

# Better Bus Network Redesign

Arlington Transit Advisory Committee Meeting

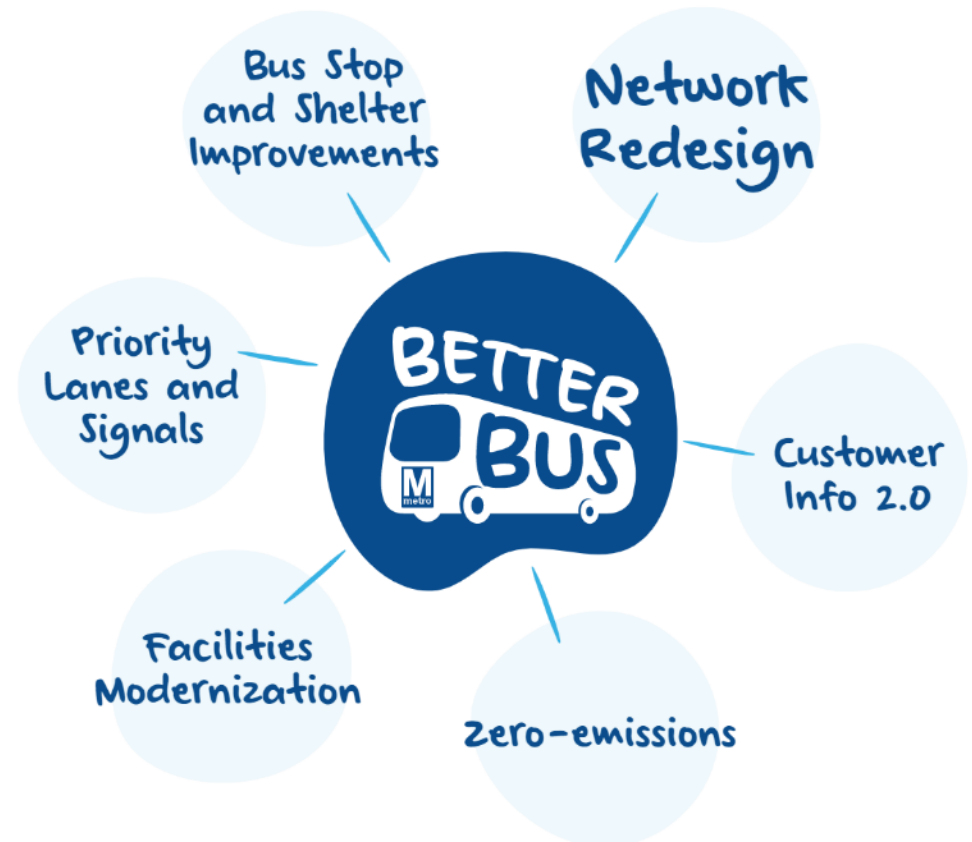
May 9, 2023





# What is the Better Bus Network Redesign?

- The Network Redesign is a project to rethink, redesign, and revitalize bus service
- Part of the Better Bus Initiative – which includes many ongoing and future efforts to improve bus service



