

Public Transportation Innovations for a Healthier and More Equitable DC

Friday, March 31st | ULI Health Leaders Network Introductory Forum

Benito O. Pérez, Charles Allen, Heidi Case, Laura Chace, and Raka Choudhury



National Transportation Landscape: Where we are now; Where we're going. March 31, 2023









Benito O. Pérez, Policy Director, Transportation for America















BCI Form-Based Codes Institute

"We envision a country where no matter where you live, or who you are, you can enjoy living in a place that is healthy, prosperous, and resilient."



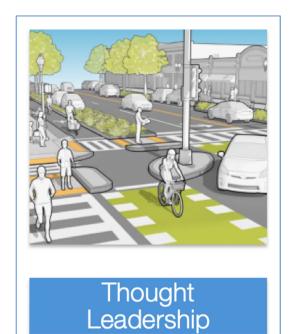
What We Do



Technical Assistance



Advocacy





SGA Programmatic Priorities



CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENCE



ADVANCING RACIAL EQUITY



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES





Guiding principles for transportation investment

The time has come to elevate the national conversation about transportation beyond the cost—we need a vision for what we expect to accomplish.

America's federal transportation program does not address basic needs, and more money alone poured into this broken federal program will not suffice. Billions of dollars are spent without clear desired outcomes, and there is far too little accountability for accomplishing anything measurable and tangible.

We need to reform the 70-year-old federal program to reflect today's needs and ensure a focus on fixing our existing system first, on improving safety, and on accountability.

Learn more: t4america.org/platform

PRINCIPLE #1

Prioritize maintenance

Cut the road, bridge, and transit maintenance backlog in half by dedicating formula highway funds to maintenance.

Did you know: States are permitted to neglect their basic maintenance needs in order to expand their roadway systems—and then rewarded with more funding.





PRINCIPLE #2

Design for safety over speed

A serious effort to reduce deaths on our roadways requires slower speeds on local and arterial roads. The federal program should require designs and approaches that put safety first.



PRINCIPLE #3

Connect people to jobs and services

Don't focus on speed. Instead, determine how well the transportation system connects people to jobs and services, and prioritize the projects that will improve those connections.







- 1. Transportation paradigm
- 2. Climate perspective
- 3. Equity perspective



Transportation Paradigm















Who are we designing for?

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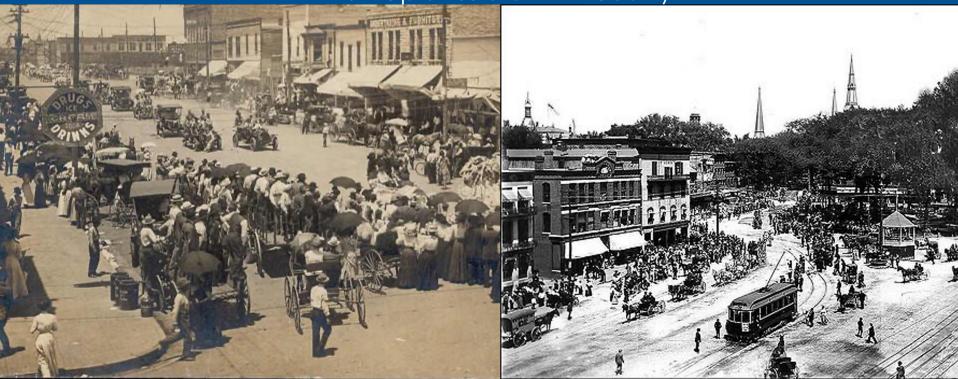
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How did we get here?

Transportation History

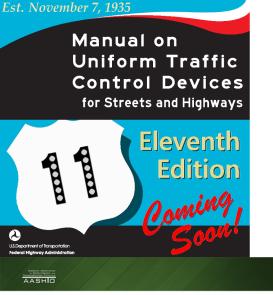


Dallas, TX (early 1900s): Image from Elickr/Coltera

Keene, NH (early 1900s): Image from Picryl



Design standards upholding car dominance

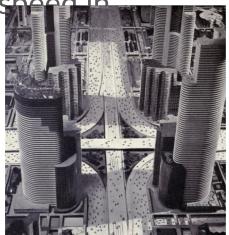


A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets

THE GREEN BOOK 2018 7th Edition

- Standards created in the
 - Interstate Era to maximize speed
- Reluctance to focus on whole corridors
- Road design starts with speed in mind

