

TheBus – Better Bus FAQs

What is the Better Bus Network Redesign?

The Better Bus Network Redesign is an initiative between TheBus and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro) to reimagine bus service in the region. TheBus partnered with Metro in 2022 to develop a new bus network that makes service faster, more reliable, easier to use, and better aligned with where and when people want to travel.

Is TheBus service changing this summer?

Yes! This change is coordinated with the launch of Metro's new network, which begins on Sunday, June 29, 2025. All current TheBus routes will be eliminated following the end of service on Saturday, June 28. New routes—with new names, routings, frequencies, and schedules will begin on Monday, June 30, 2025.

As part of the Better Bus Network Redesign, TheBus and Metro reviewed the effectiveness of their routes. New routes do not directly replace old ones. While some new routes may closely resemble existing ones, others are quite different.

Why is TheBus changing its routes?

The Better Bus Network Redesign is a key component of the Prince George's County Transit Vision Plan (TVP). In the upcoming years, the TVP will introduce several changes, such as new facilities and electric buses, improved bus service—including Sunday service—more dedicated bus lanes, and transit signals designed to help buses move more quickly through traffic.

Several of our main priorities are to update bus service on June 30, 2025, including to:

- Make trips more frequent and reliable
- Reduce transfers and shorten wait times
- Simplify route names and schedules

How can I find more information about the route changes?

You should start on our website at tinyurl.com/PGCBetterBus. There, you can find a summary of all the new routes, find your new route, and see a route profile to learn where your new route goes and how often it will come. Soon, you can use the WMATA Trip Planner to plan out the trips on TheBus you'll take after June 29. We'll also be posting detailed schedules in the coming weeks.

Visit our website at tinyurl.com/PGCBetterBus, where a summary of all the new routes can be found. Riders can also search for new routes and view a route profile to see their routing and frequency. Riders can also now use the WMATA Trip Planner to plan future trips on TheBus. We will also be posting detailed schedules in the coming weeks.

How does the new network help me?

The network launching on June 30, 2025, is resource-constrained, meaning that TheBus will only run about 1% more service hours than it does today. However, by redesigning routes and coordinating closely with Metro—whose new service begins on Sunday, June 29—TheBus and Metro can better serve customers with improved frequencies and fewer duplicative routes.

The average frequency of TheBus routes will increase from every 36 minutes to every 34 minutes. In 2024, ridership totaled 2,419,092. By saving two minutes on each of those rides, riders will collectively save more than 80,000 hours, a significant time savings. We have been able to offer more service at the same cost by implementing more efficient scheduling and coordinating planning with Metro.

When will I start seeing changes to my bus stop?

Starting in May, you may notice new signs at bus stops in Prince George's County. Metro and TheBus services will now be displayed on the same sign. These signs will continue to show the current service information, as well as the new route names that will take effect on June 29 for Metro and June 30 for TheBus.

Is my route getting replaced with a new one that just has a different name?

This is the case for some routes. Many TheBus routes will experience adjustments in areas such as their destinations, frequency, and operating hours. Be sure to review the route profiles for detailed descriptions of each route and to identify which ones may be relevant to you based on your current route.

Is Metrobus taking over TheBus routes, or vice versa?

One of the goals of the Better Bus Network Redesign is to minimize the number of overlapping routes. In some instances, certain routes or segments of routes will be transferred from TheBus to Metro. Please visit wmata.com/betterbus to learn more about the new routes that Metro will begin operating on June 29.

ROUTE-SPECIFIC CHANGES

The following new routes follow the same exact routings as existing routes. Some of them are changing in name only, some are seeing adjustments to frequency or schedules, and some routes will see fewer stops as a result of the regional bus stop consolidation effort.

NEW ROUTE	OLD ROUTE	WHAT'S NEW?
P2X	15X	Only the name
P43	18	Some stops eliminated
P76	20	More frequency along most of the route, except for Melwood Training Center; Some stops eliminated
P52	21	Some stops eliminated
P57	28	Only the name
P84	36	Only the name
P78	51X	Decreased frequency to better distribute resources across the County

NEW ROUTE	OLD ROUTE	WHAT'S NEW?
P77	53	Increased frequency
P19	61	Shorter span of service in the morning

The following TheBus routes will change in name and have simple operational changes.

