

# Metro Transit

Transit Equity For People with Disabilities

# **Fixed Route Highlights**

#### Bus Pads:

- Most of Metro's system is wheelchair accessible.
- There are approximately 11 stops that still need accessibility improvements.
- New service to Monona.

Bus Announcements: Now announce every stop.





# **BRT Highlights**

#### **Crosswalks/Platforms:**

- Crosswalks have a lot of room.
- Audible pedestrian signals.
- Traffic lights are timed so that there is a comfortable amount of time to cross to the station.
- Center running stations means people only need to cross half the street to get to the stop.



#### **Real-Time Visual and Audible Signs**

BRT stations have signs signaling when the next bus will arrive.

Audible information is available by pressing a button on the pillar near the sign.



#### **Platform Waiting Area**

Raised warning bumps (detectable warning pads) on either sides of the stations let you know where to wait safely away from the edge of the platform.

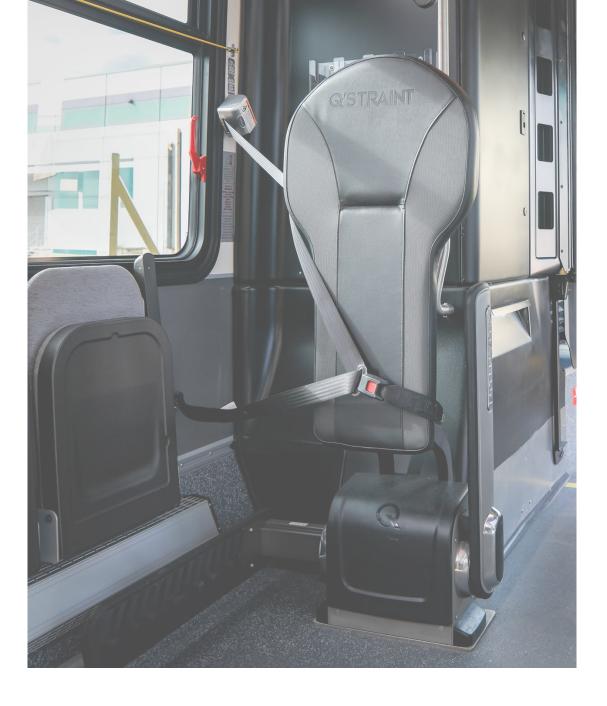
#### Wayfinding Tiles

Vertical wayfinding tiles on the ground also provide direction to where bus doors will open when they arrive at the station.

#### **Mobility Devices**

- Two wheelchair securement areas located in the front of the bus.
- One area features a new automatic system that will allow you to secure your device yourself.
- Rear and forward-facing options.
- Seating in front of the bus offers a smoother, less bumpy ride.





### **BRT Roll Out Issues**

#### Ramp Gap

Drivers needed to get used to pulling up to platforms. Larger gaps between platform and bus. This is improving, but it's still a work in progress.

#### Riders Who Don't Use Wheelchairs/Walkers

- Driver might not know to deploy the metal bridge.
- To keep buses moving, we don't deploy every time.
- Now, riders may call to the driver to deploy the bridge. This is not ideal. We are looking at ways to address this.

### **Feedback Received**

- Increased distance between stops.
- Too much distance between stops on University Ave.
  - Mostly between Segoe and Ridge.
- Drivers not always deploying bridges or passing those using walkers or wheelchairs.
- Drivers sometimes leaving platforms too quickly when people with mobility impairments need more time to board.

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### **Transit Development Plan**

#### **Accessibility Items Identified**

- Some routes and stops are too far apart.
- Transfers are more difficult with timed transfers at transfer points



### **Transit Development Plan**

**Comparison of Metro fixed-route service area and paratransit demand** 

High paratransit demand in areas within the ¼ mile service area around fixed route stops:

- Area between Greenway Cross/Stewart St. and Post Rd. east of Fish Hatchery Rd.
- Northeast corner of the American Family Center.

Additional service may be considered in the future.

However, it would likely not reduce paratransit demand much, if at all, based on 2025-2029 Transit Development Plan data.

## Paratransit Upgrade

- Online scheduling.
- Route optimization.
- Vehicle tracking.
- Electronic fare payments.
- Hope to implement this year.





### **Station Tours**

- Metro provided a number of tours just before the launch of BRT to help riders get acquainted with this new way of riding.
- We're going to schedule more in the Spring.

### **Future Report to TC**

• What would you like to know more about in future reports?

