

# BICYCLES ON MTA

MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

[www.mta.maryland.gov](http://www.mta.maryland.gov)



MTA BICYCLE POLICY  
RACK & ROLL PROGRAM  
BIKES ON RAIL  
STAY SAFE  
BIKE RACKS & LOCKERS  
BALTIMORE BIKE MAP



5/11 5K

YOUR RIDE IS HERE.





# MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION BICYCLE POLICY

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Bicycles on MTA is one of the Maryland Transit Administration's Go Green programs keeping our state on the move while fostering a healthy environment.

Public transportation and bicycles provide more mobility options to everyone, help improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion. In Maryland, public transportation and bicycles can and do work together to allow for longer trips. That's smart transportation – the ability to move seamlessly between transit modes in a healthy, enjoyable manner.

Bicycles are permitted on Light Rail and Metro Subway, except on crowded trains. No bicycles are allowed onboard MTA Buses. Local Buses are equipped with bicycle racks above the front bumper to carry up to two bicycles. You must be 18 years of age or accompanied by an adult who is 18 years of age to bring a bicycle on MTA modes. No more than two bicycles are permitted per wheelchair-accessible transit vehicle. Only folded bicycles are permitted on MARC Trains. To get the most out of biking, stow your bicycle at an MTA-provided bicycle rack or locker located at stations and stops along the system.

# BI·CY·CLE (bī'sīk'əl, -sī'kəl) n.



**A vehicle consisting of a metal frame on two spoked wheels one behind the other and having a seat, handlebars for steering, and two pedals by which it is driven.** -vi. -cled, -cling, -cles. To ride on a bicycle. -bi'cy-clist n.

A bicycle is a two-wheel vehicle, no longer than 72 inches, no higher than 48 inches, or wider than 22 inches. A bicycle whose frame folds and the

wheels come together is permitted on all MTA services, including MARC Train. Motor-powered, recumbent or tandem bicycles are not allowed on MTA services. Motorcycles, mopeds, tricycles and bicycles with trailers or training wheels are not allowed on MTA services. You must be 18 years of age with proof of age or accompanied by an adult who is 18 years of age to bring a bicycle on MTA services. Only one bicycle per person is allowed onboard.

# RACK AND ROLL!

## Tips for Loading and Unloading a Bicycle Using a Bus Front-Mounted Bike Rack:

Local Buses are equipped to carry two bicycles, although there may be an occasion when a bus in service does not have a bicycle rack. The bicycle racks are very easy to use, designed for cyclists to load and unload themselves. See the steps below for loading and unloading.

### LOADING

1. To prepare your bike for loading prior to the arrival of the bus, take off loose items, water bottles, chain locks, or any other dangling objects.
2. Stay back as the bus approaches the stop and do not allow your body or bicycle to extend past the curb area.
3. Alert the operator that you will place a bicycle on the rack, and then go to the front of the bus to load the bicycle from the curb side. Please do not step into oncoming traffic to load your bike.
4. If the rack is in the upright position, using one hand, squeeze the handle to carefully lower the bicycle rack while holding your bike with the other hand.
5. Lift the bicycle, fitting wheels into the labeled slot closest to the bus. If it is the second bicycle on the rack it should face in the opposite direction of the first bicycle.

6. The front tire should be in the wheel slot with the padded hook.
7. Raise the padded hook up and over the front tire so the hook rests at the highest point on the front wheel. The hook adds lateral support for the loaded bicycle.
8. Board the bus, pay the fare and tell the operator at which stop you will depart with your bicycle.
9. Enjoy the ride!

### UNLOADING

1. Don't forget your bicycle is loaded on the bus!
2. Exit from the front door and remind the operator you have a bike to take off the rack.
3. Raise the padded hook off the tire by pulling up and away, and lower it around the tire to its original position on the rack.
4. Lift your bike off the rack.
5. If there are no other bicycles on the rack, return the rack to the upright position by squeezing the handle and folding up the rack until it snaps into position.
6. Step away from the bus toward the curb and wait for the bus to pull away from the stop before safely beginning your bicycle journey.



