

Better  
**Bus**  
Project

Making transit  
better together

# Bus Network Redesign

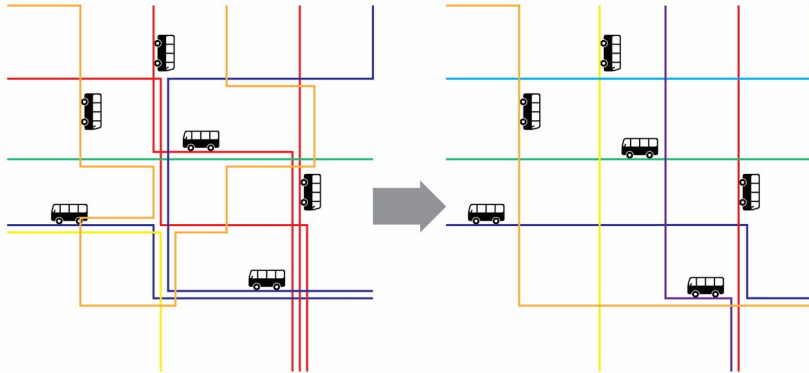
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June 2022



# What is Bus Network Redesign?

**A complete re-imagining of the MBTA's bus network to better reflect the travel needs of the region and create a better experience for current and future bus riders.**



# Why are we doing this?

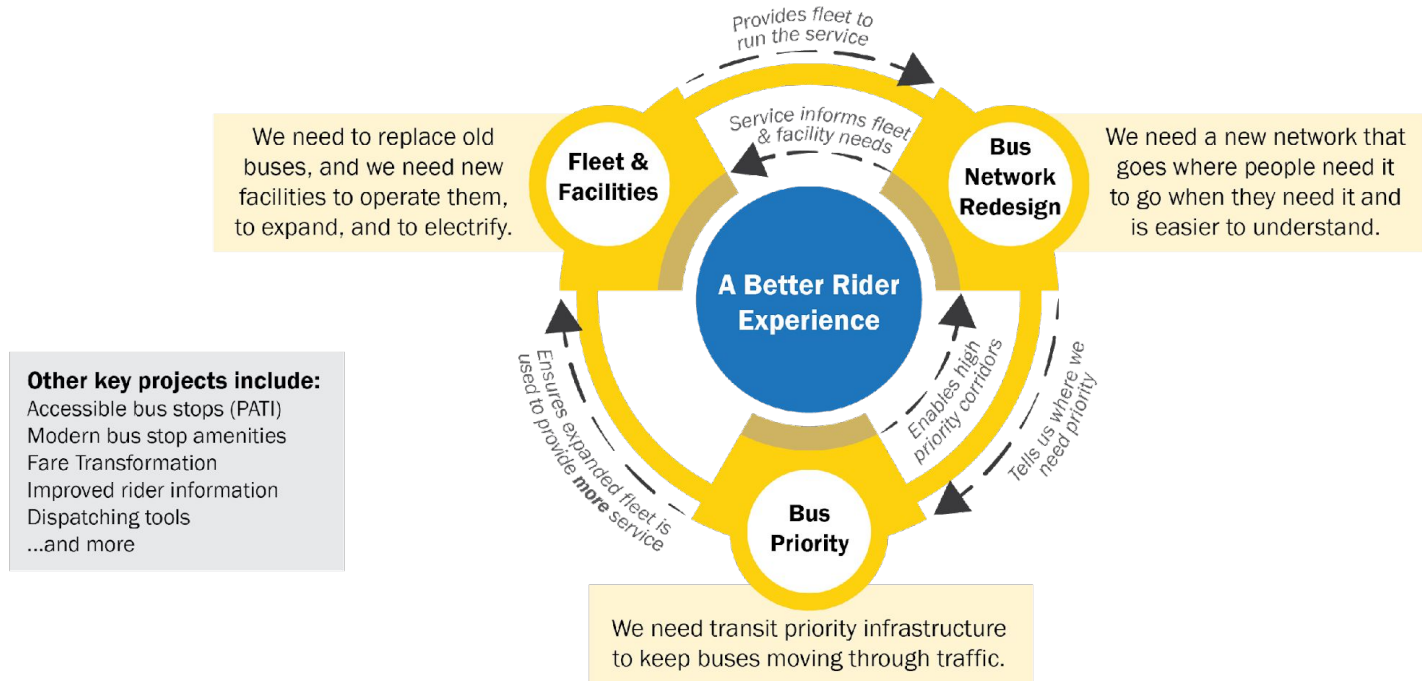
**The region has changed.**

**But our bus network has not changed with it.**

**Transit is essential to the region's economy. And the bus serves our most transit-dependent populations.**

**So it's essential that our bus network adapts to change.**

# The Redesign is coordinated with other initiatives to maximize benefit to riders



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# What we are trying to do

- 1 Equity first\*, prioritizing the needs of those who depend on buses and need frequent, reliable service**
- 2 More frequent service in busy neighborhoods**
- 3 More all-day service**
- 4 New connections to more places  
(including non-downtown centers)**
- 5 A network that's simpler and easier to use**

