

## THE WASHINGTON SUBURBAN TRANSIT COMMISSION

The Washington Suburban Transit Commission (WSTC) is a bi-county agency that provides planning and oversight for mass transit services in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. The seven-member commission is composed of two representatives from each county, two members appointed by the Governor of Maryland and the Maryland Secretary of Transportation, or a designee.

The WSTC has the legal authority to levy a property tax in each county to support mass transit services, as well as associated debt service and administrative costs. For Prince George's County, this tax levy, combined with State and Federal aid, fares and other revenues, funds a variety of regional transit services, local bus service and para-transit service. Para-transit service includes the County's special services for senior and disabled citizens. The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) provides the regional rail and bus services. The Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation and private companies provide local bus and para-transit services. Mass transit is capital intensive. Therefore, debt service costs also make up a substantial share of WSTC - related costs.

The WSTC tax rate for FY 2018 will remain at \$0.026 per \$100 of assessed value for real property and \$0.065 per \$100 of assessed value for personal property.