ACTC

January 9, 2019

# Agenda

Arlington Public Schools

- SB Work Session – January 22, 2019
  - Policy/PIP revisions – Pupil Transportation
- Bus Efficiency Projects
  - General Education Service
  - SPED Transportation
    - Workshop and plan development
  - Transit Integration
- ART Pilot

Outline for Work Session

- Current Policy/PIPs Overview
- Quick review of pre-sent Transportation 101
- Discuss Operational Goals for System
- Operational Priorities to address Goals
- Next Steps
    - Community engagement plan & schedule
    - Draft policy revisions
- Return to SB in June with Policy revisions

Policy 50.5 Transportation

- Defines who is eligible for bus transportation and establishes busing zones; and when buses are provided

- Defines staff use of School Board owned vehicles
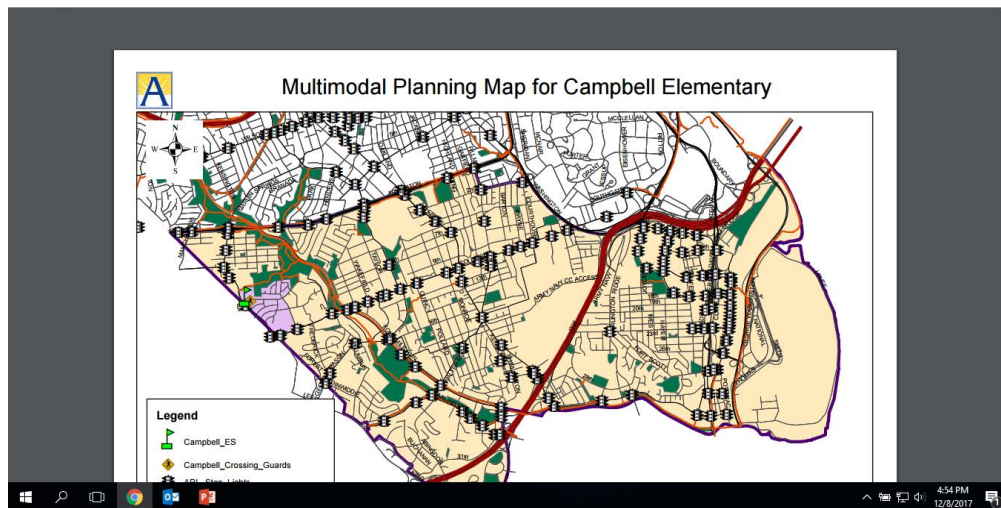
PIP 50.5.1 Pupil Transportation

Arlington Public Schools

- Student/passenger safety standards
- Driver/attendant safety standards
- Transport to/from school
- Athletic and extracurricular events
- Field trips
- Other programs
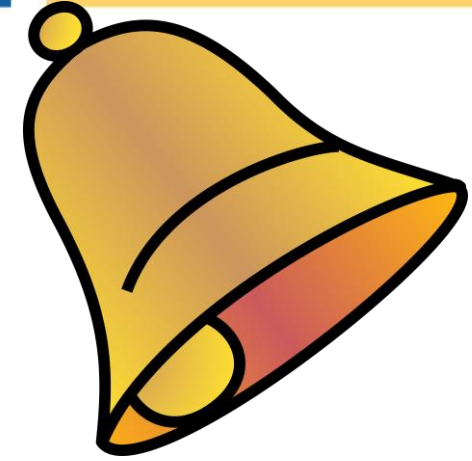- Field trip reimbursement
- Transport home for ill students

APS GO!
Smart Routes, Smart Choices

Additional Guidance Needed

- Developing Bell Times
- Special Education Transportation

Existing Bell Times

- Arrival
  - 7:50 AM (5 MS)
  - 7:55 AM Career Ctr/Arlington Community HS
  - 8:00 AM (4 ES)
  - 8:19 AM (3 HS)
  - 8:25 AM (4 ES)
  - 9:00 AM (15 ES)
  - 9:15 AM Stratford
  - 9:24 AM H-B Woodlawn

- Dismissal
  - 2:24 PM (5 MS)
  - 2:41 PM (4 ES)
  - 3:01 PM (3 HS)
  - 3:06 PM (4 ES)
  - 3:10 PM CC/Arlington Community
  - 3:41 PM (15 ES)
  - 4:00PM Stratford
  - 4:06 PM H-B Woodlawn