Futurama at 1939 NYC World's Fair



Oversized vehicles







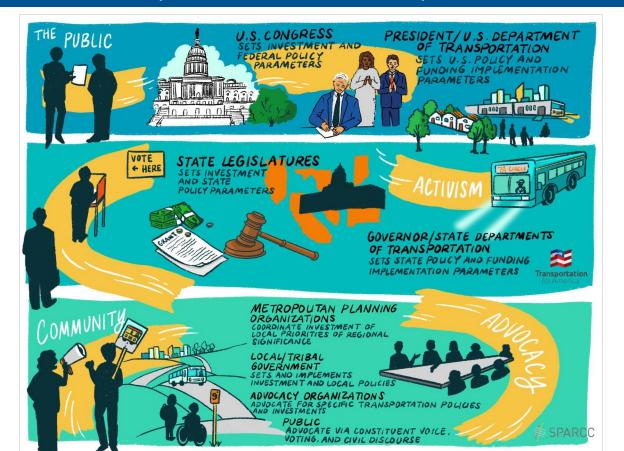
Human Error Justification

Blaming individuals & prioritizing education over design





Transportation Policy Levers





Ongoing Challenges

- Safety
 - Traffic Safety
- Affordability
 - Intersection of housing and transportation costs
 - o Intensifying development
- Reliability
 - Increased congestion impacting bus service
- State of Good Repair
 - Public transportation
 - 0 Roadways, bikeways, and sidewalks
- Accessibility
 - Aging in place
 - Mobility challenged individuals
 - Increasingly complex curb
- Climate Change
 - 0 Flooding
 - o Urban Heat Island Effect
- Aging and Challenged Workforce





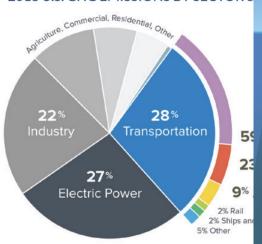
Climate



Climate in Tran

THE HIDDEN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF DRIVING

2018 U.S. GHG EMISSIONS BY SECTOR &





1990-2017

Even as our vehicles have gotten far more efficient, emissions have risen.

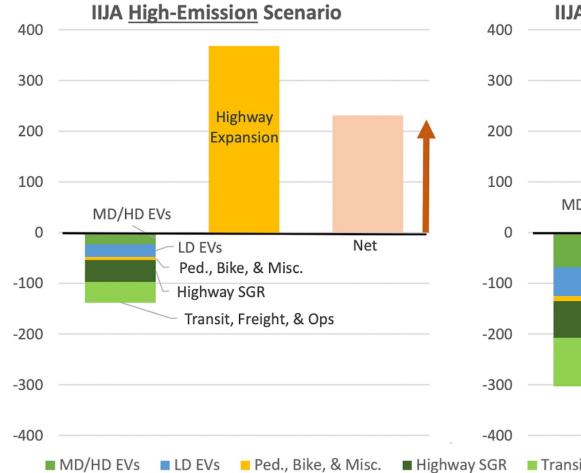
Why? A **50% increase in driving** overwhelmed all of those improvements in fuel efficiency.

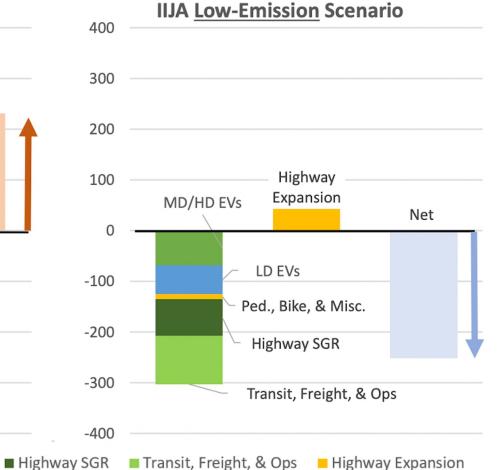
22%

EMISSIONS

50







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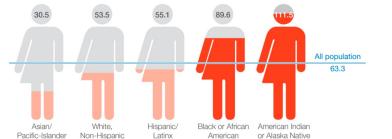
Equity in Transportation

