



# Cincinnati Metro Update

May 2026



# METRO'S SERVICES



## Fixed-Route



- Open to public
- Travel on set routes
- Operate on a schedule



## ADA Paratransit



- Required by ADA
- Eligible passengers only
- Call to reserve trip



## On-Demand



- Open to public
- Travel in small zones
- App-based reservation



## Bus Rapid Transit



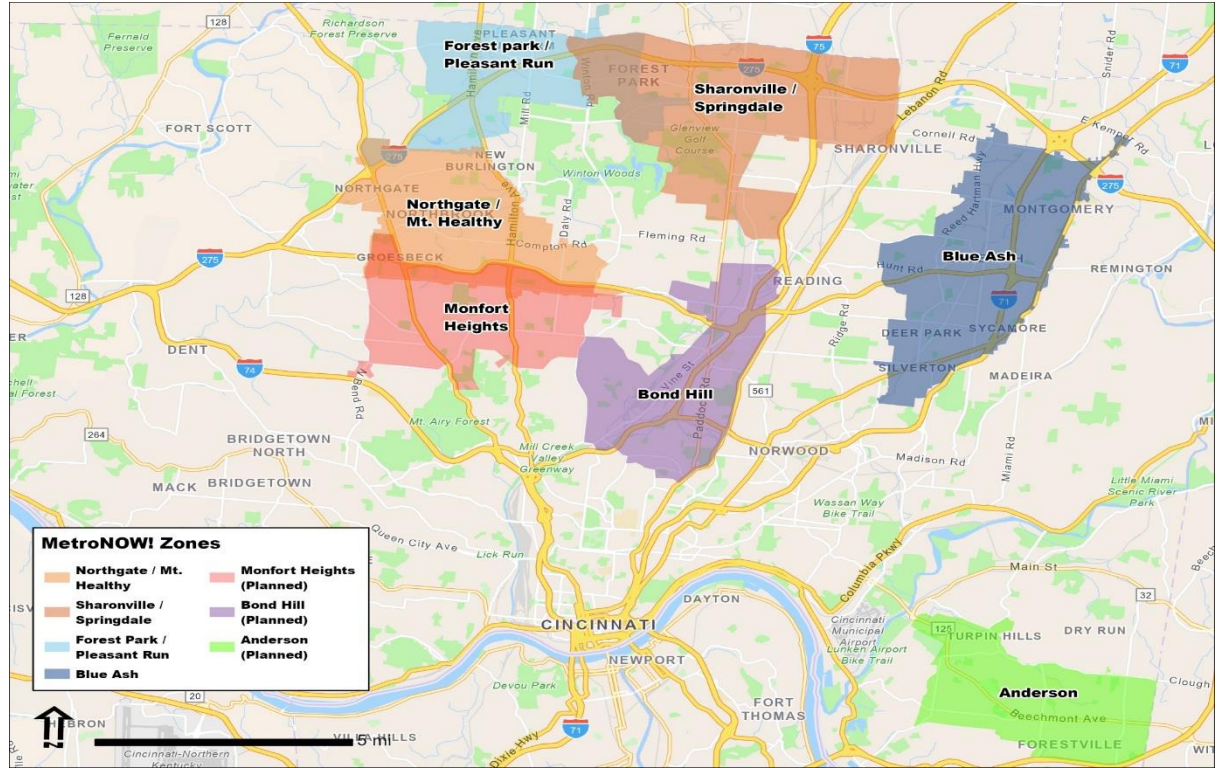
- Fixed-Route service
- Rail-like stations
- High frequency

# Reinventing Metro Service Improvements

- Implemented 24-hr service on 7 routes
- Launched 8 new crosstown routes
- Expanded weekend service
- Increased frequency for faster service
- Increased span across most routes
- Opened Northside Transit Center
- Free Wi-Fi & charging ports on buses
- Improved customer amenities (245 new benches, 50 shelters, apps, etc.)
- Launched 4 *MetroNow!* on-demand service zones
- Introduced EZConnect Regional paratransit collaboration



# METRO! NOW!



# Metro Transit Infrastructure Fund (MTIF)

25% of Issue 7 levy proceeds benefit countywide transit-related infrastructure improvements, including roads, bridges, and sidewalks in Metro's service area.