# Why Redesign the Bus Network?



**To better connect people to where they need to go**



**To promote equity, inclusiveness, and access to opportunity**



**To keep up with our evolving region and the people that live here**



**To create an easy-to-use network, no matter where you are**



# Better Bus Network Redesign Roadmap

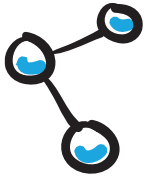




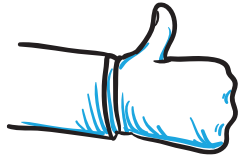
# Highlights from the Visionary Network



# The Draft Visionary Network Could Deliver...



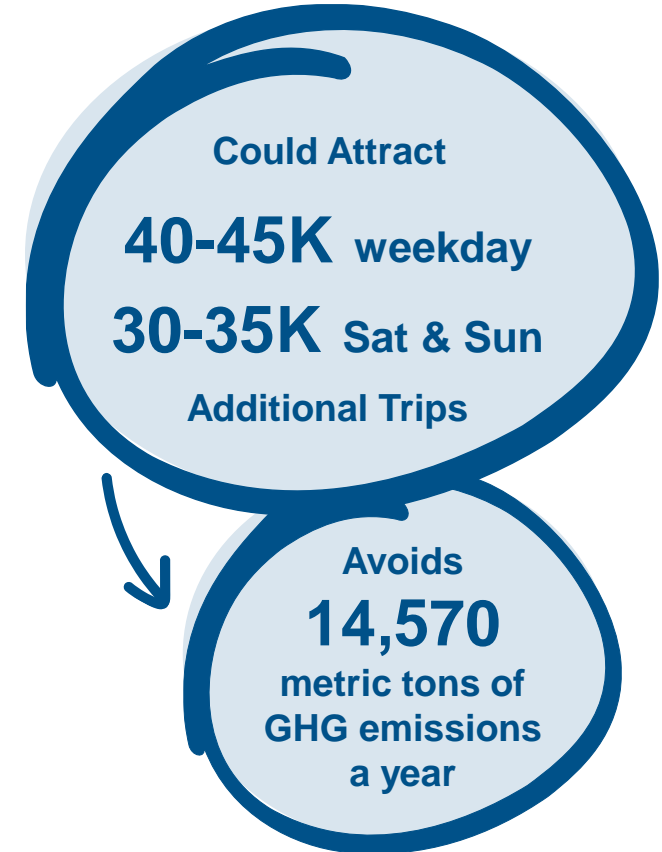
**Regional Connectivity** – Matches when and where people want to travel



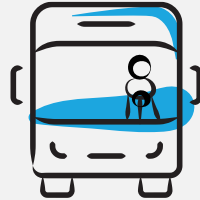
**Quality Customer and Operator Experience** – Provides fast, frequent, and reliable service



**Equity** – Addresses inequities and increases access to opportunity for disenfranchised communities



# The Bus Network the Region Needs



Expanded Frequent  
Service Network



More service all  
day/all week

## *Draft Visionary Network Essentials*

All non-commuter service should  
operate **seven days/week**  
across the region

All service should operate  
as frequently as possible and  
**at least every 30 minutes**

