

Better **Bus** Project

Making transit
better together



About the MBTA Bus Service Network

- More than a third of all MBTA trips are taken on buses.
- The MBTA's bus network consists of 175 routes.
- Nearly 450,000 trips are taken on MBTA buses in a single weekday.
- Serving 50 communities, the bus network provides critical connections where our rail system does not go.

About the Better Bus Project

Goal:

Understand the gap between today's bus service and the standards set by the January 2017 Service Delivery Policy.

Make recommendations to close the service gap that incorporates public engagement and municipal partnerships.

EVALUATE

Evaluate the bus network against the January 2017 Service Delivery Policy.

IDENTIFY

Identify changes to each route to better serve our bus customers.

OUTREACH

Outreach to communities, riders, and municipalities to identify their needs and concerns.

DEVELOP

Develop plans and recommendations.

IMPLEMENT

Begin to implement capital improvements in 2018 and service recommendations in 2019

Service Delivery Policy

Adopted in January 2017

Comfort

Passengers should have a reasonable amount of personal space during their trips

Reliability

Passengers should be able to expect service to arrive when scheduled

Frequency

Passengers should be able to access transit within a reasonable waiting time

Span

Passengers should have confidence that service will operate during expected hours

Coverage

The geographic area where service is provided

POTENTIAL CHANGES

Service Changes

Hours and frequency of service

Operational Changes

Dispatching buses and improved MBTA procedures

Capital Investments

Additional buses and supporting infrastructure

Partnerships with Municipalities

Implement street changes that improve service

CAN
PROVIDE

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

Buses Will Show Up on Schedule

People Get to Work Faster

Less Crowded on Buses

Easy to Understand Routes

Resources Are Spent More Efficiently

Partnership Examples to Improve Bus Speed and Reliability

Bus Operations tools

- Stop Relocation
- Stop Consolidation
- Route Design

Infrastructure tools

- Turn Radius Improvements
- Bus Bulbs
- Roadway Channelization/Signage

Traffic Control tools

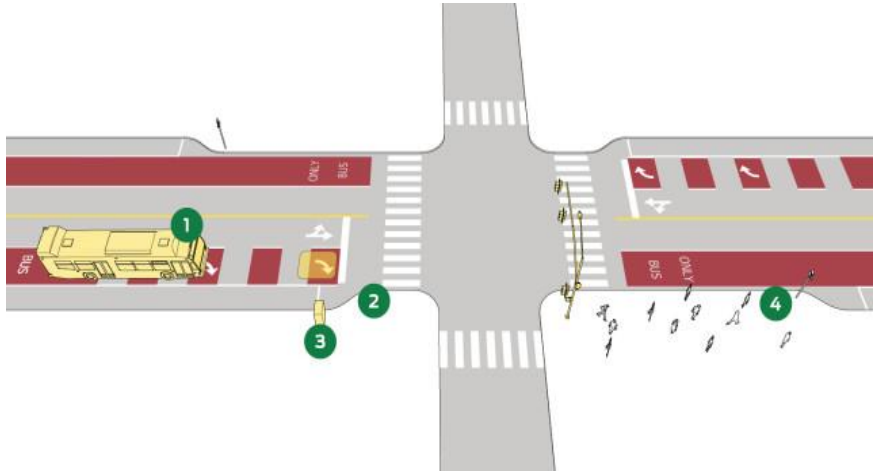
- Transit Signal Priority
- Lane Restriction/Exemption
- Queue Jumps

Transit Lane tools

- Curbside bus lane
- Queue bypass (short bus lane)
- Center bus lane



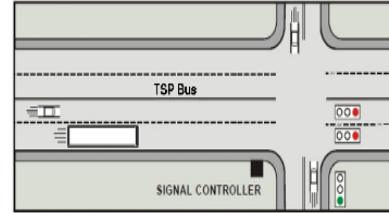
2017 King County Metro S&R Guidelines and Strategies