Transcription 101

- System overview
- Ridership Stats
- Measuring Productivity
- On-going challenges
  - Chronic Driver shortages *(-16/day)*
  - Number of Trips *(400+)* and Stops *(~2500)*
  - Increasing traffic volumes
  - Constrained Budget/Fleet size
  - Lack of Parking for Buses
  - Bell Times
  - Long Routes
  - Early pick ups
  - On time Issues
  - Special Education Transportation Planning
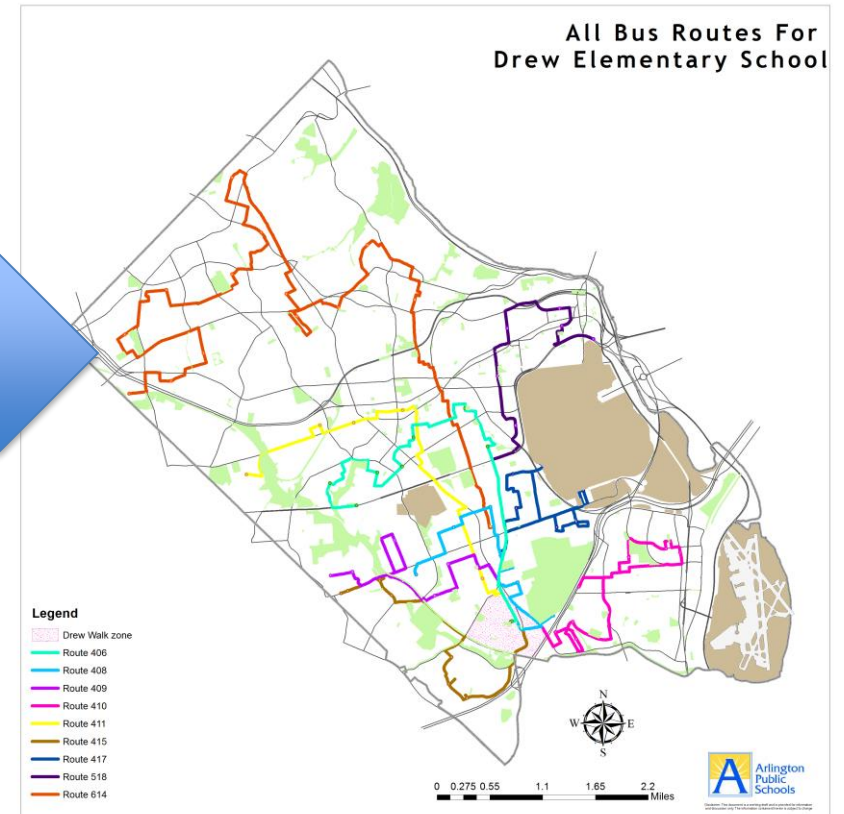 -

Operational Goals

- Safe bus ride
- Safe stop locations
- On-time performance (OTP)
- Limited ride time
- Sustainable use of resources

Operational Priorities to Meet Goals

- Reducing Yellow bus travel time
- Increasing On-Time performance
- Improving Bus Productivity
- Integrating with Transit
- Improving SPED Transportation

Route 614

All Bus Routes For
Drew Elementary School

Legend

Drew Walk zone
Route 406
Route 408
Route 409
Route 410
Route 411
Route 415
Route 417
Route 518
Route 614

0 0.275 0.55   1.1   1.65   2.2
                                         Miles

Next Steps

- Survey Bus Eligible Families re: Bus Use
  - February

- Community workshops
  - Use Survey results to inform workshops
  - Feb/Mar/Apr

- Draft Policy revisions

Bus Efficiency

What do we mean by efficiency?

- ✓ Bus arrives on-time to school
- ✓ Bus routes are not long and meandering
- ✓ Student ride times are limited
- ✓ Stops serve many students
- ✓ Stops do not change frequently
- ✓ Buses are filled (i.e. "productive")
- ✓ Buses do not travel a lot of "deadhead" time
- ✓ Service is cost-effective

