

SafeTrack Survival Guide

Your guide to getting through the Metro
Maintenance Surge



Produced By:

Bethesda
Transportation Solutions

In Partnership With:



 **Better Ways**
To Work! Montgomery County
Commuter Services

Get The Facts

What is SafeTrack?

SafeTrack is a year-long effort set forth by the Washington Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to improve the safety and reliability of the Metrorail system. The effort will condense three years worth of maintenance into one year.

Metrorail repairs will entail around-the-clock single tracking projects, referred to as "Safety Surges," that will affect WMATA's Red Line service in Montgomery County, as well as the other Metrorail lines around the region.

In addition, many lines will be shut down temporarily to accommodate repairs.

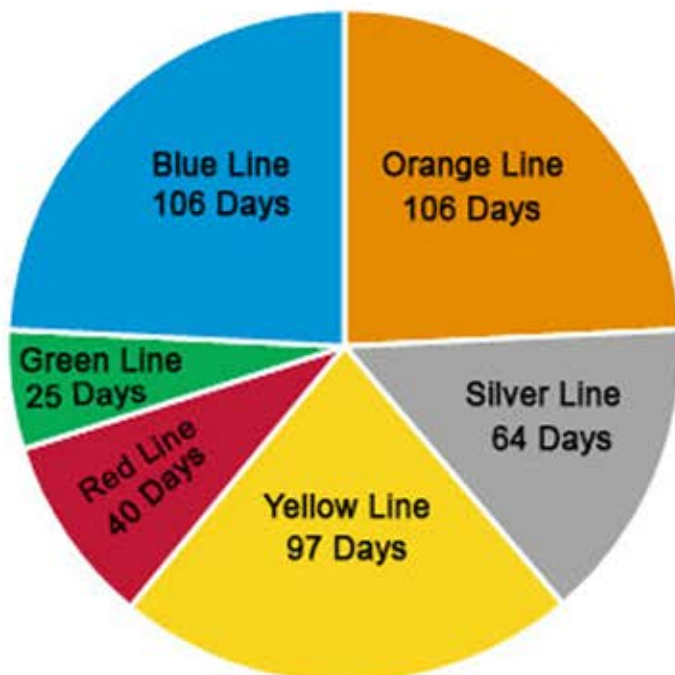
When Will the Work Take Place?

The reason SafeTrack is being implemented is to provide more time for contractors to complete necessary repairs to Metrorail lines. The "Safety Surge" schedule allows for more time for maintenance work.

Work will take place:

- **Weeknights:** Crews will start at 8PM
- **Middays:** Certain types of work will be done between 10AM and 3PM Monday-Friday
- **Weekends:** The Metrorail system will close at midnight on Friday and Saturday nights

How Long Will Each Line Be Impacted?



What Are Some Other Options?

We're so glad you asked! You will find information about your other transit options in this Guide!

- **Teleworking**
- **Ride On Buses**
- **Transit Benefits**
- **Car/Vanpooling**
- **Biking/Walking**

See The Surge Schedule

Date	Lines	Impact	Area Affected
June 4 - 16	OR SV	Single-Tracking	East Falls Church to Ballston
June 18 - July 3	OR SV BL	Shutdown	Eastern Market to Minnesota Ave. & Benning Rd.
July 5 - 11	YL BL	Shutdown	National Airport to Braddock Rd.
July 12 - 18	YL BL	Shutdown	Pentagon City to National Airport
July 20 - 31	OR SV	Single-Tracking	East Falls Church to Ballston
August 1 - 7	RD	Single-Tracking	Takoma to Silver Spring
August 9 - 18	RD	Single-Tracking	Shady Grove to Twinbrook
August 20 - September 5	YL BL	Single-Tracking	Franconia-Springfield to Van Dorn St.
September 9 - October 20	OR	Single-Tracking	Vienna to West Falls Church
October 10 - November 1	RD	Shutdown	Fort Totten to NoMa
November 3 - 11	OR SV	Single-Tracking	East Falls Church to West Falls Church
November 12 - December 6	YL GR	Single-Tracking	Greenbelt to College Park
December 7 - 24	BL	Shutdown	Rosslyn to Pentagon
January 2 - 13	YL BL	Single-Tracking	Braddock Rd. to Huntington / Van Dorn St.
January 23 - February 3	YL BL	Single-Tracking	Braddock Rd. to Huntington / Van Dorn St.
March 6 - 19	OR SV	Single-Tracking	East Falls Church to West Falls Church