Key Issues:

- Legacy of "urban renewal"
- Development and Displacement
- Congestion as a performance measure
 - Value of Time
- Disinvestment in transit and active transportation
- Commuter-centrism for highways and transit (spokes vs. connected grid)
- Disproportionate deadly burden

The burden is not shared equally

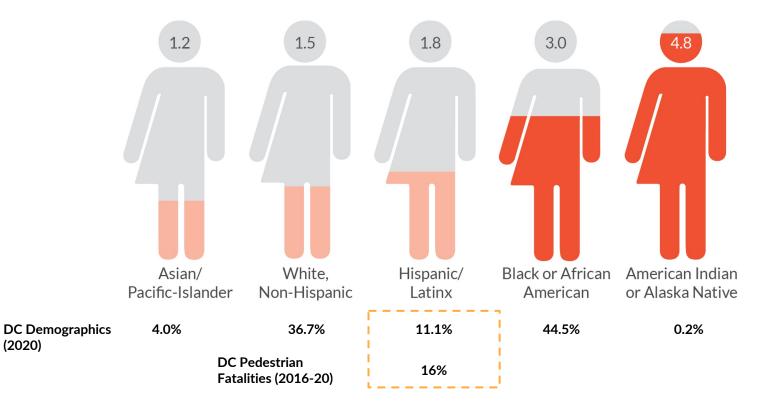
Relative pedestrian danger by race and ethnicity (2010-2019)





People of color are more likely to die when walking

Pedestrian deaths per 100,000 by race & ethnicity (2016-2020)





Equity in Transportation





Equity in Transportation

I-49 'Connector' Planned for Historic Black Neighborhood in Louisiana

A record of decision is expected soon for a plan to build a freeway connector through the neighborhood of Allendale in Shreveport, Louisiana.

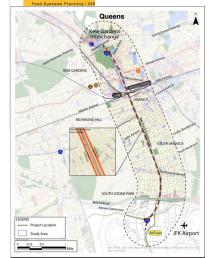
March 12, 2021, 6:00 AM PST

By James Brasuell 🍯 @CasualBrasuell



Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments / I-49 Inner-City Connector Project

M.S. IN URBAN & REGIONAL PLANNING







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Houston, TX





https://t4america.org/iija/







CITIVE

Transforming Communities: Access to Health Care

Laura Chace







ITS America Vision



A better future transformed by transportation technology & innovation.

Safer. Greener. Smarter. For all.



ITS America Mission



Advocating for scaled deployment of innovative transportation technology

- Policy
- Thought leadership
- Developing a diverse workforce



Transportation is the nexus

It connects us to everything – economic opportunity, access to healthcare and education, our environments, our communities, & more.



PRINCIPLES FOR INCLUSIVE FUTURE MOBILITY



Focus on the user



Reimagine how we think about safety



Cultivate sustainability and resiliency



Champion equity, diversity, and inclusion in transportation and the workforce



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Promote access and opportunity

Educate, engage, and convene stakeholders to listen and build consensus



🜐 ITSA.org

ITS 🛃 AMERICA



USDOT V2X	Digital	IIJA	National AV	Automated
Strategy	Infrastructure	Investments	Framework	Aerial Mobility
Increase nationwide deployment of life-saving V2X technology	Facilitate use of more data, in real- time, faster than ever before	Investing IIJA funds into deployable tech	Leverage Congressional Autonomous Vehicles Caucus, 2023 strategy	Identify legislative and regulatory barriers and opportunities to advance the sector

ITS 💐 AMERICA

ITS America Goals 2023

OUTCOMES



EQUITY ACCESSIBILITY MOBILITY



JOBS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMEN



SAFETY EFFICIENCY RELIABILITY



ECONOMIC EQUALITY



MULTI-MODAL ACTIVE TRANSPORT



PUBLIC HEALTH AIR QUALITY RESILIENCY ADAPTABILITY



Gender and Race in Transportation

Workforce inequity 15% of transportation jobs are held by women **Time costs** Women spend 2x time taking transportation as men