Drew No County Route Summary

Arlington Public Schools

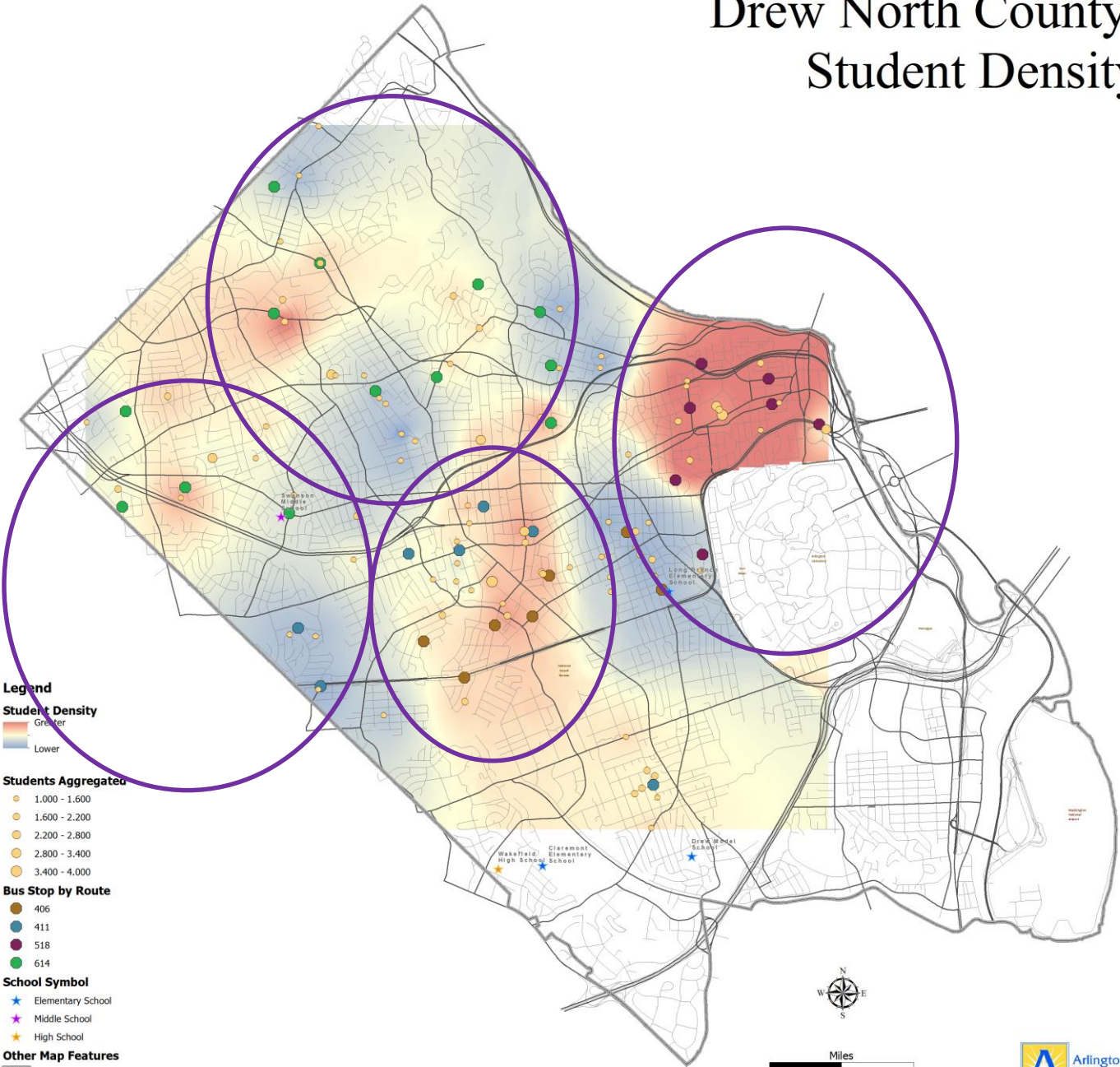|	406	411	518	614
# Routes Prior	Abingdon, Wakefield	Claremont	Carlin Springs, Long Branch	Swanson
Launch location	Wakefield	Claremont	Long Branch	Swanson MS
Prior school Bell times	8:00 AM/8:19 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM/8:25 AM	7:50 AM
Drop-off time for prior school	7:31 AM/8:00AM	7:33 AM	7:15 AM/8:04 AM	7:20 AM
First pick-up time	8:20 AM	8:02 AM	8:24 AM	7:39:00 AM*
Sheduled arrival time	8:55 AM	8:46 AM	8:52 AM	8:45 AM
Scheduled Travel time	35 mins	44 mins	28 mins	1 hr 6 mins
No. Pick Up Stops	7	7	7	13
Total students assigned	31	26	25	47
Avg Assigned Students per stop	4.4	3.7	3.6	3.6
Avg No. Students riding	25	20	22	33

