

# 2024 STATE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION REPORT UPDATE

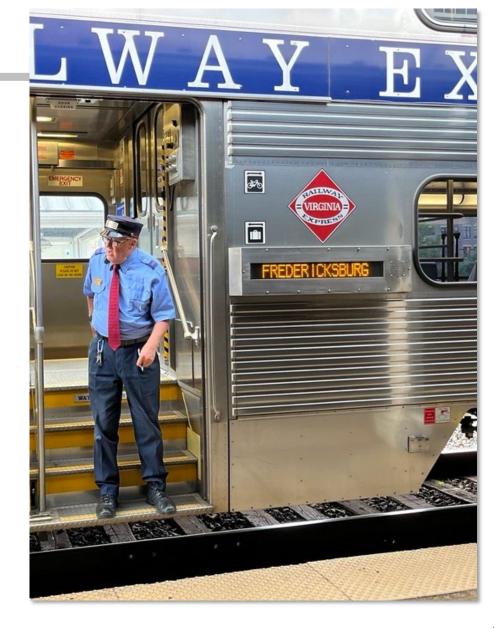
Pierre Gaunaurd
TPB Transportation Planner

TPB Technical Committee July 2, 2025



# Agenda

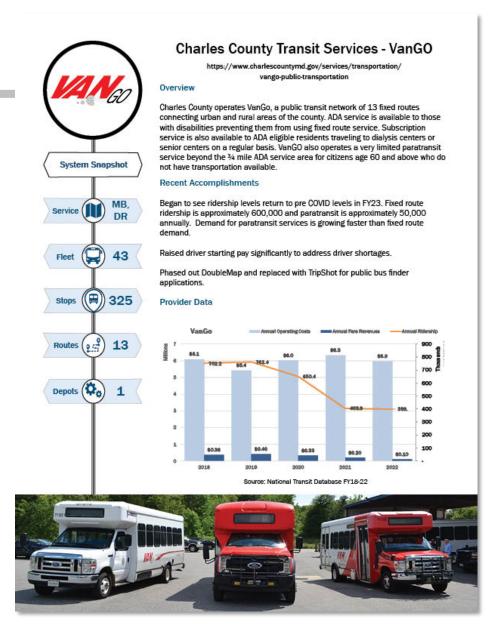
- Purpose of the 2024 State of Public Transportation (SOPT) report
- Data and Information Collection Methods
- Report Format
- National Capital Region Summary Transit Statistics
- Transit Agency Activities from CY2024
- Next Steps





# Purpose of the 2024 SOPT

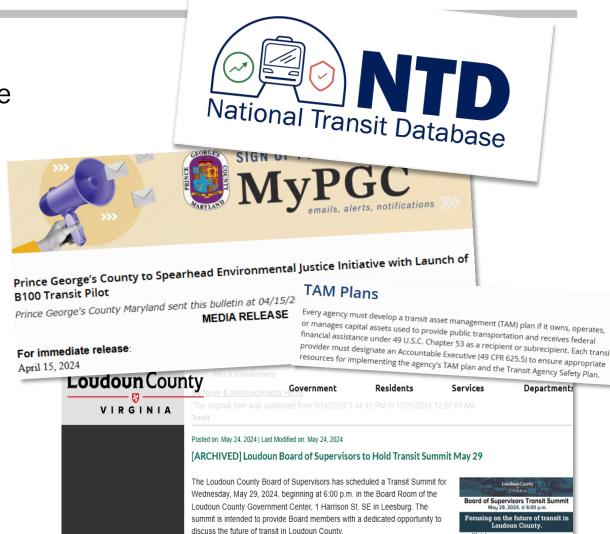
- Snapshot of public transportation operations in the National Capital Region (NCR) during a given year
- Highlights agency accomplishments, challenges, planning, and other activities
- Provides readers a deeper understanding of the broad network of transit services available in the NCR
- Serves as a means of incorporating public transportation interests into the metropolitan planning process





# Methodology

- Relies on transit ridership and financial data taken from the 2023 records of the National Transit Database, published in October 2024
- Other data and content comes from:
  - Agency Questionnaires
  - Budget and Annual reports
  - TPB RPTS presentations
  - Open-source research
  - DMVMoves data and more...