Know Your Options

What Are Area Agencies Doing to Mitigate the Impact of SafeTrack?

Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett says that “Montgomery County residents and employees are going to be significantly impacted by SafeTrack and that is why I have directed MCDOT to take the lead in doing what we can to mitigate these effects -- not only for Red Line riders but for all travelers in the County.” “MCDOT is closely coordinating our response to SafeTrack with our regional partners – WMATA, the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Capital Bikeshare -- through a multi-pronged approach in cooperation with our Police and Department of General Services -- to do what we can to offer options to our residents.”

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) is coordinating with WMATA, the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Capital Bikeshare to assist travelers as they continue to work on their service plans for later Surges. WMATA's first Surge (Surge 6) in Montgomery County does not begin until August 1. WMATA has committed 40 buses to enhance service in surge areas. Responding to a request from MCDOT, MARC will add cars to existing trains during peak periods. Capital Bikeshare will offer a \$2 one-time use option.

Throughout the Surges, MCDOT will be monitoring conditions and making adjustments as needed.



Telework

The easiest commute can be from your bedroom to your home office! Many companies are making more jobs telework-friendly and now is the time to try it out!

Telework is a cost-effect option for employers because it maximizes employee retention and loyalty, and significantly reduces parking and overhead costs. In addition, Montgomery County offers tax credits to employers who encourage telecommuting and telework in the form of the Telecommuting Incentive Home Computer-Tax Credit.

An employer may receive a tax credit on their annual County personal property tax equaling up to 50% of the cost of a new home computer or laptop purchased to establish a new off-site employee workstation. For more information, you may call the Montgomery County Department of Finance in Rockville, MD at (240) 777-8931, or visit our website, www.bethesdatransit.org.

MCDOT will be offering “Telework Quick Start” webinars on June 23 and June 28, each from 10:30 until noon. [Click here to register!](#)

Know Your Options



Ride On Bus Service

Montgomery County Department of Transportation will both provide additional Ride On service on certain bus routes and free bus shuttles between affected Metrorail stations. Ride On will provide on-street ambassadors at affected Metrorail stations to help direct travelers to transit options.

MCDOT officials have introduced the following plan for Metrorail service interruptions on rail lines operating in Montgomery County:

August 1 through August 7, 2016: Continuous single tracking from the Takoma to Silver Spring stations.

Ride On will provide free bus shuttles every 10 minutes during peak travel times:

- Silver Spring to Fort Totten stations (connecting with Metro's Green Line) with service at Takoma Station; and
- Grosvenor to Friendship Heights stations, with stops at Medical Center and Bethesda.

August 9 through August 18, 2016: Continuous single tracking from the Twinbrook to Shady Grove stations.

- Ride On will provide a free bus shuttle between the Grosvenor and Shady Grove stations via I-270 every 10 minutes during peak travel times.
- Ride On will add more buses to Ride On's Route 46 that provides service from Grosvenor to Rockville via White Flint and Twinbrook, increasing bus frequency to every 10 minutes during peak travel times.
- Regular fares apply.

October 10 through November 1, 2016: Total shutdown of Metrorail between NoMa-Gallaudet University and Fort Totten stations.

- Ride On will provide free bus shuttles every 10 minutes during peak travel times between the Silver Spring Transit Center and Fort Totten via Takoma Station along Blair Road.
- Ride On's service will supplement WMATA's bus bridge between Fort Totten and NoMa-Gallaudet University Station.