Drew North County Student Density
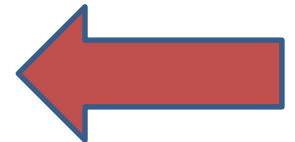
Arlington Public Schools

Legend
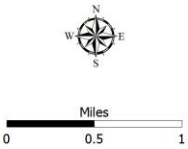
Student Density
Greater
Lower

Students Aggregated
○ 1.000 - 1.600
○ 1.600 - 2.200
○ 2.200 - 2.800
○ 2.800 - 3.400
○ 3.400 - 4.000

Bus Stop by Route
● 406
● 411
● 518
● 614

School Symbol
★ Elementary School
★ Middle School
★ High School

Other Map Features
▭ Arlington County Boundary

Drew North County
Student Density

Arlington Public Schools

Suggestions for Reducing Travel Time

- Consolidate Stops
- Allow families to choose any stop (on any route) to have their child formally assigned*

any deviations follow same practice as now (note from parent about change)

Summer School Consolidated Bus Stop Pilot – MS & HS

- **Two summer school sites: MS @ Kenmore; HS @ Wakefield**
  - about 1,500 students eligible for bus (1,130 HS; 380 MS)
- **MS** = 14 routes; 29 stops; avg # stops per route= 2 (range 1-3)
  - Avg students/stop = 13
- **HS** = 23 Gen Ed routes; 42 stops; avg # stops per route = 2 (range 1-5)
  - Avg students/stop = 28
- **Travel time** minimized due to limited stops
  - Longest HS route from Falls Church* to Wakefield w/ 5 stops @ 45 mins
- **Parent survey** (77 responses)
  - For those who did not take the bus:
    - **none** said it was because the ride was too long.
    - 2 of 15 said it was because the stop was too far
  - Most students walked to the stop, some were driven, some biked

Innovations in Other Districts

- Boston – MIT algorithm
- Denver – Success Express

Improving Special Ed Transportation Planning

- Using results of Oct Workshop
- Creating action plan and timeline
- Top items to address:
  - Coordination b/t SPED Office and Transportation
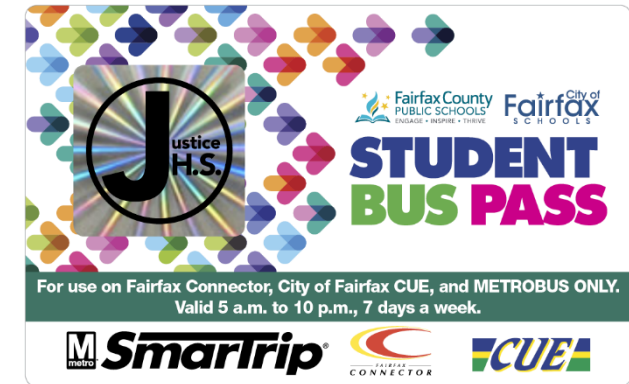 - Obtaining Opt-out information
  - Communications

Integrating with Transit: Peer Experience

1. **Portland, Maine**
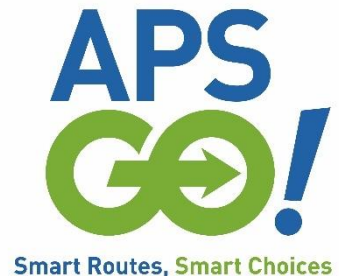   - No Yellow Buses for HS students; Transit Passes only; Free to students; Unlimited rides

2. **Justice HS in Fairfax County, VA**
   - Special pass for Connector, CUE and some VA Metro routes; Free to students

3. **Minneapolis, MN**
   - No Yellow buses for HS; Transit pass only; Free to students; Unlimited rides
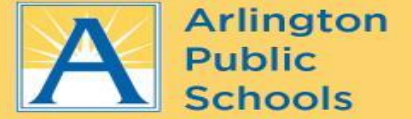
Discussion

ART Bus Integration Project

# Systems Comparison

Arlington Public Schools

- APS
  - **Fleet:** 189 Buses
    - 133 Gen Ed
    - 56 SPED
  - **Routes:** 154
    - serving 407 runs for ES, MS & HS and SPED
  - **Stops:** ~2,500 stops