# **Report Format**

### **Part I: Summary**

 General summary of the state of public transportation operations of the various jurisdictions and transit agencies operating in the National Capital Region (NCR) in 2024

### **Part II: Transit Agency Profiles**

 Profile sheets provide overview of ridership, operational expenses, revenue sources, recent accomplishments and system characteristics, focusing on agencies offering fixedroute services

### Part III: Other Public Transit Services

 Overview of additional transit services such as microtransit, paratransit, and commuter services and their recent accomplishments

# Part IV: Regional Public Transportation Organizations

 Information on other public/non-profit organizations in the NCR that provide research, project development, funding or have other involvement in public transportation

### Part V: Public Transportation Activities in 2024

 Major studies planned, in progress or completed and significant operational achievements and challenges occurring during 2024, organized by service provider

### **Part VI: Transportation Planning Board Activities**

 Overview of how the TPB assists with regional public transportation including RPTS, PBPP and Visualize 2050





### **Preview: Part I – Summary**

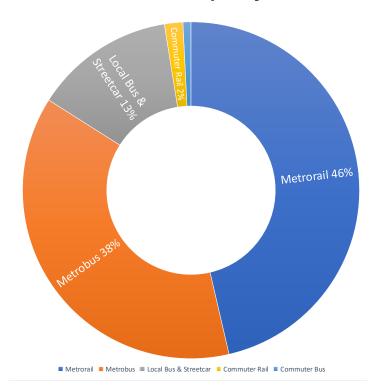
- 14 local and regional bus transit operators through Dec. 2024 (incl. RTA of Central MD and Virginia Regional Transit)
- 4 Microtransit Services (3 as of August 2024)
- 3 Commuter Bus Operators
- 2 Commuter Rail Operators
- 1 Streetcar System
- 1 Heavy Rail System
- Multiple Paratransit Services
- Bus transit continues to be the primary means of public transportation but at a smaller margin than recent years



# 2023 NTD Ridership Data for the NCR

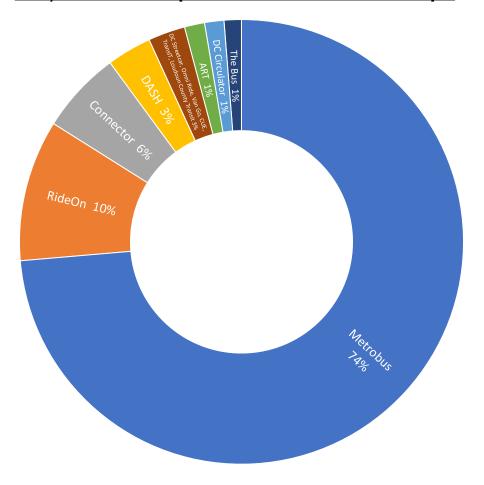
Over **273 MILLION TOTAL TRANSIT TRIPS** in 2023, appx. **144% more** vs. 2021

