



# Transportation Management Program Office Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2019

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## 395 Express Lanes/South Parking Construction Updates

Since January 22, 2019, the Eads Street traffic pattern has returned to one lane on both sides of Eads Street, inbound and outbound, while construction work continues along the median. The temporary relocation of Route 610 Stafford and Mine Road slug stations will remain at the Kiss and Ride area on N. Rotary Rd during the Eads Street construction.

With weather conditions improving, construction work for curb and gutter, as well as drilling and concrete pours are progressing at the "Pork Chop" to support the bus loop construction. Please continue to pay close attention to signage to ensure safety around construction activities.



### 395 Express Lanes

#### The express version

- The 395 Express Lanes will offer drivers more ways to travel in Northern Virginia right up to the Washington, D.C. line
- Learn about commuter solutions that can help you get around the area as we work during construction
- Find out how the 395 Express Lanes will make getting to and from the Pentagon and Crystal City easier

There's a lot in motion as we get closer to the 395 Express Lanes grand opening in the fall of 2019. When the Lanes officially open, drivers will enjoy more traveling options in the D.C. metro area. Whatever your traveling style may be, the 395 Express Lanes are sure to speed up your trip.

Since the project is in full swing, here's what you need to know about traveling during this time and what to expect from the new Lanes.

#### At-a-glance

##### About the project

##### Pentagon updates

##### Commuter solutions

##### Construction activity

##### Contact us

#### Commuter solutions

New travel incentives are now available during the construction of the 395 Express Lanes project. These incentives make it easier for you to ride the bus, carpool, vanpool and telework along the I-395 corridor. More about these new incentives and commuting options below.

Need to find a carpool or bus route? The following resources will help you on your way:

- Commuter Connections
- NuRide
- Guaranteed Ride Home
- Slug-Lines

#### Take the bus

Additional bus services have been added during peak hours on a popular OmniRide route, as well as two Metrobus commuter routes to help alleviate traffic in the corridor.

[Learn more](#)

#### Join a carpool

Carpool with one or more people and you may receive up to \$230 through the Commuter Connections "Pool Rewards" program.

[Learn more](#)

#### Start a vanpool

To make the process easier, financial assistance and new rider matching is available to help start new vanpools traveling on I-395.



During the last weekend of March and first weekend of April, additional construction work will take place along the portion of Eads Street leading into the Pentagon Transit Center (PTC). There will be partial road closure for these two weekends. There will be minimal impact to regular vehicular traffic. Weekend bus services will utilize an alternate entrance to the PTC. Services will not be disrupted. You can follow us on Facebook at WHSTransportation and on Twitter @WHS\_Transport: #395ExpressInfo for more information.

Updates on the 395 Express Lanes project will continue to be posted on the 395 Express Lanes website. Recently, the website underwent a digital makeover. The previous URL at [395ExpressLanes.com/pentagon](http://395ExpressLanes.com/pentagon) will redirect to the new website at [www.expresslanes.com/projects/395](http://www.expresslanes.com/projects/395). The 395 Express Lanes website is a good resource to locate alternative commuting options. The 395 Express Lanes Project is offering travel incentives along the I-395 corridor to encourage commuters to try alternatives other than driving alone. If you have any questions or don't know where to start, please contact the WHS TMPO at [whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.dod-shuttle-bus@mail.mil](mailto:whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.dod-shuttle-bus@mail.mil)

## ISD Director's Message



As the 395 Express Lanes/South Parking Improvements Project is progressing, this is a great time to try alternative commuting options other than driving alone. Visit the new 395 Express Lanes website at [www.expresslanes.com/project/395](http://www.expresslanes.com/project/395) to learn about rideshare options. WHS TMPO will be hosting a Rideshare Fair at the Pentagon in late March to provide additional rideshare resources in the NCR. Be sure to stop by to learn more about ridesharing and follow them on WHSTransportation and @WHS\_Transport for the latest transportation information.

*Regina M. Grant*

Ms. Regina M. Grant  
Director, ISD

## Upcoming Events



- ◆ **Mar 6 and Mar 20, 2019:** *WMATA Reduced Fare Program In-Person Application at the Pentagon Metro Station from 9am to 2pm.*
- ◆ **Mar 21, 2019:** *Pentagon Rideshare Fair; 10:30am to 1:30pm, Pentagon 2nd Floor, Apex 9 and 10.*

## The Commuter Store at the Pentagon Metro Entrance

Open Monday-Friday  
6:30am-6:30pm

One stop for all of your commuting needs. Items for purchase include SmarTrip cards, E-ZPass, DASH pass, VRE pass and much more.