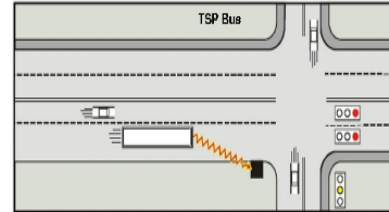
Transit Signal Priority

RED TRUNCATION

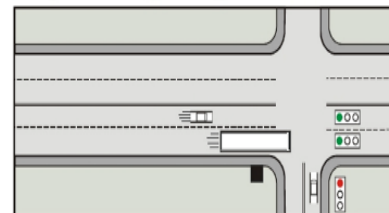
Bus approaches red signal



Signal controller detects bus; terminates side street green phase early

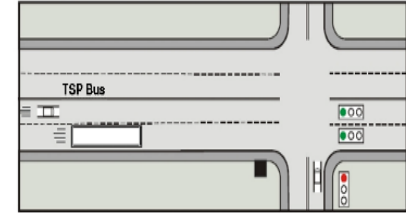


Bus proceeds on green signal

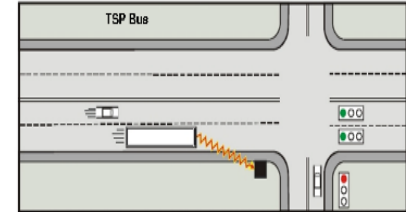


GREEN EXTENSION

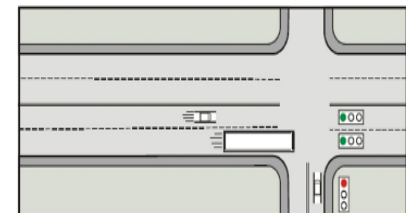
Bus approaches green signal



Signal controller detects bus; extends current green phase



Bus proceeds on extended green signal



1st Avenue, New York City (NYC DOT)

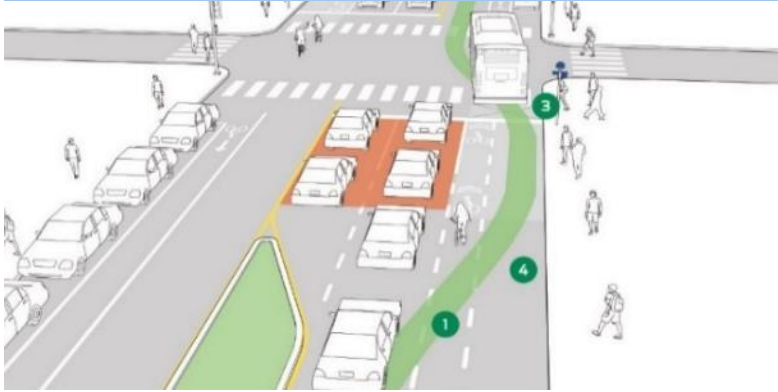


Dedicated Bus Lane



Washington Street, Boston

Queue Jump



MTA Queue Jump Manhattan



Queue Jumps



Bellingham, WA Queue Jump with Transit Signal

Public Engagement Plan

Website Feedback

www.mbta.com/betterbus

Transit Talks

Meeting with stakeholder groups

Street Teams

One-on-one engagement at stations

Regional Public Meetings

Large public meetings

Municipal Engagement

Staff-to-staff engagement and council presentations on request

Regional Public Meetings

Location	Hub	Date	Time of Meeting
Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building	Dudley Square	Wednesday, May 23	5:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Cambridge Rindge & Latin	Harvard Square	Wednesday, May 30	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Jamaica Plain Branch Library	Forest Hills	Thursday, May 31	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
North Quincy High School	Quincy	Monday, June 4	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
North Shore Community College	Lynn	Wednesday, June 6	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Holiday Inn Boston - Bunker Hill	Sullivan Square	Thursday, June 7	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Better Bus Project: Schedule

Phase One: Service Improvement Plan

Plan, analyze, partner and operationalize internal and external enhancements to improve the existing bus network

Phase Two: Network Redesign

System-wide reimagining of the bus network based on Phase I service analysis and capital investments, combined with network-level goals and metrics

Public Outreach and Feedback

Early 2018

- Market Analysis
- Evaluate Existing Service
- Identify Strengths, Weaknesses, and Opportunities

Late 2018

- Evaluate, Develop and Vet scenarios
- Adopt Service Improvement Plan
- Conduct Network Redesign Analysis

Program Relationship Legend:

- Service Improvement Plan
- Network Redesign

- Mid 2018
- Identify Service Design Opportunities
 - Identify Transit Priority Opportunities
 - Network Redesign: Project Initiation

Mid 2018

- 2019
- Implement Service Improvement Plan
 - Draft Alternative Network Designs
 - Select Preferred Network Design

2019



We want your input!

Visit the interactive stations:

5. **Your Top 3 Priorities** – Write your responses on sticky notes.
6. **Your Transit Priorities** – Place dots on two boards to let us know your preference.
7. **Bus Service Maps** – Write your comments and ideas on sticky notes.
8. **Feedback Area** – Fill out a survey card.

Participate on the project website: www.mbta.com/betterbus