- Awarded \$349+ million to 131 projects across Hamilton County since 2021
- Applications close May 30

Paxton Ave. Rehabilitation



River Road

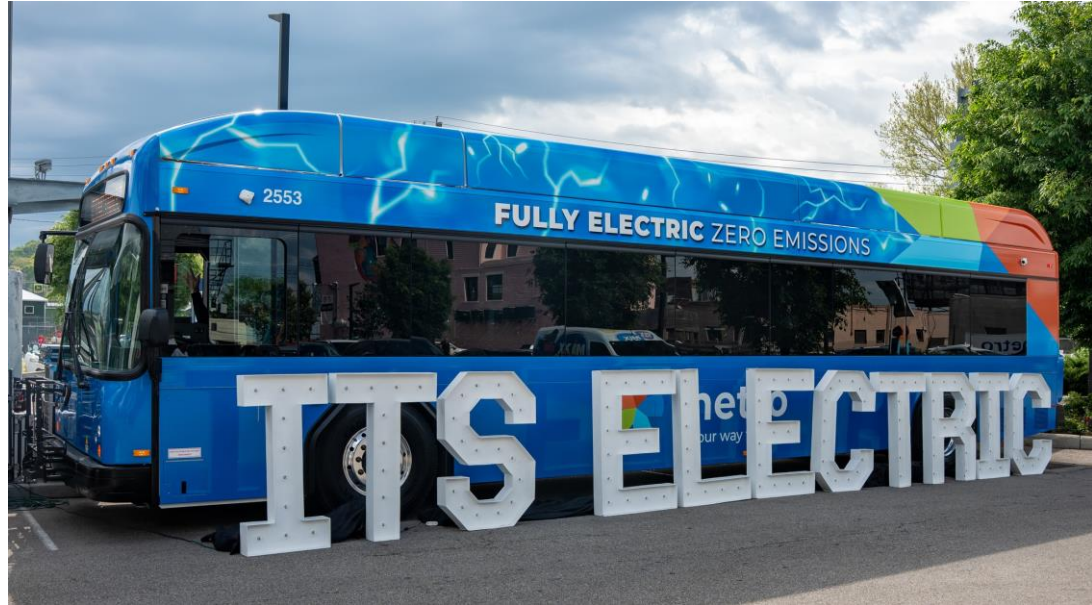


# Zero-Emission, 100% Electric

Launched first two 100% battery electric buses into service on Earth Day.

Four more buses go into service this summer.

**13** total by 2027



# Government Square

- Now part of City's "**Transit Zone**" ordinance
  - Coordinated Quality of Life team to ensure positive use of the space
  - Metro, CPD, 311, 3CDC
- Expanded partnership with **3CDC** to add ambassadors, landscaping, and programming
- **SORTA Board Motion (10/28/25)**
  - Continue development of multi-nodal network
  - Study physical space and operation
  - Engage stakeholders throughout





## **REGIONAL IMPACT**

# Leading the Nation in Ridership Recovery

# 13.5M

rides taken on Metro  
in 2025

# 15%

increase in service miles  
& 11% increase in service  
hours within City limits

# 85%

of riders are satisfied  
with improvements\*

\*2024 passenger survey

# 31%

of riders have been  
using Metro for less than  
two years\*

## Safety Performance Peer Comparison:

# #1

Most miles  
operated between  
collisions  
380,916 Total Miles

# #1

Most miles  
operated between  
injuries  
390,612 Total Miles

\*Federal Transit Administration

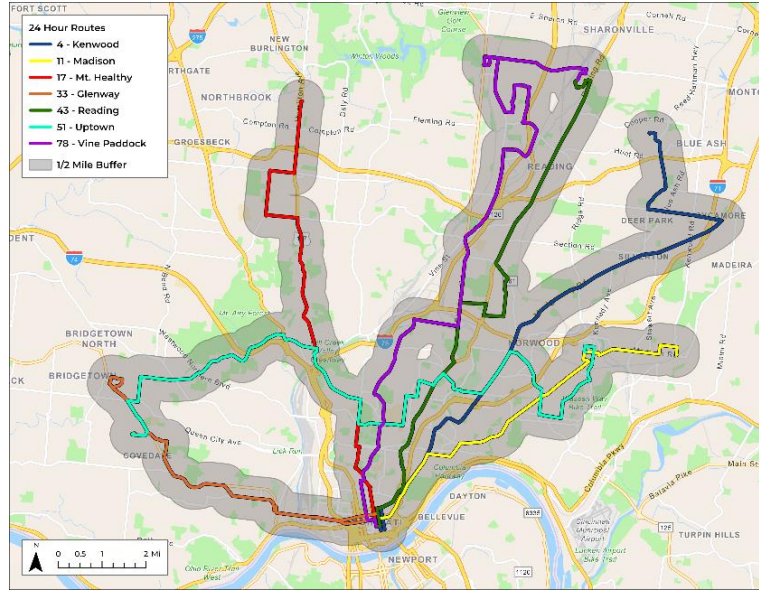
# Job Access Improvements

**93,393**

more jobs accessible by  
Metro

**740**

more employers  
accessible by Metro



**220,235**

Hamilton County jobs  
with 24-hour service

**\$850M**

total wages accessible by  
Metro



# metroMAX

your vehicle for growth

Year	XBE Contracts	XBE Spend
2019	4	\$72,000
2020	13	\$626,517
2021	30	\$902,745
2022	40	\$4,300,000
2023	70	\$8,600,000
2024	90	\$8,700,000
<b>2025</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>\$14,258,898</b>