Know Your Options



Transit Benefits

Make it easy and economical for employees to try other forms of transit by offering transit benefits. Metrorail isn't the only transit game in town. SafeTrack will be a great opportunity to try out MARC trains, Ride On buses, and Metrobuses. The State of Maryland offers tax credits to employers who provide transit benefits to their employees, up to \$50 per participating employee per month! To learn more, visit www.commuterchoicemaryland.com.

MCDOT is once again offering its much-loved Fare Share program to make it simpler for employers to offer transit benefits. More details about Fare Share to come!



Car/Van Pooling

Did you know carpoolers can save as much as \$85 a month in parking alone? Factor in gas at \$3.00/gallon and maintenance and that adds up to hundreds of dollars a month! A carpool with just two occupants is eligible for reduced monthly parking rates and the larger the carpool, the larger the discount. Contact Allison Kemp at 301-656-0868 ext. 121 to be matched with a carpool buddy, or email her at akemp@bethesda.org.

Vanpooling is a popular option for many commuters in the region because it is ideal for commuting long distances. Your company can give up to \$255 per month in tax-free transportation benefits to cover the costs associated with a vanpool.



Biking and Walking



Everyone loves to multitask, and combining commuting and exercise is very efficient. Luckily, Downtown Bethesda is easy to walk and bike around!

Capital Bikeshare rates start at \$2 for a single trip under 30 minutes, and they offer corporate memberships. With eight Bikeshare stations located in Downtown Bethesda, and nearly 350 located around the DC region, there is bound to be a station near you. Go to www.capitalbikeshare.com for more information.

Bethesda Transportation Solutions also partners with the Washington Area Bicyclists Association (WABA) and Montgomery County Commuter Services to host bike safety classes and rides around Downtown Bethesda. Keep an eye on our website for details!

Find Out More

Bethesda Transportation Solutions www.bethesdatransit.org

Bethesda Transportation Solutions (BTS) is a **FREE** resource available to commuters and employers in Bethesda's business district who are looking for "another way" to get to work. BTS is a division of the Bethesda Urban Partnership (BUP), which is a non-profit organization, responsible for coordinating the Transportation Management District (TMD) of Bethesda through a contract with Montgomery County. BTS works diligently to facilitate active partnerships with commuters, employers, civic associations, local governments as well as community members to improve traffic congestion. Stop by our office at 7700 Old Georgetown Road in downtown Bethesda from 8:30am-5:00pm or call us at 301-656-0868 .

Find more information about our programs and events by:

- Subscribing to our monthly Commuter Solutions Newsletter
- Following us on Twitter @bethesdatransit
- Liking our page, Bethesda Transportation Solutions, on Facebook

On our website, you will find information about:

- Transit
- Car/Vanpooling
- Telework
- Biking to Work
- Walking to Work
- Park and Ride Lots
- Guaranteed Ride Home
- Employer Services

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority www.wmata.com

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) operates Metrorail and Metrobuses and are implementing the SafeTrack maintenance plan.

On their website, you will be able to:

- Get timely information regarding SafeTrack projects and progress
- Sign up for Service Alerts
- Obtain Metrobus and Metrorail Service Status Advisories
- Plan your trip using their Trip Planner
- Find fare information
- Purchase SmarTrip cards and manage your account

Commuter Connections www.commuterconnections.org

Commuter Connections is the umbrella organization that coordinates the efforts of transportation networks around the DC region. BTS works closely with Commuter Connections to plan events such as Bike to Work Day and Car Free Day, as well as publicizing their Guaranteed Ride Home and Carpool Matching Services.

On their website, you can:

- Connect with other commuters to join a carpool or vanpool
- Learn about 'Pool Rewards
- Explore employer case studies to learn how other companies implemented telework and transit benefits
- Sign up for Guaranteed Ride Home