August and October 2008 meetings
 - JCC provided comments regarding timing of corridors, funding concerns and identification of additional and emerging corridors
- Staff made presentations seeking input from Transportation Planning Board, Board of Trade, interest groups and local boards and commissions
- List of corridors remains the same, sequencing adjusted slightly to reflect actual dates and local plans, initiatives and priorities.



Metrobus Priority Corridor Network Plan

1. Columbia Pike (Pike Ride)
2. Richmond Highway Express (REX)
3. Georgia Ave./7th St.
4. Crystal City–Potomac Yard
5. Southern Ave. Metro-National Harbor
6. Wisconsin Ave./Pennsylvania Ave.
7. University Blvd./East-West Highway
8. Sixteenth St. (DC)
9. Leesburg Pike
10. Veirs Mill Rd.
11. New Hampshire Ave.
12. H St./Benning Rd.
13. Georgia Ave. (MD)
14. Greenbelt-Twinbrook
15. East-West Highway (Prince George's)
16. Anacostia-Congress Heights
17. Little River Tpke./Duke St.
18. Rhode Island Ave. Metro to Laurel
19. Mass Ave./U St./Florida Ave./8th St./MLK Ave.
20. Rhode Island Ave.
21. Eastover-Addison Rd. Metro
22. Colesville Rd./Columbia Pike - MD US 29
23. Fourteenth St. (DC)
24. North Capitol St.





Near-Term Sequence of Corridors

Corridor	Schedule		
	2009	2010	2011
Sixteenth St. (DC)	Plan/ Implement		
Veirs Mill Rd.	Plan	Implement	
Leesburg Pike	Plan	Implement	
New Hampshire Ave.		Plan	Implement
H St./Benning Rd.		Plan	Implement
Georgia Ave. (MD)		Plan	Implement
Little River Tpke./Duke St.			Plan
East-West Highway (Prince George's)			Plan
Greenbelt-Twinbrook			Plan
Anacostia-Congress Heights			Plan



Recommendation

Accept the Metrobus Priority Corridor Network Plan list of corridors and schedule for near-term planning and implementation.

Note: Adoption of Metrobus Priority Corridor Network is for planning purposes only and does not obligate the Authority or Board to satisfy the plan's projected requirements; therefore, there is no funding impact.



Next Steps

- Present Sixteenth Street Corridor Plan
- Present regional Street Network Plan
- Present 2010 Budget inclusive of recommended operating proposals
- Plan will be updated prior to any bus procurements, facility projects, or service implementation

Sixteenth St. Corridor





Appendix

- Priority Corridor Network Plan
- Requested Emerging Corridors
- Priority Corridor Network Candidate Description



Priority Corridor Network Plan

October 16, 2008

Corridor Description	Line/Route Description	Status	Juris.	Study Year (FY)	Impl. Year (FY)	Average Weekday Ridership	Annual Platform Hours
1 Columbia Pike (Pike Ride)	16ABDEFJ 16GHKW 16L 16Y	I	VA	2002	2003	13,300	99,500
2 Richmond Highway Express (REX)	REX	I	VA	2003	2004	3,700	33,800
3 Crystal City-Potomac Yard	9A 9E 9S	I	VA	2005	2006	3,200	33,400
4 Georgia Ave./7th St. (DC)	70 71 79	I	DC	2006	2007	18,400	99,500
5 Southern Ave. Metro - National Harbor	NH-1	I	MD	2007	2008	900	New
6 University Blvd./East-West Highway	J1 J2 J3 J4	P	MD	2007	2009	7,800	68,000
7 Wisconsin Ave./Pennsylvania Ave.	30 32 34 35 36	I	DC	2008	2009	20,700	162,000
8 Sixteenth St.	S1 S2 S4	P/I	DC	2008	2009	15,000	111,900
9 Leesburg Pike	28AB 28FG 28T	P/I	VA	2009	2009	7,400	52,500
10 Veirs Mill Rd.	Q2	P	MD	2009	2010	10,500	75,400
11 New Hampshire Ave.	K6	P	MD	2010	2011	6,300	40,500
12 H St./Benning Rd.	X2	P	DC	2010	2011	13,700	65,300
13 Georgia Ave. (MD)	Y5 Y7 Y8 Y9	P	MD	2010	2011	7,600	57,600
14 Greenbelt-Twinbrook	C2 C4	P	MD	2011	2012	14,200	99,700
15 East-West Highway (Prince George's)	F4 F6	P	MD	2011	2012	8,300	52,000
16 Anacostia-Congress Heights	A2 6 7 8 42 46 48	P	DC	2011	2012	11,900	77,500
17 Little River Tpke./Duke St.	29KN 29CEGHX	P	VA	2011	2012	3,200	40,800
18 Rhode Island Ave. Metro to Laurel	81 82 83 86 87 88 89 89M	P	MD	2012	2013	6,900	57,500
19 Mass Ave./ U St./ Florida Ave./ 8th St./ MLK Ave.	90 92 93	P	DC	2012	2013	14,700	106,400
20 Rhode Island Ave.	G8	P	DC	2012	2013	3,800	34,200
21 Eastover-Addison Road Metro	P12	P	MD	2013	2014	5,600	44,600
22 Colesville Rd./Columbia Pike - MD US 29	Z2 Z6 Z8 Z9,29 Z11,13	P	MD	2013	2014	10,100	97,100
23 Fourteenth St.	52 53 54	P	DC	2013	2014	15,000	98,200
24 North Capitol St.	80	P	DC	2014	2015	8,600	60,800
Total Priority Corridor Network						230,800	1,668,200