## 395 Express Lanes Project Corner



**Project Overview:** The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Express Lane Project will extend the I-395 Express Lanes (also known as High Occupancy Toll - HOT Lanes) eight miles north from Turkeycock Run near Edsall Road to past the Eads Street Interchange in Arlington. The scope of the project includes: (1) conversion of the current two High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes into three HOT lanes; (2) relocation of tour bus drop-off from South Parking "Pork Chop" area to the Hayes Street Lot (completed in Sep 2017); (3) the construction of a bus loop in the "Pork Chop" area to improve traffic flow and safety on the Reservation (began in Feb 2018); and (4) the addition of a dedicated lane on South Rotary Road to act as the on ramp to access the new HOT Lanes during the PM rush hours. To stay informed on the construction progress, lane closure notifications and travel alternatives, visit the 395 Express Lanes Project website – [www.expresslanes.com/projects/395](http://www.expresslanes.com/projects/395).

## 395 Express Lanes Travel Incentives

New travel incentives continue to be available during the construction of the 395 Express Lanes project. Under the **Carpool Incentive Program**, the existing 'Pool Rewards' program administered by Commuter Connections will offer an additional \$100 to participants who join a new three-person carpool or add a third person to an existing two-person carpool during a three-month period for new carpools in the I-395 corridor. Contact [ridematching@mwkog.org](mailto:ridematching@mwkog.org) for eligibility information. Another incentive program is called the **Van Start Program**, which is open to all newly formed vanpools that travel any portion of the I-395 corridor and provides financial assistance to subsidize empty seats that otherwise would have prevented the formation of the vanpool. Contact the Van Start Program Manager at [Utz@gwregion.org](mailto:Utz@gwregion.org) for eligibility requirements.

The following links also provide ridesharing resources by jurisdiction:



**GO Alex**

**City of Alexandria:**

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/GOAlex>



**Arlington County:**

<https://www.commuterpage.com>



**Fairfax County Commuter Services:**

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/commuter-services#gsc.tab=0>



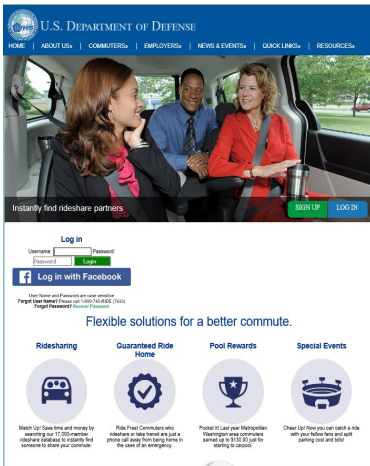
**Prince William County:**

<https://www.prtctransit.org>

Potomac and Rappahannock  
Transportation Commission



# Ridematching with Commuter Connections



Ridesharing is an effective and convenient commuting alternative with the benefits of reduced travel time via the use of High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) and High-Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes. If you ever need to return home in a rush, you can also receive a free trip home via the Guaranteed Ride Home Program. It's free for those who carpool, vanpool, bike, walk, or take transit to work at least twice a week.

WHS TMPO has teamed with Commuter Connections, a program of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and home to the regional database of thousands of area commuters with ridesharing needs, to offer a dedicated ridesharing service for DoD personnel who commute to and from the Pentagon, Mark Center and Suffolk Building.

To begin, all you need to do is to sign up at [www.commuterconnections.org/dod](http://www.commuterconnections.org/dod). The following are 4 simple steps:

1. Go to: [www.commuterconnections.org/dod](http://www.commuterconnections.org/dod) or the main Commuter Connections website and use our DoD employer number, **1541179** during registration
2. Select **Sign Up** and it will take you to the **Create Account—New Account Form**.
3. Complete all required information. Provide as much details as you can so that a thorough match can be performed.
4. Your account will be activated. WHS TMPO will review your information and begin the ridesharing process based on criteria you provided.

Once a match is found, available options will be provided to you via email. You can then begin reviewing the information and form/join carpools. For your convenience, we have compiled some useful tips in carpooling to help facilitate a successful carpool experience. Be sure to also explore other regional commuter information available on the Commuter Connections website. You can also find a listing and location of close to 400 Park and Ride lots across the region. Regional commuters take advantage of the Park and Ride lots to join up with carpools and vanpools and most Park and Ride lots offer free parking. Approximately two thirds of the Park and Ride lots also provide bus and rail services.

If you have any questions, please email the WHS TMPO at [whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.dod-shuttle-bus@mail.mil](mailto:whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.dod-shuttle-bus@mail.mil).

