



Press Release

Maryland Transit Administration

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Enhancements to Maryland Transit's QuickBus 40 Service Lead to Increased Ridership

Spike in Ridership Evident in Weekday and Weekend Service

BALTIMORE, MD (JANUARY 15, 2016) – With the rollout of the Maryland Department of Transportation's Maryland Transit Administration's enhanced QuickBus 40 service between the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid in Baltimore County and City Hall in Baltimore City, the state's pilot BaltimoreLink project is already starting to pay off.

"The average weekday ridership on our QB 40 is up over 1,100 passengers per day, which is an 11.49 percent increase from October to November of 2015," said MTA Administrator Paul Comfort. "Saturday ridership is up 30 percent, or over 1,800 more passengers a day. And, Sunday ridership is up over 17 percent. Plus, QB 40 buses now are running every 10 minutes."

In addition to increasing frequency and reliability on the QB 40 line, other amenities include the installation of new shelters, new colored destination signs on buses and a dedicated staff to keep the buses clean and well maintained.

Of the 380,000 people who use transit in Baltimore daily, two-thirds of them ride the MTA Local Bus.

"So, clearly bus service needs to run well," Comfort added. "To improve, we must make changes. By giving our customers what they want – on-time performance with a clean vehicle and a courteous driver – people are riding transit more and some are actually riding for the first time. Our goal at the MTA is to give Baltimore a transit system it can be proud of."

The QB 40 bus service is just a first step in the massive transit improvements coming to the Baltimore region through a multi-phased plan called BaltimoreLink. This plan will create an interconnected transit system, redesign the entire local and express bus systems and improve connections to jobs and other transit modes. The plan will be fully implemented by June 2017.

For the latest information on MTA service, passengers are urged to check the MTA website at www.mta.maryland.gov. Customers also can call MTA's Transit Information Contact Center Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 410-539-5000 or 410-539-3497 (TTY). Please visit MTA's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/mtamaryland> and follow us on Twitter @mtamaryland. MTA reminds passengers to report unattended bags and unusual behavior to police or transit personnel. If you see something, say something. Visit www.securetransit.org for more information.

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