# BIKES ON RAIL



**Bicycles may be brought aboard the MTA's Light Rail and Metro Subway trains. When using these services be sure to:**

- Push or carry the bicycle when on the elevator, inside the station, on the platform or in the train.
- If the train is crowded due to morning or afternoon rush hour, sporting events or special events, please wait for the next train.
- Stay a safe distance from the loading platform edge at all times before boarding trains.
- Be considerate of other passengers and wait until exiting and entering passengers have cleared the doorway before carrying the bicycle onto the train.
- Follow any instructions given by transit staff regarding bicycle transport.
- In the event a bicycle or other property falls into the track area of the Metro Subway system, **DO NOT** attempt to retrieve it personally. Immediately, approach the Station Attendant for assistance.
- Place the bicycle in the area reserved for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Be prepared to move the bicycle to make way for seniors and individuals with disabilities who have priority over bicycles. Hold onto the bicycle and keep it out of the way of other passengers.

## **MARC Train**

A bicycle whose frame folds and the wheels come together is permitted on MARC Train. The preferred method of transporting a folded bicycle on MARC Train is in a case. Stow folded bicycles so that passenger aisles are kept unobstructed. Folded bicycles are not permitted to be stowed in overhead storage bins. Extreme care must be taken when entering or exiting MARC Train with a bicycle from or onto a low platform.

# STAY SAFE!

Staying safe when riding on the roads means watching out for public transportation vehicles, and audio/visual warning devices. That is important advice because the MTA operates over 70 Local, Express and Commuter Bus lines and nearly 800 buses stop at more than 6,000 bus stops in the Baltimore area. Plus, Light Rail operates predominantly at street level.

## To stay safe, bicyclists must always watch for transit vehicles and practice the following:

- When approaching Light Rail or other railroad tracks, always expect a train at any time, from any direction, and on any track in the vicinity.
- Obey railroad crossing safety devices: that means signals, flashing lights, gate arms, and audible bells.
- **NEVER** try to race a train or piece of track equipment through a grade crossing or intersection.
- Stop, look, and listen before crossing tracks at the designated location. Trains and track equipment move more quickly than they might appear to be moving. If stopped, they may move without warning.
- Do not rely on sound alone to warn of an approaching train as they can be very quiet.
- Light Rail trains follow different traffic signals and may move at unexpected times.

- If you as a bicycle rider cannot see a transit vehicle's outside mirror, the operator of that vehicle is unable to see you.
- A cyclist should never pass a bus on the right side at any time since a bus may turn or pull closer to the curb to pick up or drop off passengers.
- When you pass a bus with its rear angled out into traffic, pass on the left and look around carefully. Pass the front of the bus with plenty of room in case it pulls out or pedestrians appear.
- Buses and other large vehicles need more room to negotiate turning corners, so stay away from the rear of a turning vehicle.





## **BICYCLE RACKS AND LOCKERS**

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Most Light Rail stops and Metro Subway stations have bicycle racks, as well as many MARC Train stations. Racks are available at no cost. Bike lockers are also available throughout the MTA system at several Light Rail stops, Metro Subway stations and MARC Train stations. For locations where bike lockers are available and for information on renting a bicycle locker, call the MTA Office of Customer Information at 410-767-8749. A \$25.00 deposit for the locker is refundable. The yearly cost of renting a locker is \$70.00.

## **I FORGOT MY BIKE WAS ON THE FRONT OF THE BUS! NOW WHAT DO I DO?**

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Call the MTA Transit Information Line 6:00 am – 7:00 pm, Monday – Friday at 410-539-5000 or toll-free 866-RIDE-MTA (743-3682). Or, after business hours, weekdays and on weekends, call the MTA Police 24/7 at 410-454-7720. An MTA Information Agent or MTA Police Officer will ask for specific information about a cyclist's bus ride such as: bus route number, bus vehicle number (if known), time of day of the bus ride, and where the cyclist exited the bus. Every effort will be made to locate the bicycle and arrange for its return.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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### **MTA Office of Customer Information**

Information on Bicycle Lockers and Racks  
6 St. Paul Street, 3rd Floor Baltimore, MD 21202  
410-767-8749 [www.mta.maryland.gov](http://www.mta.maryland.gov)

### **MTA Information**

410-539-5000 or 866-RIDE-MTA (743-3682)

### **Maryland Department of Transportation**

MDOT Director of Bicycle and Pedestrian Access  
7201 Corporate Center Drive  
P.O. Box 548 Hanover, MD 21076  
[www.mdot.state.md.us](http://www.mdot.state.md.us)

