The following item was handed out at the March 7, 2019 NVTC Meeting.

# BACK2GOOD

More new trains: 7000-series trains now make up more than 50 percent of the Metrorail fleet.

Blue Item #4

### SAFETY

- Major crime on Metro last year dropped to the lowest level since 1999
- Insulator fire incidents in 2018 dropped to lowest level in years – 66% fewer than 2016 – due to new preventive maintenance and tunnel waterproofing
- Two major capital projects completed in late 2018:
  - Completed first major reconstruction project for 40-year-old Yellow Line Bridge
  - Upgraded several switches that allow trains to change tracks at Reagan National Airport Station

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- Metrorail on-time performance in 2018 reached the highest level in seven years.
- **Doubled rush-hour service at four Red Line stations** by eliminating the "Grosvenor Turnback"
- Work underway to install traffic signal priority technology on all 1,500 buses this year to speed up bus trips

### For more information visit wmata.com/back2good Update Published: January 8, 2019

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- 89% of all Metrorail rush-hour trips have arrived on-time since the start of Rush Hour Promise
- Improving our promise: Now through June, customers can receive a travel credit if they are delayed by 10 minutes or more during rush-hour, reduced from 15 minutes in 2018
- **Register your SmarTrip card** at wmata.com to be eligible for the Rush Hour Promise

# STATIONS AND TUNNELS

- Cell service now available in more than half of Metro's tunnels
- Brighter stations: New LED lighting installed in 15 underground stations, making them an average of 6x brighter. All 48 underground stations will receive lighting upgrades over 2-3 years

# FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- Clean financial audit for 4th straight year
- **Purchased new DC headquarters,** the 1<sup>st</sup> major step in a broader office consolidation strategy projected to save \$130 million over 20 years



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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FROM: Jennifer Mitchell, Director

DATE: March 6, 2019

SUBJECT: Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) Update

#### General Update

The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will next meet on March 20 & 21, 2019 in Chesapeake. DRPT anticipates that it will have two action items on the meeting agenda, but the CTB workshop and meeting agendas had not been finalized as of the date of this report. DRPT anticipates that the CTB will take action on the "Policy for the Implementation of Performance Based State Transit Operating Allocation" at its meeting on March 21. In addition, DRPT will present a recommendation for approval of special state funding assistance for transportation mitigation strategies proposed by local jurisdictions and transit providers in Northern Virginia related to the planned summer 2019 shutdown of Metrorail service south of Reagan National Airport. DRPT will present its funding recommendation at the CTB Workshop on March 20. (See additional details below.)

In February 2019 DRPT solicited proposals for transportation strategies that local jurisdictions and/or transit providers in Northern Virginia could implement during summer 2019 to supplement the planned WMATA shuttle bus network as additional mitigation for the planned Metrorail service disruption if state funding to pay for such strategies were to be made available. DRPT received and evaluated proposals from the City of Alexandria, Fairfax County, PRTC/Omniride and the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC). Additional mitigation strategies that can be implemented by VDOT and VRE/Amtrak were also evaluated. Strategies were reviewed to ensure that they are realistic, not duplicative and that they complement the mitigation plan developed by WMATA. WMATA and NVTC assisted DRPT with the evaluation of proposed mitigation strategies.

The next meeting of the TSDAC is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on March 14, 2019 at the DRPT office in Richmond. The purpose of the meeting will be to brief TSDAC on the public comments received on the draft "Performance-Based Operating Assistance Allocation Guidance" that was issued in

December. DRPT Director Jennifer Mitchell will also update the TSDAC on the impact of HB 2553/SB 1680/Item 445 1c from the 2019 General Assembly Session on DRPT's allocation of operating assistance in FY 20.

DRPT continues to evaluate applications for state funding assistance in FY 20. Applications were due to DRPT by February 1. DRPT will release its FY 20 funding recommendations and FY 20-25 Six Year Improvement Program in April. FY 20 is the first grant cycle during which DRPT will award funding in accordance with its new transit capital prioritization and performance based state transit operating assistance programs that were developed in conjunction with the TSDAC and approved by the CTB. Also beginning with the FY 20 grant cycle, DRPT has renamed/branded its revised grant programs as MERIT (Making Efficient and Responsible Investments in Transit).

DRPT continues to work on moving various planning and pre-construction elements of the Atlantic Gateway Program forward, which will improve freight and passenger rail service in Northern Virginia, DC, and points south. This includes a third track project from Occoquan to Franconia, a fourth track in Alexandria and Arlington, and improvements to the Long Bridge, which will double train capacity over the Potomac. DRPT will provide updates on these projects as they become available.

DRPT also continues to support the establishment of the Metro Safety Commission (MSC). The MSC is now meeting regularly at the MWCOG offices in Washington, DC. The MSC submitted all of the required certification documentation to the FTA by September 30, 2018 to allow for certification by the April 15, 2019 deadline.

March 4 – 8, 2019 is <u>Telework Week in Virginia</u>. DRPT and commuter assistance agencies across the Commonwealth are encouraging Virginia businesses to explore teleworking first-hand by allowing eligible employees to telework at least one day that week.

March 18, 2019 is National Transit Driver Appreciation Day. Check with your local transit system to find out how they are celebrating their drivers and/or operators on March 18.