

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
---	------------------------	--

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.

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