  - **Ridership** (Gen Ed):
    - Eligible ~ 15,500
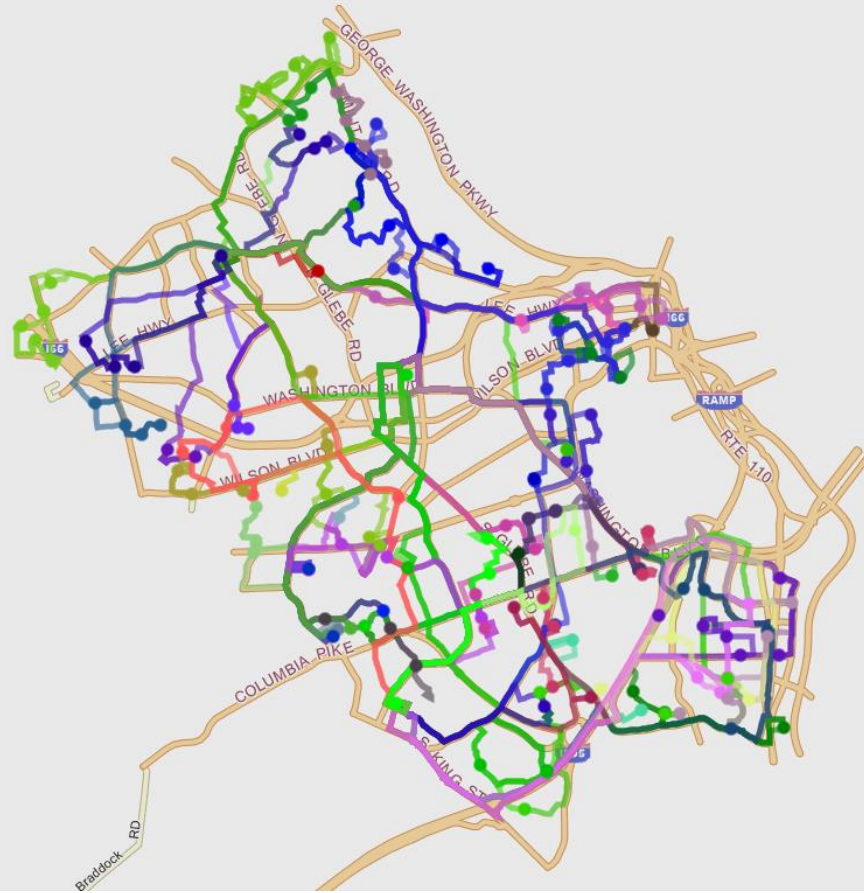   - Actual ~ 5,500

- ART
  - **Fleet:** 68 buses (46 for peak service; 19 spares)

  - **Routes:** 15

  - **Stops:** ~650 stops (about 1,100 with Metrobus)

  - **Span of service** = *varies by route, but generally around 5:30 am to midnight*