## Tips for Successful Carpooling

- Determine Your Carpool Route and Schedule.
- Draw Up a Schedule for Driving Responsibilities.
- Create a Carpool Contact Information Sheet.
- Reimburse Driving Expenses.
- Be Punctual.
- Carpool Etiquette – come to an agreement on what is acceptable.
- Drive Carefully and Keep the Vehicle Clean.
- Respect Your Fellow Carpooler.
- Make Carpooling Serve One Purpose – don't make unscheduled stops.



## Transform 66: Commuter Options



The Transform 66 Project for both Outside and Inside the Beltway in Northern Virginia is scheduled for completion in December 2022. During this time, construction activities are ongoing at various portions of I-66. While major efforts are made to minimize impacts to motorists, disruption will occur, especially during rush hours. Travel alternatives, including incentives, are available to help commuters and others stay mobile and safe during construction. Commuters are encouraged to explore the options to form or join a vanpool. The Transform 66 Project currently offers incentives for people creating new vanpools to include \$200-per-seat subsidy (prorated over four months), \$350 gas card incentive for operators of 10+ passenger vans on I-66 and free SmarTrip Cards with a preloaded subsidy for I-66 vanpool riders. Visit Vanpool Alliance at <https://vanpoolalliance.org> to find and join a vanpool.

There are also incentives for bus riders during the I-66 construction. Please see the following:

- ◆ Half-price fares are available on OmniRide I-66 bus routes from Gainesville and Manassas.
- ◆ Ride for \$1 on select Fairfax Connector bus routes that operate on I-66 with access to the Vienna Metro
- ◆ Daily commuter bus service available from Front Royal and Linden Park and Ride Lots to Washington, DC with stops at Rosslyn Metro, Metro Center and L'Enfant Plaza. This service is eligible for transit subsidies. Go to [ridessmartva.org](http://ridessmartva.org) for more information.
- ◆ Express OmniRide service between Haymarket and Rosslyn/Ballston offered by PRTC with four morning and four afternoon/evening trips Monday - Friday. During I-66 construction, OmniRide will charge half-fares as part of the VDOT/DRPT incentive program. For specific fare and schedule information, visit [www.prtctransit.org](http://www.prtctransit.org). Additionally, Arlington Transit plans to honor PRTC tickets for connection at Rosslyn and Ballston.

# Metro Platform Improvement Project: Summer 2019



## Platform Improvement Project

As part of a three-year capital project, Metro will reconstruct the outdoor platforms at 20 Metrorail stations to address structural deficiencies after decades of exposure to the elements. Rebuilding platforms is heavy construction activity that requires tracks be taken out of service to allow for demolishing existing structures, access to the construction area, and concrete pouring.

Metro, along with regional transportation partners, are working diligently to develop mitigations to reduce impacts to customers. A Northern Virginia Stakeholder Group led by Metro and supported by the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission was stood up with more than 140 members to include local government, state government, Congressional offices, federal government, transit providers, police and emergency management, Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority.

The first phase of this capital project will begin on **May 25, 2019**, the weekend before Memorial Day through **September 2, 2019**. There will be no Blue or Yellow Line rail service south of National Airport with the following stations closed: **Braddock Road, King Street, Eisenhower Avenue, Huntington, Van Dorn Street, and Franconia-Springfield**. The **National Airport station will remain open**. After September 2, 2019, there will be construction activities at the Van Dorn Street, Huntington and Franconia-Springfield stations; however, these stations will remain open.

Supplemental service alternatives are being developed by Metro to include free express bus shuttles to Pentagon from Franconia-Springfield and Huntington stations, free local bus shuttles connecting closed stations and additional capacity on existing routes. Other local transit providers, such as Fairfax Connector, Alexandria DASH, Arlington ART, and OmniRide are looking into providing enhanced services on existing routes. Metro is also working with regional partners to expand alternative travel options and demand management. Metro is currently working on finalizing the project details and more information will be available on their website in early March. The updated website will include project overview, construction approach, trip alternatives planner, service impacts, supplemental service alternatives, and links to jurisdictional and partner sites. WHS TMPO is closely coordinating with Metro and regional partners to disseminate the latest and relevant updates to our personnel. If you have any questions, please contact the WHS TMPO at [whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.dod-shuttle-bus@mail.mil](mailto:whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.dod-shuttle-bus@mail.mil).