**\*Equity is defined as improving access and quality of service for transit-critical populations**

(low-income populations, people of color, seniors, people with disabilities, or people who live in households with few or no vehicles)

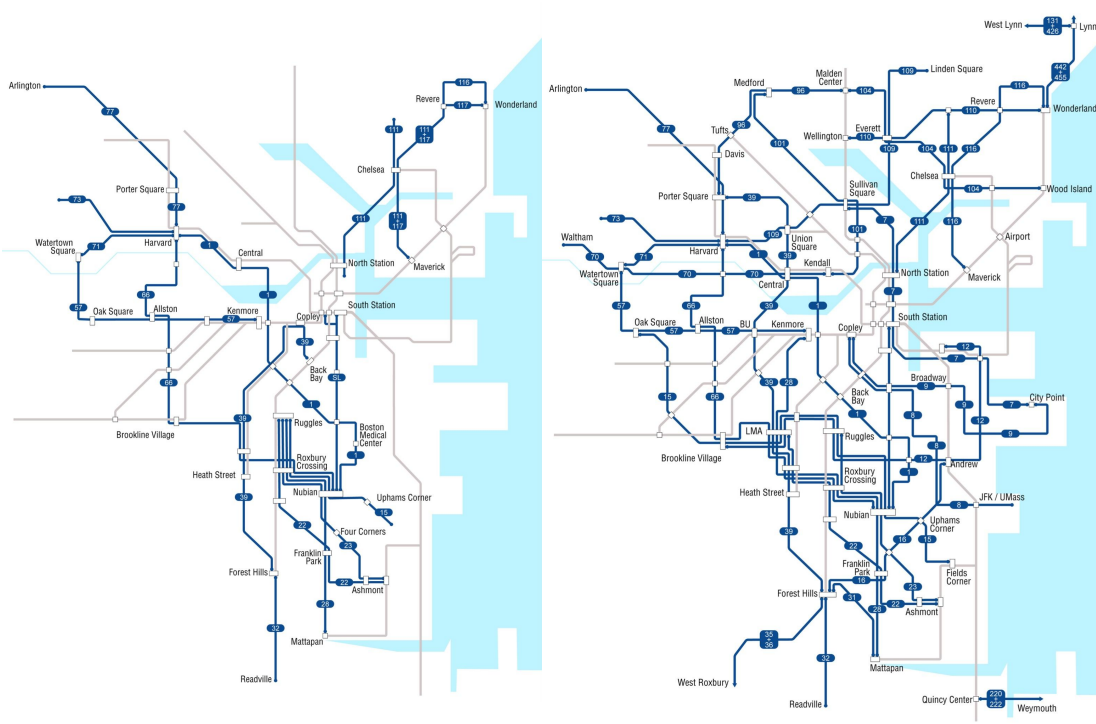
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# Bus Network Redesign Benefits

- **25% increase in bus service** across the network
- **70% increase in weekend service**
- **275,000 more residents** would be near high frequency service
  - **115,000 residents of color** gain access to high frequency service
  - **40,000 low-income households** will gain access to high frequency service.
- **200,000 more residents** would gain access to fast and frequent service to Longwood Medical Area

# We are doubling the amount of high frequency service

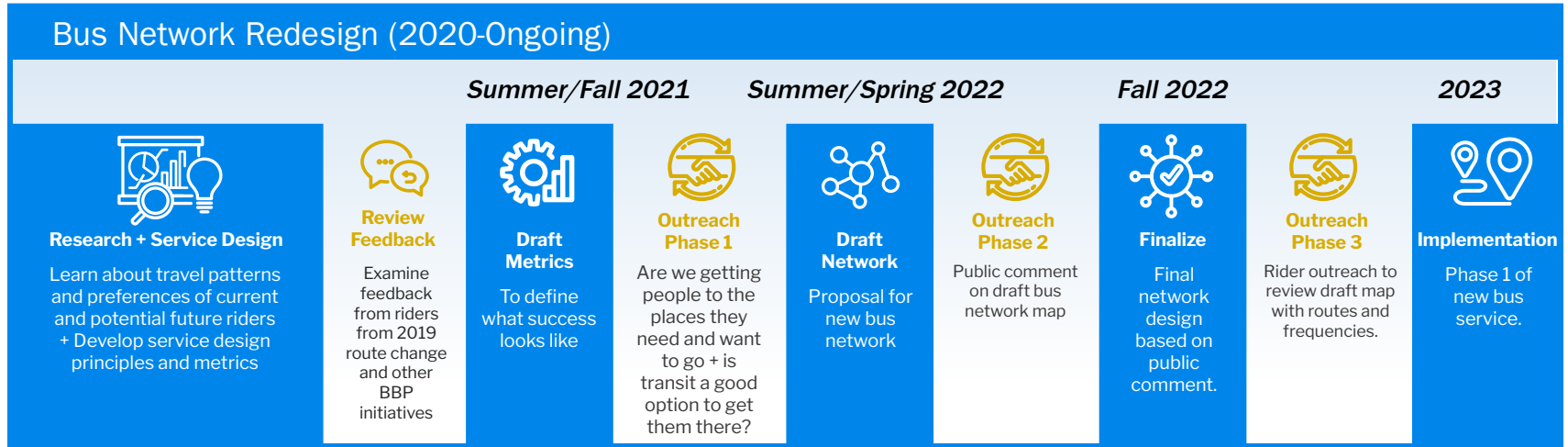
Frequent service, old (left) and new network (right)