### **Share of Total Trips By Mode**



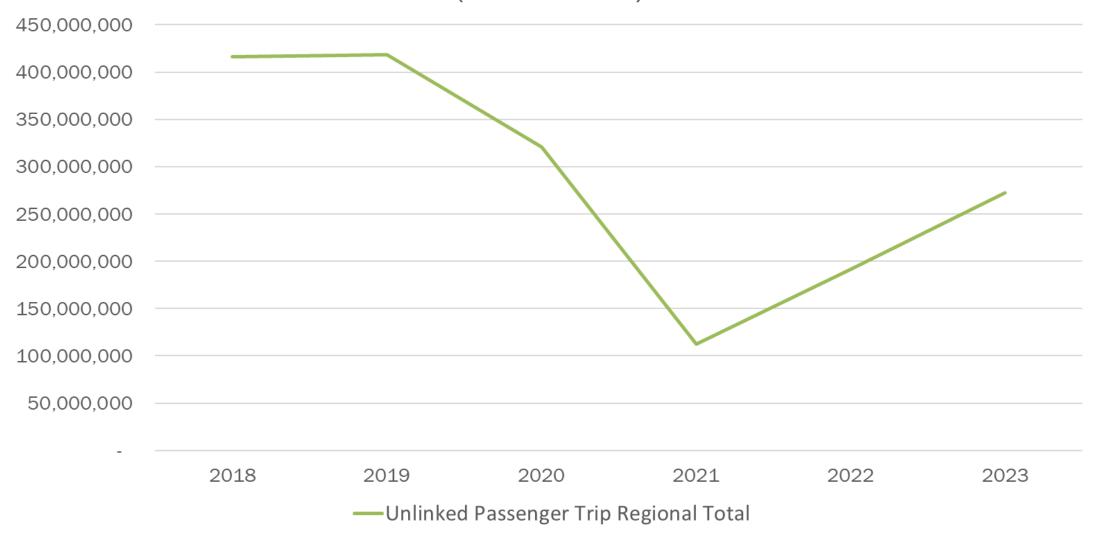
51% of trips in the region occurred by LOCAL BUS or STREETCAR.

### **Bus/Streetcar Operator Share of Total Trips**





# Total Unlinked Passenger Trips in the NCR (Across Modes)





# 2024 Bus Service Assets in the NCR - (Appx.) Draft

### **Regional Bus Fleet Totals**

(Local Fixed-Route & Commuter)



3,067

Non-WMATA

1,639

# Regional Bus Stop and Route Totals (WMATA-only)

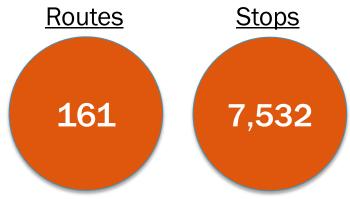


9,374

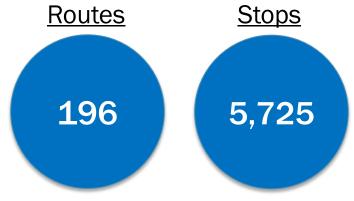


179

**Maryland Local Operator Totals** 



Virginia Local Operator Totals





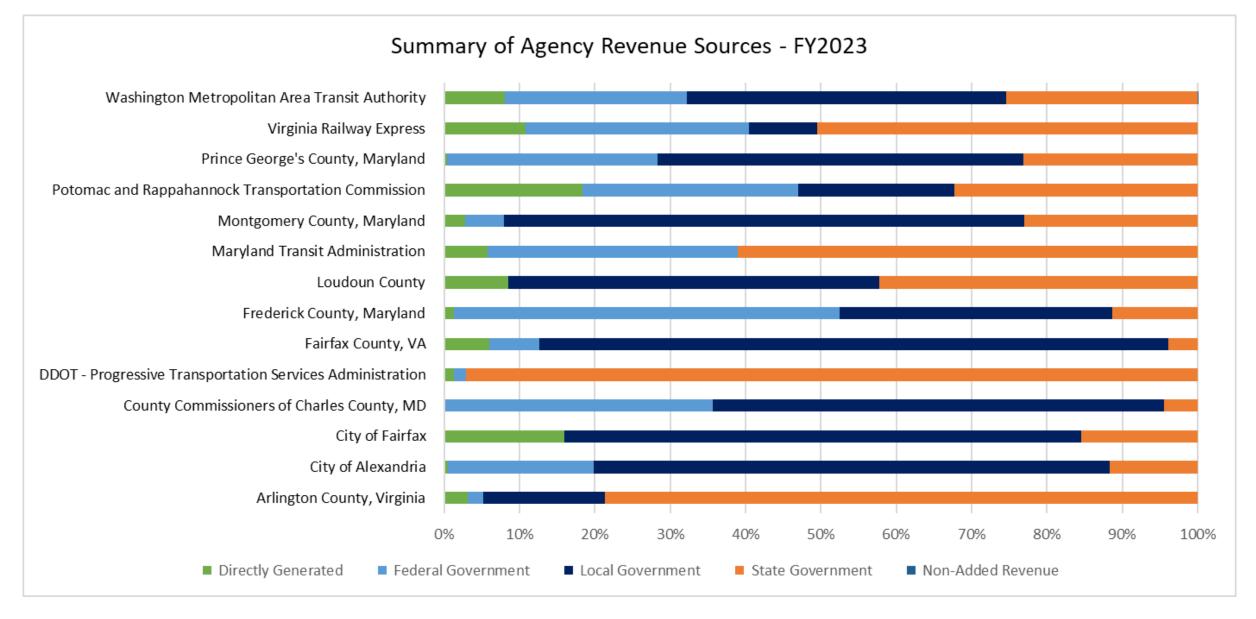
# **Preview: Part II – Agency Profile Sheets**