Broken rung

- 3% transportation
 executives are women
- 1 in 5 hold board seats

Increased fatalities Women are 17% more likely to die in a car crash **"Pink Tax"** Women pay 2x to take transportation as men

Street harassment

- 3 in 4 women are street harassed
- 50-90% fear their safety



The Impact of Lack of Access to Transportation



- 5.8 million persons in the United States delayed medical care because they did not have transportation
- 950,000 children missed or delayed medical care because of transportation issues



The Benefits of Easy Transportation Access to Healthcare





- It is estimated that nearly 1/3rd of patients nationally miss medical appointments due to lack of transportation access harming their health, the ability of the doctors to assist more patients, and delaying access for many other Americans
- The cost of missed appointments in the healthcare industry totals over \$150 billion each year. This is the combined cost of patients' declined health and quality of life, as well as the cost for wasted time and effort by healthcare providers.



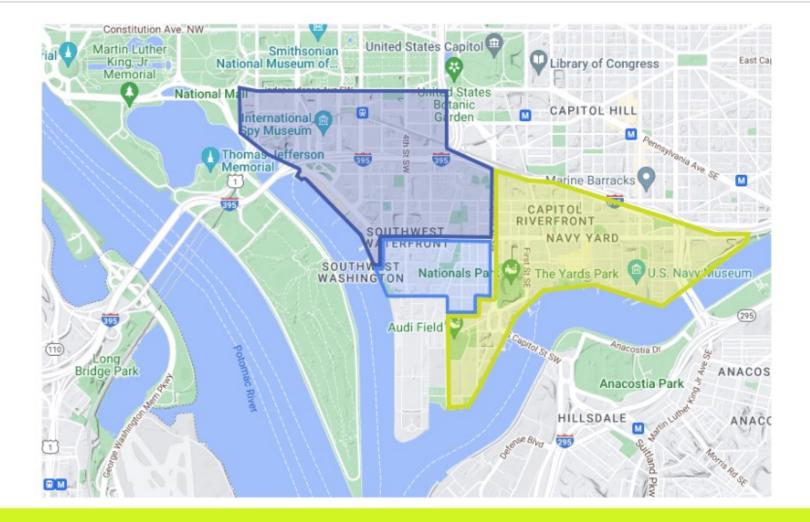


WHAT IS THE MID



Headquartered in Southwest D.C., the MID (Mobility Innovation District) plants the seed for future-forward mobility solutions that position safe mobility options as an answer to systemic urban issues and that improve quality of life and access for all.

The public-private partnership uses on-the-ground testing and mobilizes global technology partners to drive local first solutions that then serve as a template for fixing disadvantages in cities nationwide.



PILOT PROJECTS

- Demand responsive/diverted-fixed route shuttles + AV Related tech (Announced)
- Mobility Wallet / Universal Basic Mobility (Under Review)
- Electrification hubs (Under Review)
- E-Cargo Bikes (Spring 2023)
- Curbside Tech (TBD)
- Pedestrian Safety (TBD)









Circuit Electric Shuttles







Email - Ichace@itsa.org



Bus Priority at WMATA

ULI Health Leaders

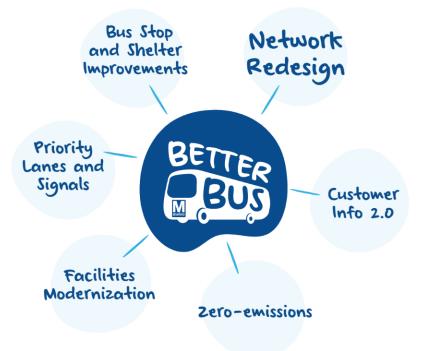
March 31, 2023





Metro's Better Bus Initiative

Framework that Metro is advancing to transform bus into a fast, frequent, reliable, affordable service that feels unified to the customer.

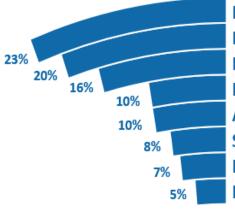




Current and Potential Customers' Priorities



Survey Results: Bus Customer Priorities



More Frequent Service More Reliable and Faster Service More Direct Buses and Fewer Transfers Longer Hours of Operation Affordable Fares Safer, More Secure Buses and Stops Better App for Information or Payment Less Confusing system

Bus Transformation Project (2018)

...ridership here would increase exponentially if buses were frequent and preferably in dedicated lanes

Prioritizing the bus will

help make them more reliable and reduce the bunching, which is really frustrating

Bus stops need to be safe, convenient, and comfortable. Alot of bus stops do not have benches, seats, or cover from the elements.