### **Guaranteed Ride Home Program**

Once registered in the Guaranteed Ride Home program, bicyclists who ride to work at least two times per week are eligible for up to four free rides home per year in case of personal illness, family emergency or unscheduled overtime.  
1-800-745-RIDE (7433) [www.commuterconnections.org](http://www.commuterconnections.org)

### **State Highway Administration**

Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator  
707 North Calvert St., MS 502  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
410-545-5656 or 800-252-8776  
[bikes@sha.state.md.us](mailto:bikes@sha.state.md.us)

### **Baltimore City**

Bike & Pedestrian Planner  
417 East Fayette St., Suite 555  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
410-396-6858

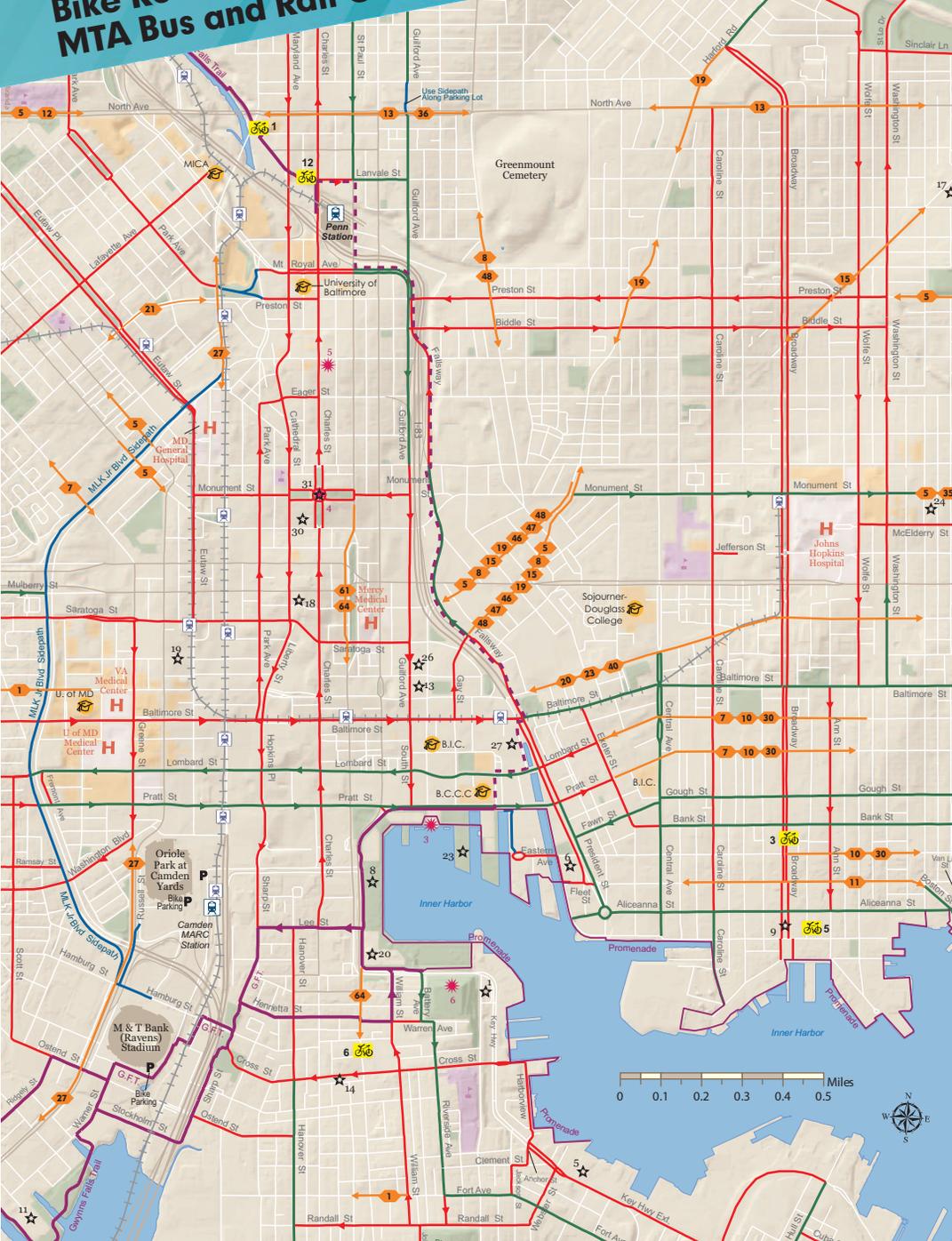
**MTA TTY** 410-539-3497

### **Bike Maryland**

1209 North Calvert St. Baltimore, MD 21202  
410-960-6493 [www.bikemd.org](http://www.bikemd.org)



# Baltimore Metropolitan Area Bike Routes and Nearby MTA Bus and Rail Connections



- ★ **Points of Interest**
  - 1 American Visionary Art Museum
  - 2 Avenue Market (Lafayette Market)
  - 3 B&O Railroad Museum
  - 4 Baltimore Museum of Art
  - 5 Baltimore Museum of Industry
  - 6 Baltimore Public Works Museum
  - 7 Baltimore Ravens (M&T Bank) Stadium
  - 8 Baltimore Visitor Center
  - 9 Broadway Market
  - 10 Bus Terminal – Haines Street
  - 11 Bus Terminal – O'Donnell Travel Plaza
  - 12 Carrie Murray Nature Center
  - 13 City Hall
  - 14 Cross Street Market
  - 15 Cylburn Arboretum Visitor Center
  - 16 Historic Factory, Architectural Interest
  - 17 Hollins Street Market
  - 18 Hostelling International Baltimore Hostel
  - 19 Lexington Market
  - 20 Maryland Science Center
  - 21 Maryland Zoo
  - 22 Mt. Washington Arboretum
  - 23 National Aquarium
  - 24 Northeast Market
  - 25 Oriole Park at Camden Yards
  - 26 Peale Museum
  - 27 Port Discovery
  - 28 Rawlings Conservatory
  - 29 Rogers Mansion
  - 30 Walters Art Museum
  - 31 Washington Monument
- 🚲 **Bike Shops**
  - 1 Baltimore Bike Works
  - 2 Baynesville Bicycle Services
  - 3 Broadway Bicycle