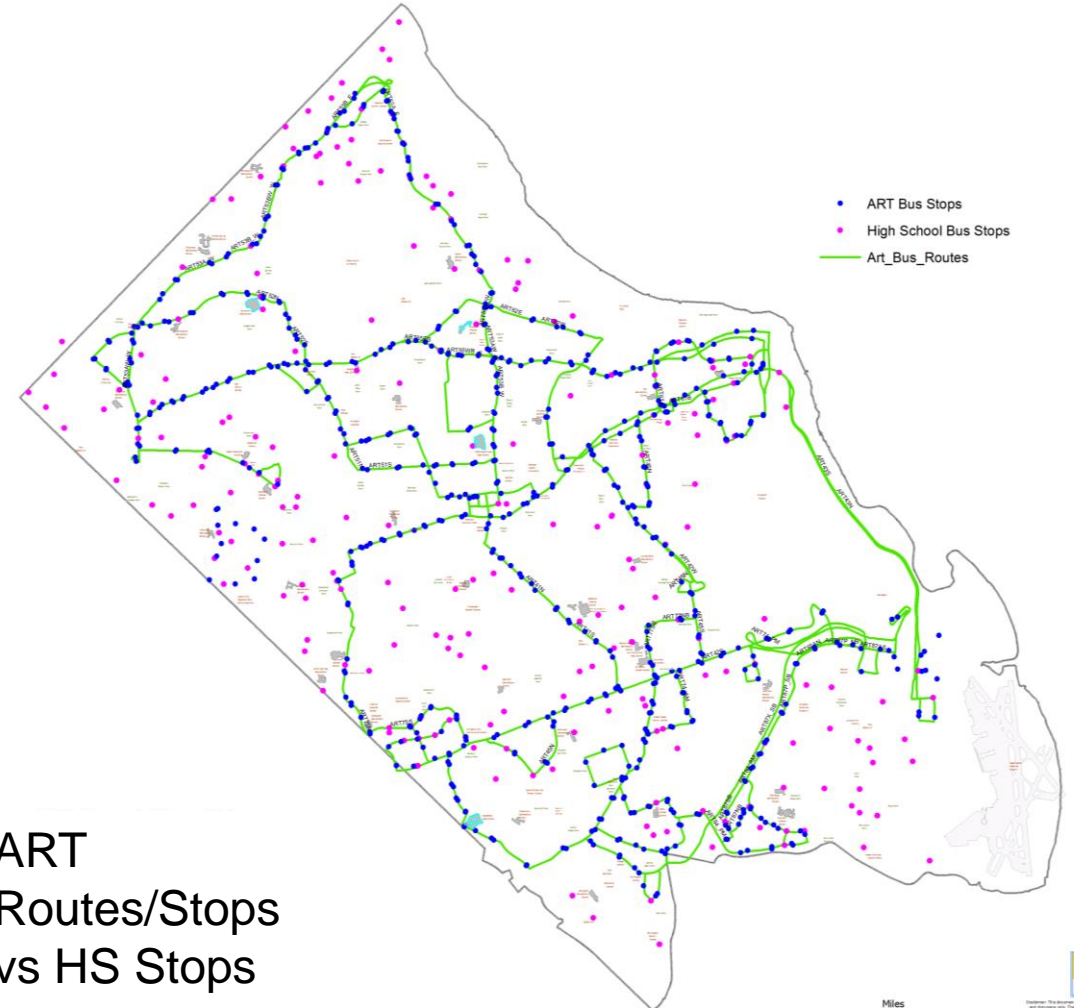 - **Avg Weekday Frequency** = 10-30 mins(peak); 15 - 60 (off peak)
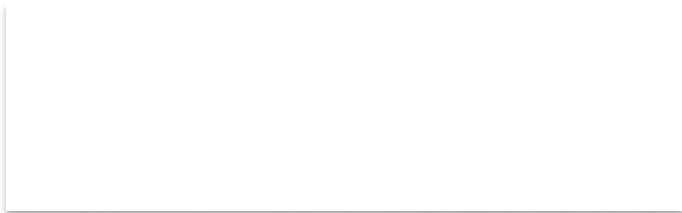