### 2024 Activities and Accomplishments

- ART: Opened its new OMF designed for a battery electric fleet transition and LEED Platinum.
- **DC Circulator**: Ceased operations in December 2024 after 19 years.
- CUE: began development of its new six-year
   Transit Development Plan.
- **Loudoun**: Board approved fare-free local bus service beginning in 2025.
- Ride On: Published its zero-emission fleet transition plan in April 2024.
- **VRE**: Continued work on System Plan 2050 with finalization expected in 2025







### **Preview: Part III - Other Public Transit**

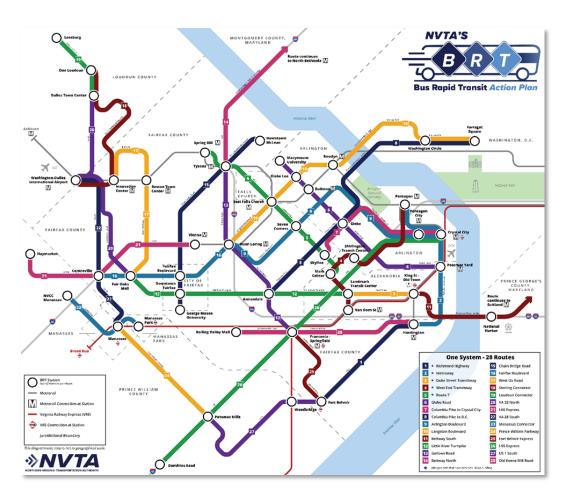
### **Demand Response Services**

- Microtransit
  - DC Neighborhood Connect ends service in July 2024 after financial challenges post-fare introduction
  - Ride On Flex completed a postpandemic analysis of its service with an eye toward future expansion
  - Prince George's County exploring expanded service areas for Link
- Paratransit
  - Fastran moves to the Fairfax County DOT from the Dept. of Neighborhood and Community Services





# **Preview: Part IV – Regional Organizations**



#### NVTA

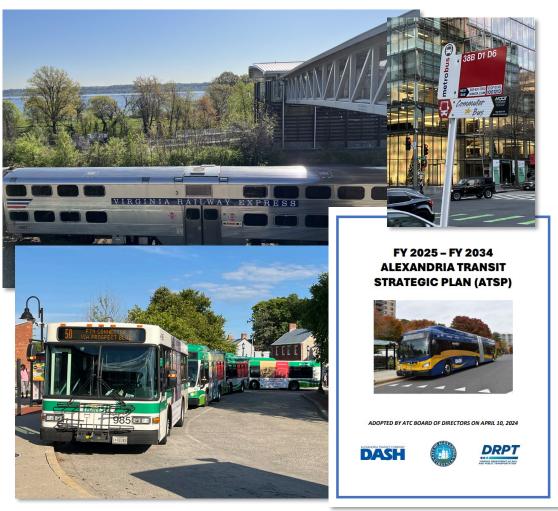
NVTA wrapped up Phase 1: Data
 Gathering and largely completed Phase 2:
 Analysis of its Draft BRT Action Plan in
 2024 (previously known as the Preliminary
 Deployment Plan for a Regional BRT system in Northern Virginia)