## Reduced Fare SmarTrip ID



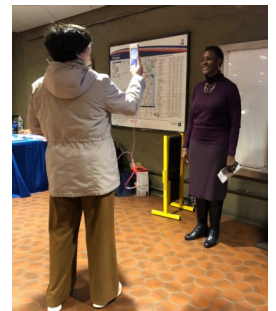
WMATA is offering Reduced Fare SmarTrip ID cards to Veterans with a VA disability rating of 60% or greater. Obtaining a Reduced Fare SmarTrip ID can reduce costs by as much as 50% on Metrorail, Metrobus, MARC, MTA, and other participating providers. Qualifying Veterans must complete Part A of the application, but do NOT need to have their healthcare provider complete Part B or C. Additionally, they must appear in person with a valid photo ID and the original letter of disability notification issued by the VA, a downloaded letter from the DVA website, or their Uniformed Services ID Card for 100% disabled Veterans (DD Form 2765). You do not need to be a federal employee to qualify,

so please share with friends, and others who may be eligible for this discount. Reduced fares will be applied to all trips, even those outside of your commute to/from work. **For MTBP participants**, once you receive a Reduced Fare SmarTrip ID card, please go to <https://mtbp.whs.mil/application> and submit a CHANGE fare program, reduced fares within the expense worksheet, and the new card serial number. Contact MTBP at (571) 256-0962 if you have any questions.

Rather than requiring a trip to Metro HQ, WMATA is offering opportunities to apply for their Disability Reduced Fare Program at the **Pentagon Metro Station** on the following Wednesdays between 9am to 2pm where WMATA staff members will collect completed applications and take photos of the applicants.



- ◆ Mar 6, 2019
- ◆ Mar 20, 2019
- ◆ Apr 3, 2019
- ◆ Apr 17, 2019
- ◆ May 1, 2019
- ◆ May 15, 2019
- ◆ May 29, 2019



## Feb and Mar 2019 DASH

### Passes Available



The WHS Transportation Office provides paper DASH passes for Mark Center employees. The DASH pass allows free travel on all DASH routes at any time, including evenings and weekends.

February DASH passes are available now, and March DASH passes will be available for pick up beginning the last week in February.

CACs or PFACs are required at the time of pick up. Passes are good for one month and are available in the Transportation Office at Mark Center in Suite 03F21.

## Transportation Alerts

For the latest transportation alerts including shuttle delays, route modifications and changes visit:

<https://my.whs.mil/services/transportation-management-program>

## Shuttle Schedules

For information about DoD Shuttles that service the Pentagon Transit Center (PTC) and Mark Center Station (MCS), visit our CAC-enabled website at:

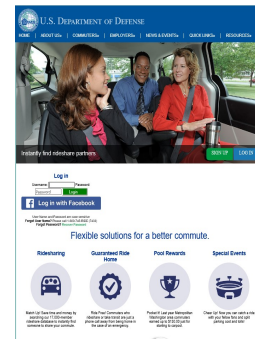
<https://my.whs.mil/services/transportation-management-program>

**\*\*Please arrive at the shuttle stop at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled departure.\*\***

## Ridematching

WHS TMPO partners with Commuter Connections for ridematching at the Pentagon and Mark Center. For more information, please download our Ridematching Brochure:

[https://my.whs.mil/sites/default/files/WHS%20TMPO%20Ridematching%20Brochure%20v1.0\\_0.pdf](https://my.whs.mil/sites/default/files/WHS%20TMPO%20Ridematching%20Brochure%20v1.0_0.pdf)



## Questions/Comments/Concerns

- Pentagon and Mark Center transportation questions/concerns, please contact: (571) 372-7124 or [whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.dod-shuttle-bus@mail.mil](mailto:whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.dod-shuttle-bus@mail.mil)
- Mass Transportation Benefits Program questions/concerns, please contact: (571) 256-0962 or [whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.transitpass@mail.mil](mailto:whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.transitpass@mail.mil)
- Parking Management Office questions/concerns, please contact: (703) 614-7271 (Pentagon), (571) 372-7100 (Mark Center/Suffolk Building), or [whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.parking-program@mail.mil](mailto:whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.parking-program@mail.mil)

### Transportation CAC-Enabled Website:

<https://my.whs.mil/services/transportation-management-program>

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[@WHS\\_Transport](https://twitter.com/WHS_Transport)

## Need to Contact Us?

### Mark Center Transportation Office

Location: Suite 03F21

Hours: 7:30am - 4:00pm (Mon-Fri)

Phone: (571) 372-7124

Email: [whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.dod-shuttle-bus@mail.mil](mailto:whs.pentagon.fsd.mbx.dod-shuttle-bus@mail.mil)

### Pentagon Transportation Office

Location: Room 3B139A

Hours: 7:30am - 4:00pm (Mon-Fri)