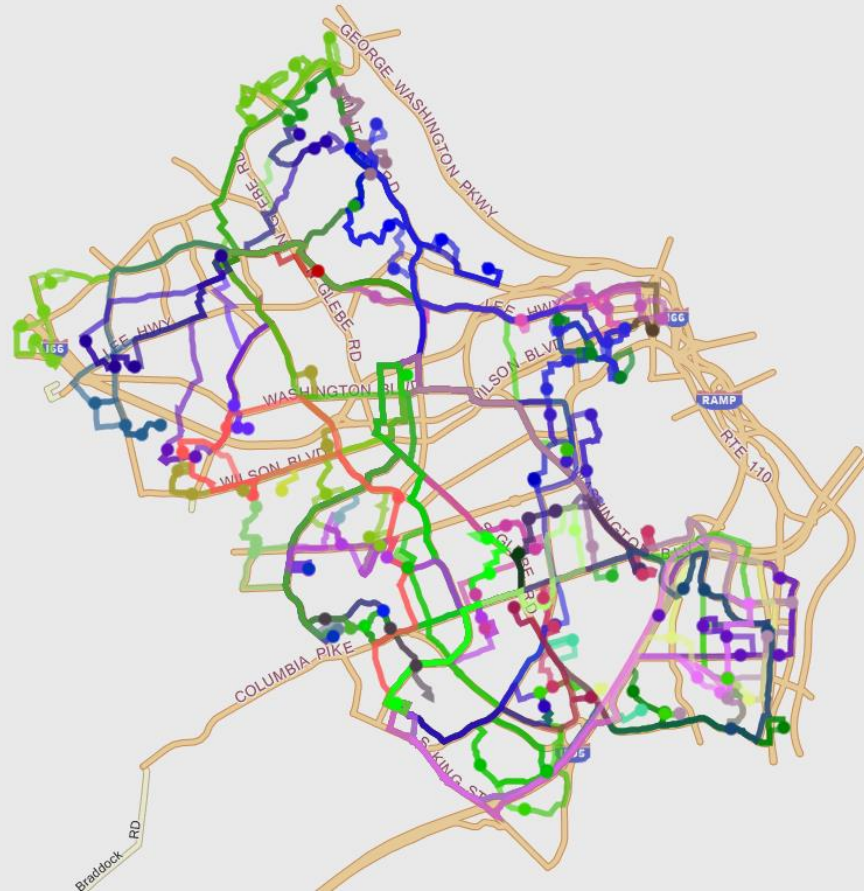
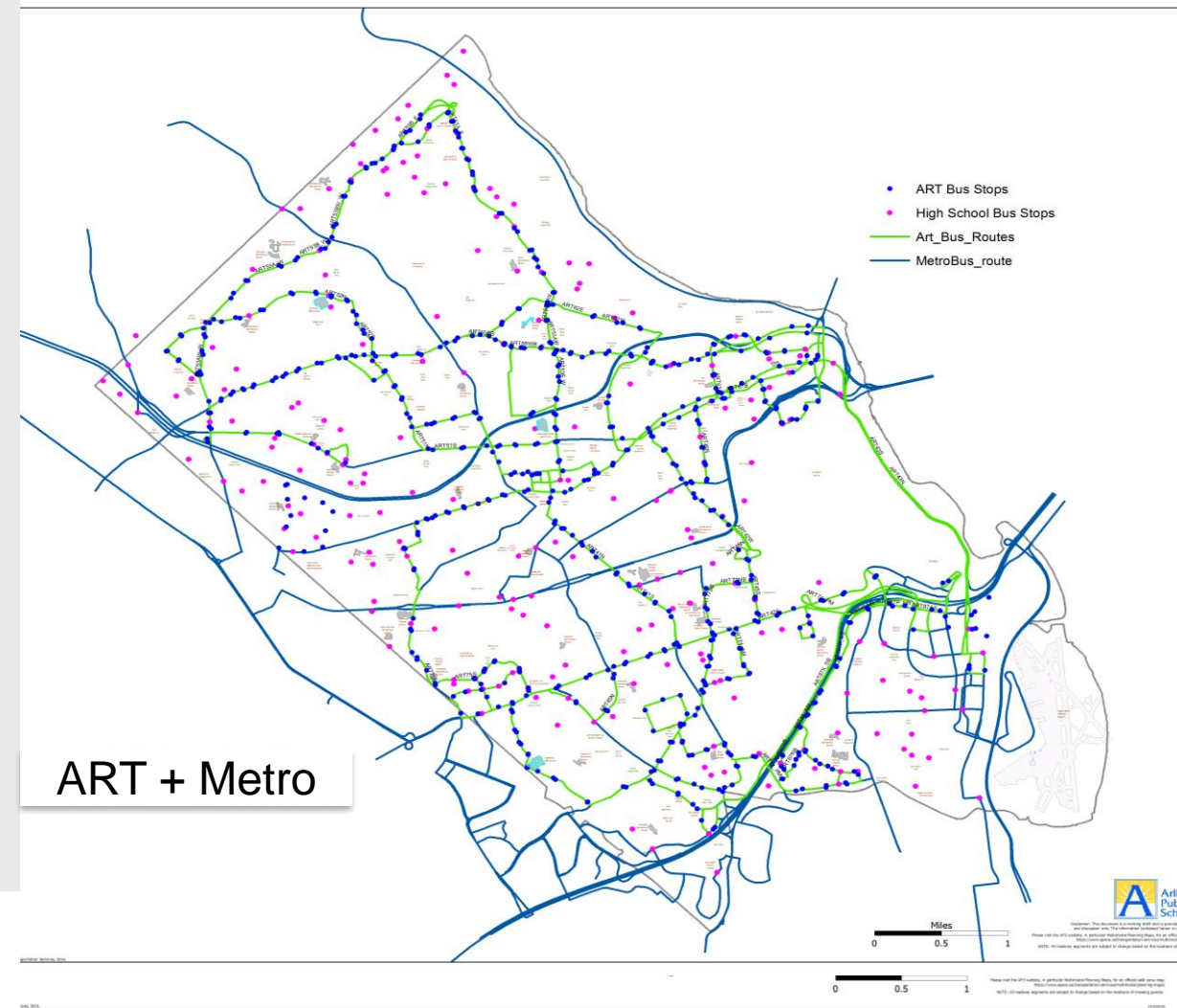# HS Route Coverage Comparison: ART