> Reliable! If the bus were quicker – or if there was a dedicated bus lane – I would take the bus





A Great Bus System Delivers

Regional Connectivity – Matches when and where people want to travel



 Quality Customer and Operator Experience – Provides fast, frequent, and reliable service



• Equity – Addresses inequities and increases access to opportunity for disenfranchised communities

To transport more customers, create safer streets, and improve air quality



www.wmata.com/betterbus



A Great Bus System Also Includes



Legible, intuitive, coordinated, and accessible information to plan, pay, and ride, regardless of the operator



Transit hubs with **seamless connections** to transit, bikeshare, and carshare, providing safe, secure, easy to use transfers



Bus stops with shelters, seating, lighting, and accurate real-time information, connected with sidewalks and safe pedestrian crossings



Clean, comfortable, secure vehicles that are environmentally sustainable



Exceptional customer experience from start to finish



Transit priority and enforced, dedicated lanes to enable reliable service



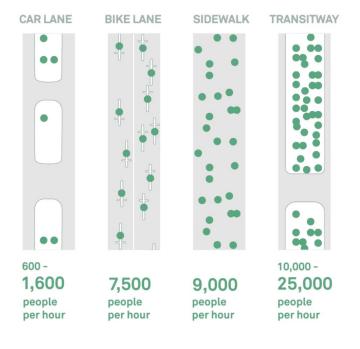
Consistent work schedules and attractive facilities that improve quality of life for front-line staff





Metro's Bus Priority Program

Dedicated team focused on strategies and initiatives that improve **bus operating speeds** and **reliability** for an improved rider experience, environmental stewardship, and financial stewardship.







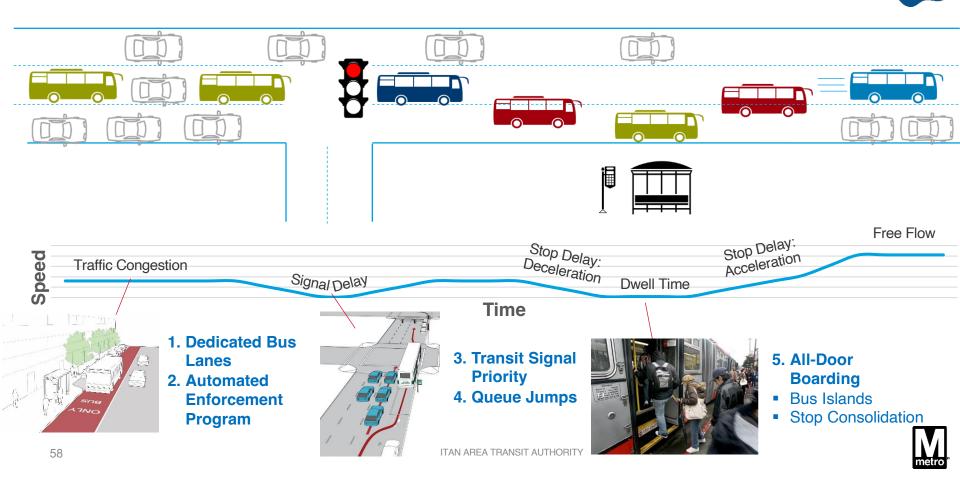
Program Vision

Make bus the **mode of choice** and increase ridership by improving its ease of use, accessibility, and reliability of service for everyone in the region.



