



Potomac and Rappahannock  
Transportation Commission

14700 Potomac Mills Road  
Woodbridge, VA 22192

January 25, 2017

A message from the Interim Executive Director:

I'm pleased to share that PRTC has taken delivery of five new OmniRide buses and is in the process of taking all the required steps to put the vehicles into the active fleet. Those steps include registering and inspecting the vehicles, installing fare boxes, and ensuring that features such as the destination signs and technology components are operating properly.

The 45-foot buses arrived in December from Motor Coach Industries (MCI). Unlike our other buses, the new commuter coaches have three-point seatbelts for passenger safety in compliance with a new federal regulation. Existing vehicles are not required to be retrofitted, and new transit buses are not included under the regulation.

The new vehicles will replace five older model buses that were returned to service in recent years to accommodate the Gainesville-Washington OmniRide route and expanded service in the I-95/I-395 corridor during Express Lanes construction.

Four of the older model buses (40-foot Orions manufactured in 2000) will be auctioned off while the other older bus, a 45-foot MCI manufactured in 2002, will move to PRTC's contingency fleet for use as needed. The new buses cost \$2.8 million. Four of the buses were fully funded by the state through the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, and one bus was paid for with 80% federal funding, 11% state monies and a 9% local share.

We look forward to getting these new vehicles on the road soon to help you have a safer, more enjoyable commute.

Moving forward,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric".

Eric Marx