HS Yellow Bus Routes

ART
Routes/Stops
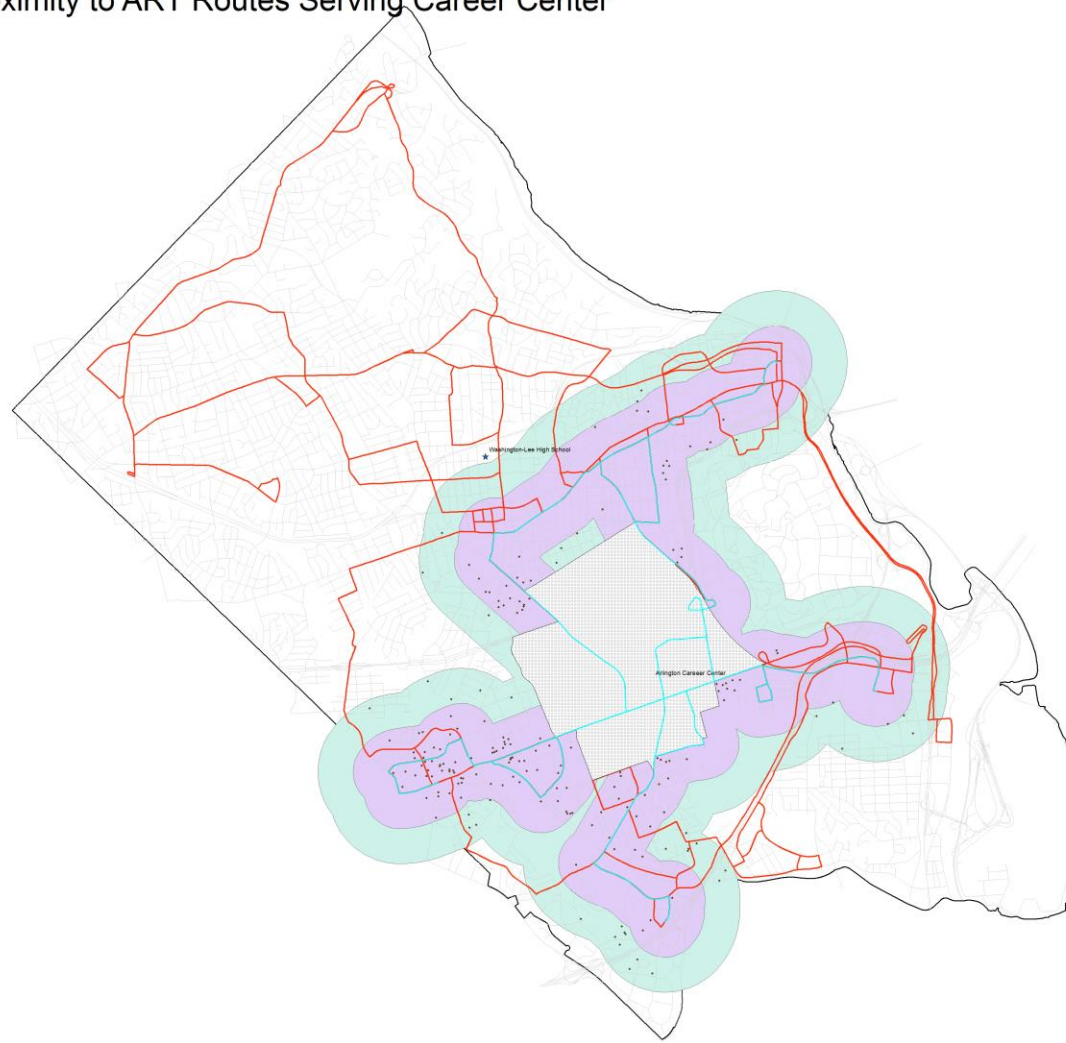vs HS Stops

HS Route Coverage Comparison: ART + Metrobus

HS Yellow Bus Routes

ART + Metro

Legend:
- ART Bus Stops
- High School Bus Stops
- Art_Bus_Routes
- MetroBus_route

Potential Rider Proximity to ART Routes Serving Career Center

Next Steps

- Review ART and Bell Time Schedules for alignment
- Determine implementation parameters
  - Eligibility
  - Terms of Service
- Budgeting
- Outreach
- Implementation schedule