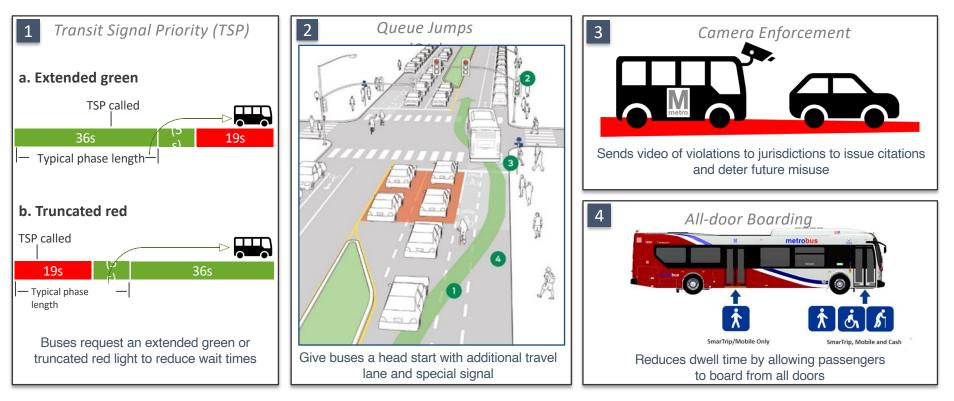


Priority Treatments Improve Bus Speed and Reliability



Projects Include

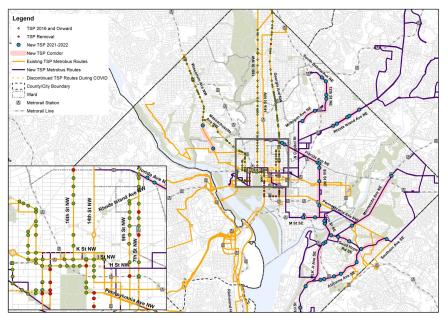




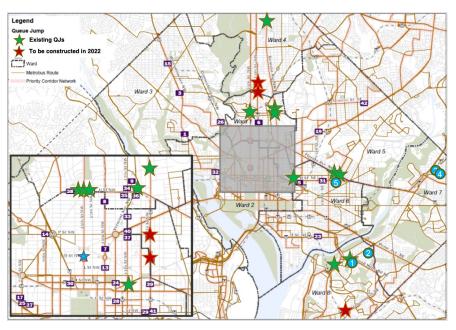




TSP and Queue Jumps



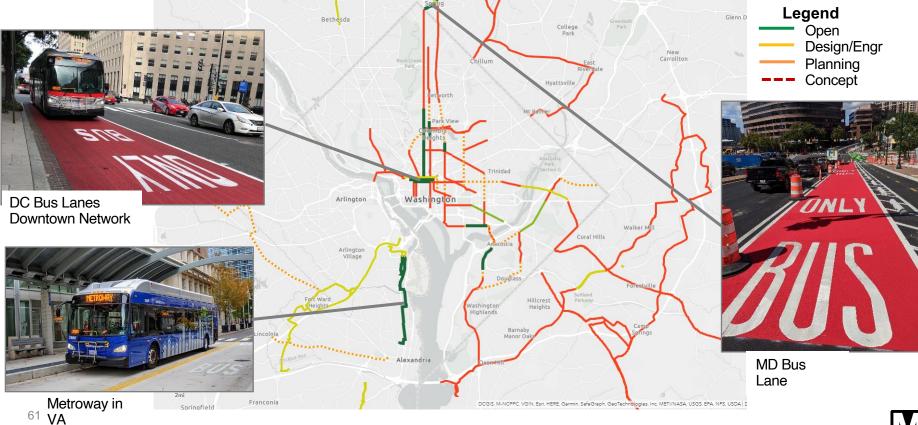
Over 250 TSP intersections in the District and Northern Virginia



20+ queue jumps in DC



Facilitating More Bus Lanes in the Region





Automated Lane Enforcement



Bus lanes are meant to speed buses up **BUT** unauthorized vehicles in bus lanes and bus stops slow buses down.



Source: Dan Malouff

Peer cities have improved bus performance with Automated Lane Enforcement

- New York City: Automatic Bus Lane Enforcement (ABLE) increased bus speeds 7 to 31 percent.
- San Francisco: Transit Only Lane Enforcement (TOLE) program reduced afternoon delay 7 to 20 percent.



Ride the Bus!



- Bus priority help us to deliver on our goal of Service Excellence for our customers.
- **Regional Partnerships** are vital to delivering bus priority projects.
- Even diesel buses are more sustainable than driving.

Goals of Metro's Strategic Transformation Plan







DC Councilmember Charles Allen

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Streetscape Accessibility?



Streetscape Accessibility?

























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Audience Q&A

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