Agenda Item #5: 2022 Update on the Annual Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA



## **Annual Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA**

#### **Structure of the Report**

Chapter	Title	Data Source or Content
	Introduction	Context and background on FY 2024 operating gap; highlighting new services
1	Strategies to Reduce the Growth in Costs and Improve Operational Efficiency	Policy Recommendations by the Commission
2	Use of Dedicated Capital Funds	WMATA
3	Safety & Reliability	
4	Metrorail Financial Performance	National Transit Database (NTD) and Metro Performance Reports
5	Metrobus Financial Performance	
6	Metrorail & Metrobus Ridership	

# Introduction



- Structural challenges at play in the operating budget
  - Customer revenue structure
  - Cost structure
  - Subsidy structure At 100% ridership recovery the funding gap shrinks but is still sizable (\$924m) (\$876m) (\$829m) (\$783m) (\$738m) Funding Gap Federal Aid Fare and Non-fare Revenue (at 75% ridership recovery) Total Budgeted and Projected Expenses Total Jurisdictional Subsidy (with 3% cap) FY 2027 FY 2028 FY 2023 FY 2024 FY 2025 FY 2026 FY 2029

Source: WMATA Finance and Capital Committee Meeting. September 22, 2022



#### **Recommendations for WMATA and funding partners**

#### 1) Rebuild customer confidence

- Continue the return of the 7000-series trains return to service and offer frequent and reliable rail service
- Improve the physical safety and security of customers
- Reform the management and safety culture

#### 2) Enforce fare payment uniformly across the system

- Work with partner jurisdictions to enforce fare payment to address customer safety and security
- Engage partner jurisdictions to offer jurisdictionally sponsored low-income fare products



### **Recommendations for WMATA and funding partners**

#### 3) Implement a simple and convenient fare structure

- Overhaul the fare structure and customer experience to be simple, customerfocused and built to drive ridership and revenue
- Create a seamless and convenient customer experience that makes it easy to pay fares and manage transit benefits
- Integrate local and regional transit providers into WMATA's fare structure and fare payment systems

#### 4) Increase Non-Fare Revenues from real estate and advertising

 Continue to partner with local jurisdictions and maximize the transformative opportunities for joint development on WMATA land

#### 5) Manage Labor Costs

- Manage labor cost escalation in collective bargaining
- Seek amendments to the National Capital Area Interest Arbitration Standard Act of 1995
  Northern Virginia Transportation Commission 5



#### **Recommendations for NVTC**

#### 6) Explore the implications of local transit agencies assuming the operation of Metrobus services in Northern Virginia

- Identify the challenges and opportunities of local transit agencies assuming the operation of Metrobus services in Northern Virginia
  - Evaluate the policy, funding, capital facility, governance, labor and other considerations
  - Coordinate effort with ongoing bus studies (WMATA's Bus Network Redesign and NVTC Regional Bus Analysis)
  - Extensive jurisdictional and WMATA staff coordination with key touch points for Commission and NVTC WMATA Committee



#### **Recommendations for NVTC**

# 7) Examine and develop options for a new financial operating model for WMATA

- Evaluate WMATA's short-term and structural operating budget gaps within the context of Virginia's unique jurisdictional funding and modal relationship with WMATA
- Examine existing and new operating revenues
- Explore opportunities to reform WMATA policies and state and federal laws or policies around WMATA budget and subsidy



# Annual Report on the Performance and Condition of WMATA Next Steps

- Incorporate Commission comments and complete Data Chapters (once NTD data becomes available)
- December 15: Report due to Governor and General Assembly
- December Commission Meeting Action Items:
  - Authorize the Executive Director to send the report to the Governor and General Assembly
  - Authorize NVTC to seek Consultant support to develop white paper identifying the challenges and opportunities of local transit agencies assuming the operation of Metrobus services in Northern Virginia
  - Authorize NVTC to seek Technical support for 'WMATA Operating Funding & Reform Working Group'



# Value of Northern Virginia's Transit Network to the Commonwealth

Public Transit in Northern Virginia Metrobus ART Metrorail CUE DASH **O** Metrorail Stations ---- VRE Fairfax Connector VRE Stations Loudoun County Transit OmniRide Created 2022

Allan Fye Director of Programs & Policy



# **Goals of the Study**

- Quantify the economic value of Northern Virginia's multi-modal transit system to the Commonwealth
- Leverage the findings to inform NVTC's legislative efforts
- Educate public and private stakeholders to support long-term, sustainable investments in transit by the Commonwealth



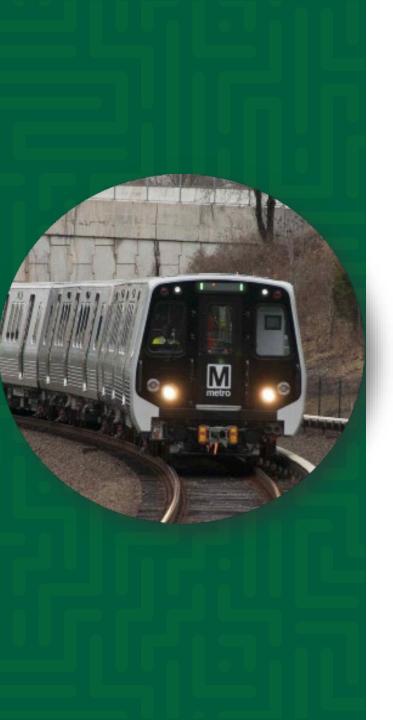
# Updates to the 2016 Study

2016	2022	
Metrorail	Metrorail	DASH
VRE	VRE	Fairfax Connector
	ART	Loudoun Co. Transit
	CUE	Metrobus

2016	2022
Revenue to the Commonwealth (sales and income tax)	Revenue to the Commonwealth (sales and income tax, etc.)
	Travel Time Savings
	Cost Savings
	Environmental Benefits
	Crashes Avoided







# **Next Steps**

- Engagement with technical and policy staff at jurisdictions and NVTC's legislative liaison
- Brief Legislative and Policy Committee and Commission at key milestones
- Anticipate study completion in mid-2023

#### AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND A SITE LEASE AGREEMENT FOR REAL PROPERTY IN FREDERICKSBURG