Requested Emerging Corridors

- Corridors for future consideration as Priority Corridor Network candidates.
- Local concept development studies are to be conducted to refine proposals for future consideration before implementation as part of WMATA plan.

Emerging Corridors	Status	Juris.	Study Year (FY)	Impl. Year (FY)
K Street Busway	Plan	DC	2008	TBD
Mn. Ave./Congress Heights/MLK Ave./Southern Ave.	Plan	DC	2009	2010
Kingstowne-Pentagon	Plan	VA	2009	2010
Woodley Park/Irving St./Michigan Ave.	Plan	DC	2010	2011
Military Rd./Missouri Ave.	Plan	DC	2012	2013



Priority Corridor Network Candidates

- Characteristics of recommended corridors
 - Existing high priority Metrobus route
 - High ridership, productivity, frequency, mode share and bus use
 - Long spans of service provided seven days per week
 - Major Arterial TOD corridors with mixed-use development and continuing growth anticipated
- Ridership sufficient to support market-oriented service choices:
 - Local Metrobus
 - Express Metrobus
 - MetroExtra (Rapid Bus)
 - Neighborhood shuttles



Veirs Mill Rd.-Q2 Line





Priority Corridor Network Candidates

- Sufficient benefits to warrant capital program investments
 - Customer facilities
 - Buses and technology
 - Roadway and streetscape improvements
 - Traffic system management



PRESENTED AND ADOPTED:

SUBJECT: METROBUS PRIORITY CORRIDOR NETWORK PLAN

PROPOSED
RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, A Regional Bus Study was conducted with jurisdictional input from 2000-2003 to develop coordinated operating and capital strategies for the region's bus systems; and

WHEREAS, A six-year Capital Improvement Program was prepared for inclusion in the Metro Matters Funding Agreement to provide for Bus Customer Facility projects, replacement of up to 500 buses and expansion of the fleet by an additional 185 buses to meet Metrobus operating and expansion objectives; and

WHEREAS, A Bus Network Evaluation Report was prepared by WMATA staff in FY 2007 and accepted by the Board of Directors in June 2008, validating the need for all 185 standard transit coaches for fleet expansion called for in the Metro Matters Funding Agreement; and

WHEREAS, WMATA staff proposed the Metrobus Priority Corridor Network Plan in May 2008, to guide and prioritize staff efforts over a six-year period to evaluate and improve bus services and coordinate capital projects and fleet expansion to the benefit of half of the Metrobus system ridership; and

WHEREAS, The Metrobus Priority Corridor Network Plan represents a comprehensive strategy for improving customer experiences, bus service quality, safety, travel times, reliability, capacity, productivity and system access throughout the region structured around high-ridership corridors throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, The Metrobus Priority Corridor Network also represents the cornerstone for organizational, management and technological innovations to improve Metrobus services and re-establish bus as a mode of choice throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, The Metrobus Priority Corridor Network Plan dated October 16, 2008, documents the final list forming and this critical backbone of bus transit service in the region; and

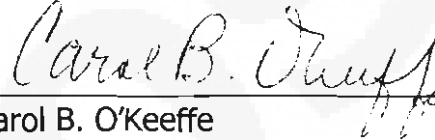
WHEREAS, The adoption of the Metrobus Priority Corridor Network Plan is for planning purposes only and does not obligate WMATA to the Plan's projected requirements; and

WHEREAS, The Metrobus Priority Corridor Network Plan will be updated on an annual basis to reflect completed projects and changes in project readiness and regional priorities and prior to any corridor-related bus procurements, facility projects or service implementation; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors accept the Metrobus Priority Corridor Network Plan list of corridors and schedule for near-term planning and implementation dated October 16, 2008; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That this Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,



Carol B. O'Keeffe
General Counsel