**275,000 more residents** with access to 15 min or less all-day 7-day-a-week service

- **15 corridors → 30 corridors**
- Today, only **27%** of weekday service is frequent – in this plan it's **50%**.
- Today Everett, Lynn, Medford, Somerville, South Boston, and West Roxbury have no all-day high frequency routes – now they would.
- Today LMA has only 2 frequent routes – now it would have 6. Seaport and Kendall also get new frequent service.

# Bus Network Redesign Project Timeline



**\*We are planning for phases of implementation over five years. Implementation timing will depend on structure and interdependencies of the new network, staff and public outreach capacity (including operator headcount), and the availability of bus priority.**

# Implementation Approach

**NOTE:** Full implementation contingent on factors like operator headcount, fleet expansion, transit priority implementation, etc.

**Summer**  
Public process on draft map (ongoing)

**Fall**  
Submit revised map to MBTA Board

Implementation (5 Years Total)

Phase 1

Phase 2

Phase 3

Phase 4

Phase 5

2022

2023

2024

2025

2026

2027

Ongoing

*Fleet & Facilities Program*

*Transit Priority Program*

*Bus Stop Upgrades & Other Enhancements (Fare Transformation, PATI, etc.)*

**FOR INTERNAL DISCUSSION ONLY**



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# We are rolling out the draft network map for public input next month

**May 16:** Draft network map will be available online: [mbta.com/BNRD](https://mbta.com/BNRD)

**May 19:** Virtual Public Meeting (systemwide)

## Other Community Meetings:

- **May 24** Virtual
- **June 2** Virtual
- **June 8** Virtual
- **June 16** Virtual - “Inner Core” - Cambridge, Somerville, Medford, Watertown & Brookline
- **June 22** Virtual
- **June 28** Virtual
- **July 18** In-person- Open House -Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building

***We are also planning for station outreach and street teams. Dates to be announced soon.***

## How to provide feedback by July 31, 2022

- Submit feedback online through our survey (available in multiple languages):  
**[mbta.com/bnrdfedback](https://mbta.com/bnrdfedback)**
- Attend an event: **[mbta.com/bnrdevents](https://mbta.com/bnrdevents)**
- E-mail us: **[betterbusproject@mbta.com](mailto:betterbusproject@mbta.com)**
- Mail written comments:

**MBTA**

**ATTN: Victoria Ireton**

**10 Park Plaza - Suite 3830**

**Boston, MA 02116**

- Leave a voice message: **617-222-3011**

## How to stay informed

- Stay updated on the project:  
**[mbta.com/bnrd](https://mbta.com/bnrd)**
- To learn more about other MBTA bus initiatives, visit the Better Bus Project website: **[mbta.com/betterbus](https://mbta.com/betterbus)**
- For general inquiries on MBTA public outreach, contact  
**[publicengagement@mbta.com](mailto:publicengagement@mbta.com)**

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# We need your help!

- (1) **This project will not happen unless there are people outside of MBTA vocally advocating for it.** Even if there are specific changes you want to the project (which we absolutely want to hear), stating your support of the overall plan is critical. We believe this project has huge benefits for current MBTA riders and for the region – but change is hard.
- (2) **This project depends on better bus infrastructure.** We need bus lanes, improved bus stops, and layover spaces. That depends on municipalities and other roadway owners building those projects, and projects like that often get pushback. These critical projects won't happen unless there are people advocating for them.
- (3) **We need your help getting the word out about the project and meetings.** We expect the map to change meaningfully based on the input we receive during public outreach and we want to make sure we hear from riders.

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# Draft Map Review



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# Questions

- Explain proposed service frequency for the T73, 75, 78, (West Cambridge) and all proposed routes in Cambridge
- Lack of 74 - Have you considered a Garden St bus?
- “T” nomenclature in high-frequency routes
- Why end service at 1am?