



## PUBLIC HEARING

# NEW BUS NETWORK FIRST YEAR IMPLEMENTATION

June 3 and 5, 2015

Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Texas

# What are the Benefits?

## Why Reimagine?

- The community has asked for improvements to the local bus system
- Ridership has declined on the local bus system
- The transit system has not evolved with the growing Houston region
- To create an integrated network of bus and rail service
- Need to provide a strong foundation for future growth



## New Bus Network Plan

- Simpler, more frequent, 7-days a week service connecting more people to more places with faster trips
- Projected to drive local bus ridership increase of 20+% after 2 years
- A much better match with where and when people live, work, play and learn
- Stronger connections between the bus and rail network allowing for more seamless operations
- Establishes a strong foundation and clear tools to continue to improve the system as resources allow

# Why Reimagine Now?

More reliable service ►

7 day a week service ►

More high-frequency routes ►  
(next bus arrival 15 minutes or less)



More options for connections ►

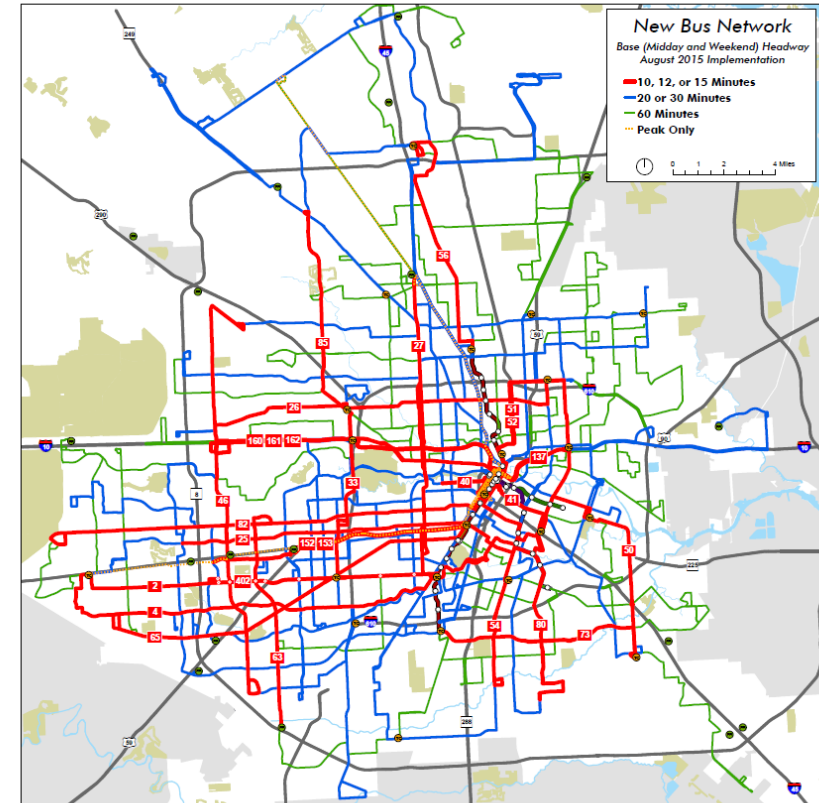
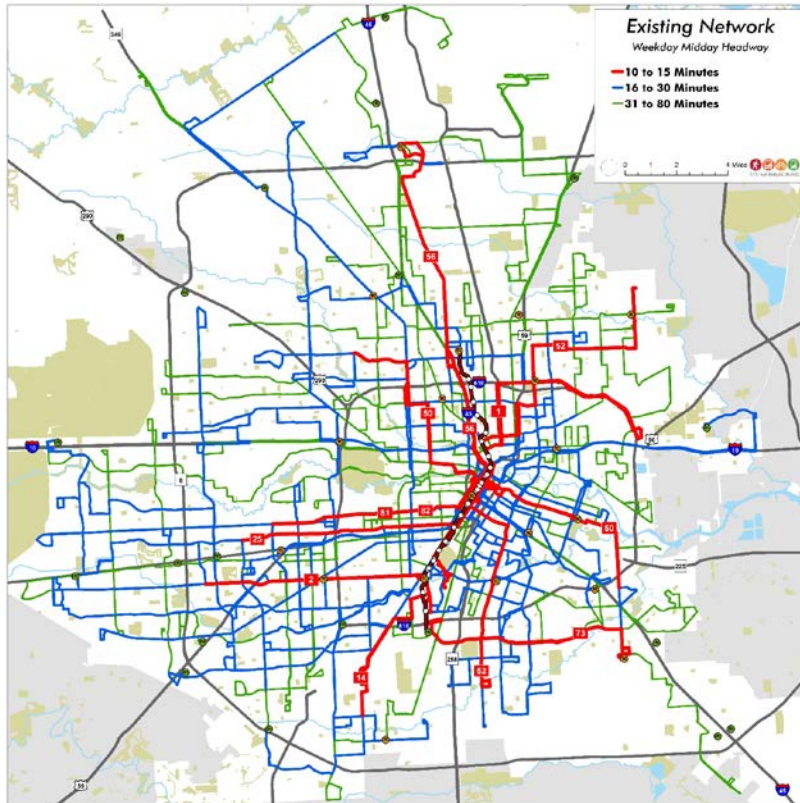
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## METRO's New Bus Network

## BACKGROUND / MILESTONES

Date	Milestones
September 2012	Strategic Planning committee formed; System Reimagining process begins
January 2013	Board approves contract for consultants to assist with project
November 2013	Board adopts System Reimagining guideline allocating 80% of service to ridership and 20% to coverage
May 2014	Board reviews draft plan, directs staff to meet with community through formal/informal public meetings
September 2014	Board approves System Reimagining in principle
February 2015	Board approves System Reimagining map, directs staff to begin implementation process
February – June 2015	Development of schedules, marketing materials, bus stop signs, staff training, etc.
June 2015	Public hearings

# COMPARISON OF FREQUENT SERVICE CURRENT SYSTEM AND PROPOSED FIRST YEAR NEW BUS NETWORK



Existing Network

Significant increased in Red (frequent) service

# NEW BUS NETWORK

## More Service

- **Linking you to more destinations.** METRO's new bus network improves trips to key activity centers throughout the region and offers the flexibility for growth.
- **We're ready for the weekend.** Frequent weekend service gives you more freedom to go where you want, when you want – seven days a week.

## Better Service

- **Simpler routes.** We're simplifying our routes with improved connections and fewer branches.
- **Better connections.** With routes that work together, the system gives you more connections to destinations in our region.

## Your Service

- **A sustainable system.** We've created a network that not only serves our community today, but anticipates the possibility of expansion into tomorrow.
- **A bus network linking people and places.** The frequent bus network connects more than one million people to one million jobs, with shorter wait time for buses.
- **It's all about you.** We want to make these improvements to give you the best transit service possible. The most important part of this plan is YOU.

## RECOMMENDATION

	Time Period
Public Hearings	June 3 and 5, 2015
Board approval of First Year New Bus Network	June 2015
Revise schedules based upon Board guidance following public input	June 2015
Review revised schedules with Transport Workers Union of America Local 260	June 2015
Finalize / post run cut and hold operator sign up	July 2015
Implement First Year New Bus Network	August 16, 2015