NEW ROUTE	CLOSEST PREVIOUS ROUTE	WHAT'S NEW?
P5X	21X	Minor routing changes between Downtown Largo Metro and Prince George's Community College to improve reliability.
P54	23	Similar routing to the existing Route 20 but does not serve Hill Rd and Walker Mill Dr. Route P56 replaces Walker Mill Dr service.
P56	26	Same routing as the existing Route 26, extended west on weekdays to Addison Rd Metro via Walker Mill Dr.
P83	34	Same routing as the existing Route 34, extended to Naylor Rd Metro via Iverson Mall and Hillcrest Heights.
P86	32	Similar routing to the existing Route 32 rerouted in Hillcrest Heights to connect the neighborhood with Marlow Heights Shopping Center.
P88	33	Similar routing to the existing Route 33 rerouted to serve Iverson St and Southview Dr.

The following TheBus routes will change in name and have significant operational changes.

NEW ROUTE	CLOSEST PREVIOUS ROUTE	WHAT'S NEW?
P22	16	Similar routing to the existing Route 16 extended south to Cheverly Metro via Landover Hills on weekdays and rerouted out of Berwyn Heights. Metrobus P14 replaces Berwyn Heights service.
P44	27, Metrobus F12	Merges parts of existing Route 27 and existing Metrobus Route F12 by connecting Downtown Largo, Palmer Park, Kent Village, Landover Metro, Pennsy Dr, and New Carrollton. Service in Dodge Park is discontinued.
P64	24	Similar routing to the existing Route 24 between Forestville and Central Ave. North of Central Ave, route is rerouted to serve Largo Metro. South of Forestville, route is extended to serve Suitland Metro via Penn Mar Shopping Center and Hil Mar Dr. The Western portion of Route 24 is served by the P65.
P65	24	Similar routing to the existing Route 24 between Capitol Heights and Forestville, extended to serve Penn Mar Shopping Center. The eastern portion of Route 24 is served by the P64.

NEW ROUTE	CLOSEST PREVIOUS ROUTE	WHAT'S NEW?
P85	30	Similar routing to the existing Route 30 but shortened to run between Southern Maryland Regional Hospital and Branch Ave Metro. Route P86 replaces service between Clinton, Camp Springs, and Marlow Heights Shopping Center. Route P83 replaces service between Iverson Mall and Suitland Metro.

TheBus will operate the following new routes. These routes are largely restructured from existing Metrobus routes.

NEW ROUTE	CLOSEST PREVIOUS ROUTE	WHAT'S NEW?
P23	Metrobus B24, F13	New route from New Carrollton to Fairwood Parkway via Annapolis Rd, providing brand new service to the Fairwood Safeway and Kaiser Permanente. May be of interest to current customers on Metrobus routes F13 and B24.
P37	Metrobus C8	New route from College Park Metro to New Hampshire Ave via the University of Maryland and National Archives II. May be of interest to current customers on Metrobus route C8.
P71	Metrobus B21 and B22	New route connecting New Carrollton, Bowie Park & Ride, and Bowie State. May be of interest to current customers on Metrobus routes B21, B22, and B24.
P95	35, Metrobus W14	New route connecting Southern Ave Metro, Oxon Hill Park & Ride, Friendly, and Fort Washington, providing brand new service to the Fort Washington Medical Center. May be of interest to current customers on Route 35 and Metrobus routes W14.

The following TheBus routes are not included in the new TheBus network. Some routes have parts covered in whole or in part by Metrobus routes, and some routes have nearby routes that may be useful for customers but do not directly serve the same stops.

EXISTING THEBUS ROUTE	NEW ROUTE(S) OF INTEREST
11	Metrobus P21
13A	TheBus P43; Metrobus P32, P10
14	Metrobus P35, P31
17	Metrobus P1X, P10, M44
19	TheBus P43; Metrobus P32, P10, P35
37	TheBus P95, P88; Metrobus P97, P96