Regional **24-hour network**  
to key job and nightlife areas

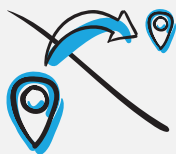
# The Bus Network the Region Needs



Increased crosstown and cross-county connections



Connect key destinations, including transit hubs, with direct, frequent routes



Extending service beyond jurisdictional borders

## Examples of Potential New Connections

Connect existing and future rail lines



New 24-hour route connecting Bethesda and Tysons

Connect to transit hubs



Extend Farragut – Georgetown – Arlington service to Seven Corners Transit Center

Connect to hospitals, schools and employment



New Inova Alexandria Hospital hub  
More connections to George Mason University

Connect around the clock



Dulles International Airport after Metrorail closes



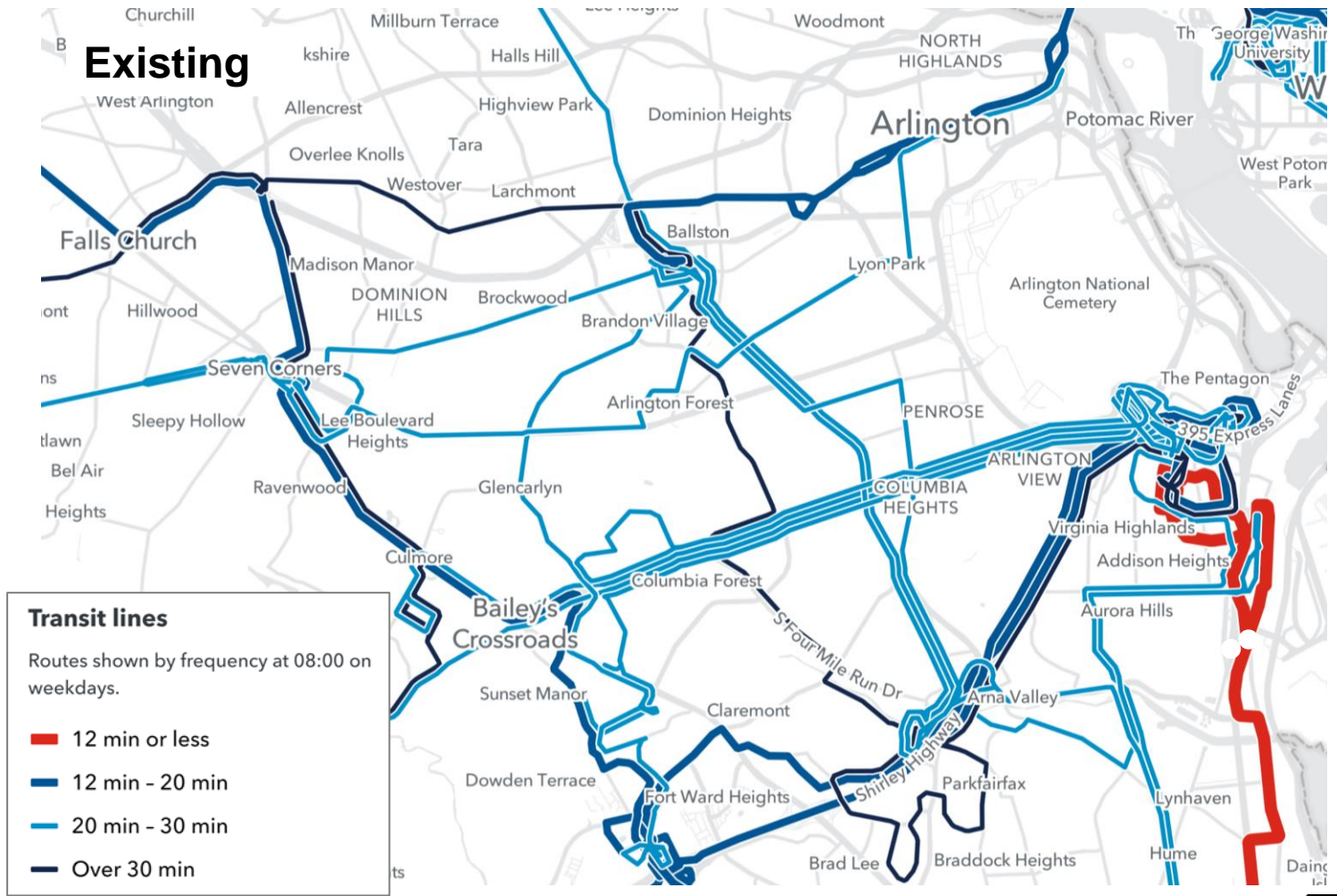
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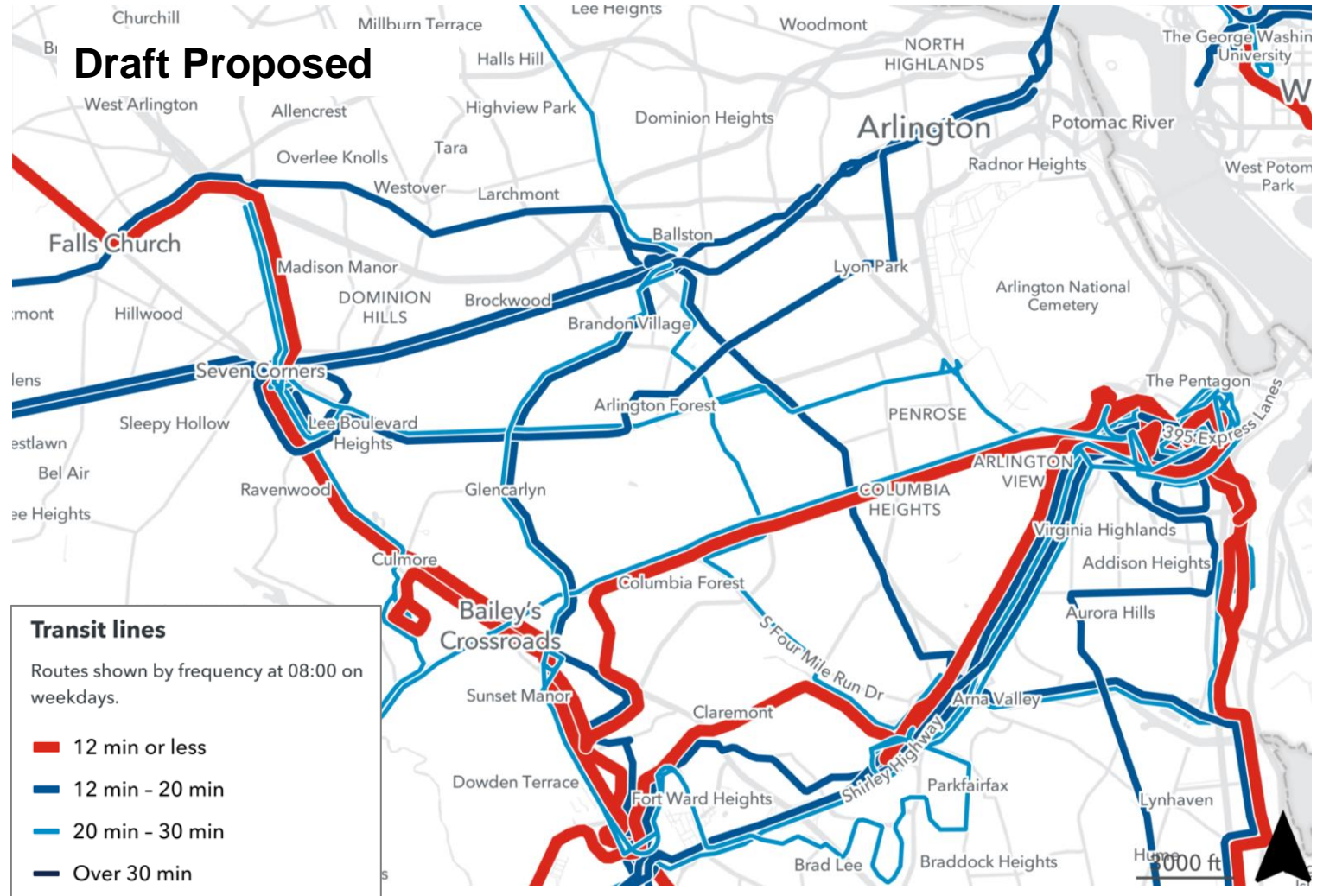
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# The Visionary Network... Improves the Customer Experience