#### NVTC

 NVTC celebrated its 60th anniversary and debuted the "Advancing Transit in Northern Virginia" documentary showcasing its history and efforts to develop WMATA, VRE, the Commuter Choice program, and more.



# **Preview: Part V – Significant Transit Activities**



- DASH: Published its first Transit Strategic Plan, with board approval in May 2024.
- Frederick: Ridership surpassed pre-pandemic levels, leading to more service on four midday routes and Saturday North Frederick Shuttle.
- MTA Commuter Bus: Reduced frequencies across all routes to address financial challenges.
- VRE: VPRA bought the Manassas Line ROW from Norfolk Southern, creating opportunities for VRE.
- WMATA: Launched DMVMoves in partnership with COG to work on finding a dedicated, sustainable funding source and improve the regional transit experience.



### **Preview: Part VI - TPB Activities**



Table 1: Regional Transit Safety Targets – 2024

#### INTERCITY BUS AND RAIL TRAVEL STUDY

Final Report January 2025

Summary of the desk research and inventory, big data sources analysis, survey design and implementation details, survey data analysis, and findings and recommendations





		Heavy Rail (HR)	Streetcar Rail (SR)	Urban Bus (MB)	Commuter Bus (CB)	Demand Response (DR)	Vanpools (VP)
Fatalities	Number	0	0	0	0	0	n/a
	Rate	0	0	0	0	0	n/a
	Transit Worker Rate	0	0	0	0	0	n/a
Injuries	Number	256	6	403	6	42	n/a
	Rate	24.20	6.69	0.69	0.07	0.21	n/a
	Transit Worker Rate	9.50	n/a	0.19	0.10	0.07	n/a
Safety Events	Number	127	6	357	3	54	n/a
	Rate	12.80	6.69	0.61	0.04	0.27	n/a
Assaults on	Number	586	n/a	207	0	9	n/a
Transit	Rate	59.1	n/a	0.37	0.00	0.04	n/a
Collisions	Rate	2	n/a	1.43	2	0.25	n/a
	Pedestrian Collision Rate	0	n/a	0.05	0.00	0.00	n/a
	Vehicular Collision Rate	2	n/a	1.12	2	0.25	n/a
Reliability	MDBF	29,000	1,000	8,964	25,000	24,913	n/a
Rate = Per 100,000 Vehicle Revenue Miles, except HR (per 10M VRM)					MDBF = Mean	Distance Between F	ailures

Adopted by the Transportation Planning Board at its regular meeting on December 18, 2024.

- Continued development of Visualize 2050 long range plan content and analysis as well as new TIP
- Wrapped up an expanded Intercity Travel Study
- Approved 2024 Transit Safety
   Targets in December, including for seven new performance measures
- Began data collection for FY25
   Transit Asset Management
   Targets
- Regional Public Transportation
   Subcommittee (eight meetings in 2024)



# Coming Up: 2024 and 2025 SOPT Reports

### SOPT 2024 ed.

- Presentation to TPB Tech on July 2, 2025
- Draft distributed for feedback in August with publication in late August or early September

### SOPT 2025 ed.

- Next edition may incorporate a whole section or new content related to ongoing monitoring of DMVMoves implementation
- More region-wide and agency specific performance metrics will be incorporated into agency profiles and regional summary





### **Pierre Gaunaurd**

TPB Transportation Planner pgaunaurd@mwcog.org

mwcog.org/TPB

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments 777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002