  - 4 Joe's Bike Shop
  - 5 Joe's Falls Point
  - 6 Light Street Cycles
  - 7 Mr. Bikes
  - 8 Outlaw Bike Shop
  - 9 Performance Bicycle Shop
  - 10 Princeton Sports
  - 11 Sports Authority
  - 12 Velocipedo Bike Project
- 🌅 **Scenic Viewpoints**
  - 1 View all around across harbor and into bay
  - 2 View all around across water
  - 3 View all around from top floor of World Trade Center
  - 4 View all around from top of Belvedere Hotel
  - 5 View north & south from top of Belvedere Hotel
  - 6 View north from Federal Hill to downtown
  - 7 View northeast to downtown
  - 8 View south and west across harbor
  - 9 View south across city to downtown
  - 10 View southeast from Moorish tower to downtown
  - 11 View southeast from Pagoda to neighborhoods and bay
  - 12 View southeast to downtown & bay bridge on clear day
  - 13 View west across St. Mary's Cemetery to TV Hill
  - 14 View west from hill top to forest covered valley
- Routes**
  - On Street Bike Facilities  
Includes Bike Lanes, Sharrows, & Signed Routes
  - Routes Commonly Used by Cyclists
  - Shared Use Trail  
Includes Jones Falls Trail, Gwynns Falls Trail, and Herring Run Trail
  - Promenade: Restricted Biking Hours
  - Future Trail
  - Sidepath
  - MTA Bus Routes
- Map Symbols**

🚲 Bike Shop	🚌 MTA Bus
★ Point of Interest	🎓 High School
🌅 Scenic View Point	🎓 University / College
🚊 Light Rail Station	H Hospital
🚇 Metro Station	🌳 Park
🚊 MARC Station	

# NEW BICYCLE COMMUTER BENEFITS ACT

## Transportation Fringe Benefit for Bike Commuters

Employers may reimburse employees up to \$20 per month, tax free, for “reasonable” expenses related to their bike commute, including equipment purchases, bike purchases, repairs, helmets, and storage if the bicycle is used as a “substantial part” of the commuter’s trip to work for the month. If an employee already receives another tax-free commuter benefit for transit, vanpooling or parking, then the benefit is not valid.

Ask your boss how to take advantage of the new Bicycle Commuter Benefit.

Call **410-767-8750** or visit  
[www.commuterchoicemaryland.com](http://www.commuterchoicemaryland.com)