By providing convenient transit options for more of the trips people make

- **Faster average trips** for current bus customers
- 10% more transit trips that could take 30 mins or less
- 20% more trips in the region could be made conveniently by transit

Improvements will save bus customers almost  
**20,000**  
hours every weekday!

Note: Convenient Transit Trips are defined as those that take less than 3 times as long as the same trip would take in a car. These types of trips have been shown to have a higher level of transit usage than other trips.



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# Draft Visionary Network Considerations



**Data and public, bus operations, jurisdiction partner input** formed the basis for the draft Visionary Network



Implementing the draft Visionary Network will require a **35 percent increase in funding for bus in the region**



Network does not specify which **operator will operate the service** nor have we yet specified stops or stopping patterns



**Temporary bus route numbers** to accommodate new routes and changes to existing routes



# Engagement Approach

# How Will We Be Engaging the Public?



We're reaching a wide variety of customers in a wide variety of ways at a wide variety of events!  
Customers will find the Better Bus blue-shirt teams...



...surveying on buses



...hearing from youth audiences

We're hosting  
50 events in 50 days  
to celebrate  
50  
Years  
of Metrobus!



## RECENT EVENTS



Wednesday, May 10 – 3:00 – 7:00  
p.m.  
@ Arlington Central Library  
1015 N Quincy St, Arlington, VA 22201



...informing virtually at webinars in each jurisdiction

MD

VA

DC

...chatting at pop-ups

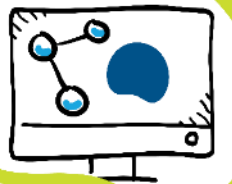


...engaging with community-based organizations



...listening at community workshops

Those who can't make it to our events can visit [wmata.com/betterbus](http://wmata.com/betterbus) to explore the new network and provide feedback virtually...



# Better Bus Virtual Experience LAB



Experience the Visionary Network Online!



**New Trip Planner**  
Compare your trip on the current network to the Visionary Network



Starting Point

Destination

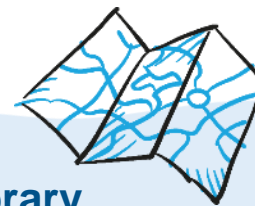
**Survey**  
Tell us what you think of the Visionary Network and what it means to you



**Comment on Your Route**  
Leave route-by-route feedback on an interactive map



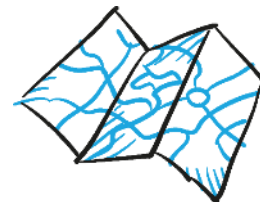
**Map Library**  
Explore an atlas of maps of the Visionary Network, including route profiles





# Network Built in Coordination with Jurisdictional Partners

- Recurring meeting with the project's Technical Committee since project kick-off
  - To get early input and ensure collaboration with jurisdictional partner throughout the project
- Network design informed by two rounds of all-day jurisdictional coordination workshops
- Visionary Network build on partners' existing and planned service



Jurisdictional Coordination Workshops

# Next Stop: Better Bus

- Continue engaging customers, future customers, elected officials, and other audiences on the draft Visionary Network
- Refine draft Visionary Network using information and comments received from this outreach period (Ends June 5, 2023)