# MetroRapid Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

- Combines flexibility of buses with the efficiency of rail
- Operates at faster speeds
- Provides greater service reliability
- Uses advanced technologies, infrastructure, and operational investments to provide a significantly better service
- Plays a substantial role in economic development
- Positively impacts businesses and property values



**Public Participation**  
**250 Meetings | 9,574 Participants**

# MetroRapid Service

BRT Projects	Miles	Stations	Frequency (6 AM – 8 PM)
Reading Road	9.2	13	10 minutes
Hamilton Avenue	11.8	11	10 minutes
Total Combined	21.0	24	10 minutes
Shared – The Banks to Uptown	3.0	7	5 minutes



# MetroRapid Station Renderings



Side/Curb Stations



Center Stations

Neighborhood  
Business District  
Stations



# Transit Oriented Development Opportunities

- TOD Typology Development
- Policy, Zoning and Typology Fit Strategy
- **Playbook to prepare region to capitalize on the public investment**



## Socioeconomics

### Employment Density (2017)



### Population Density (2017)



## Multi-Modal Connectivity



## Current Zoning



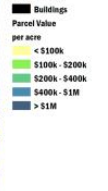
## Current Land Use

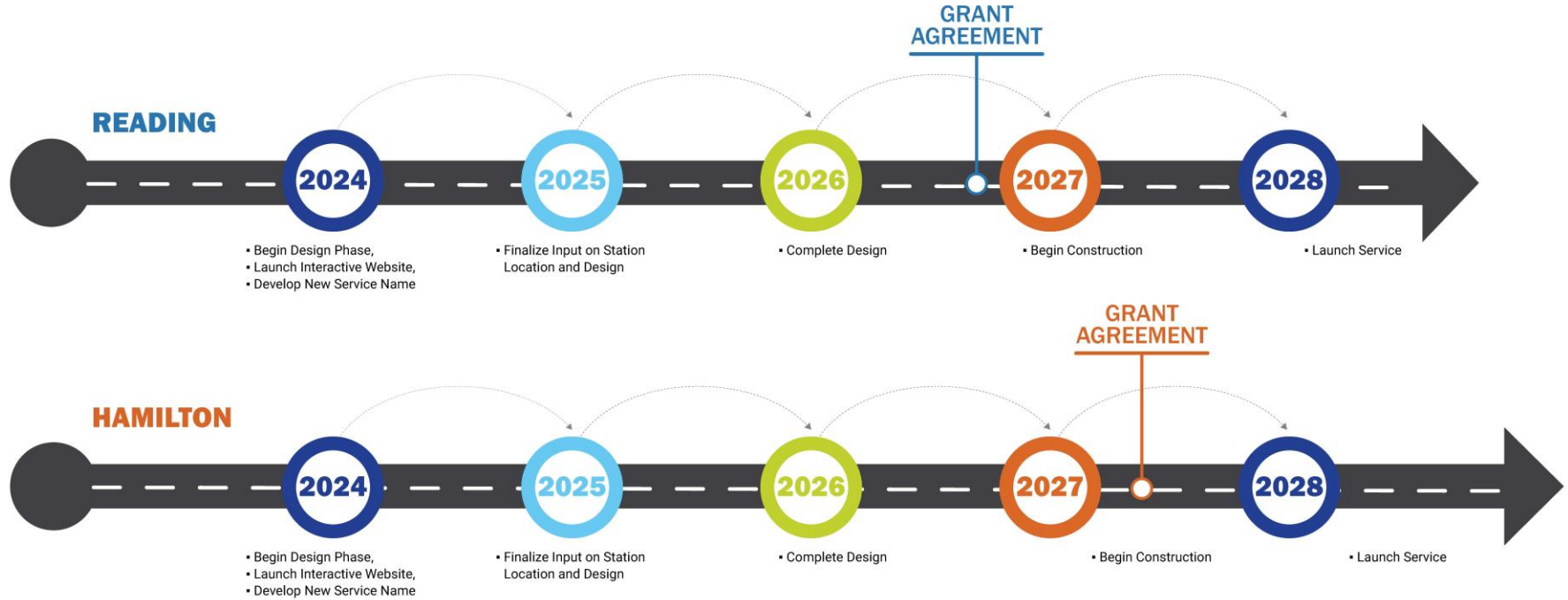


## Commercial Inventory



## Improvements

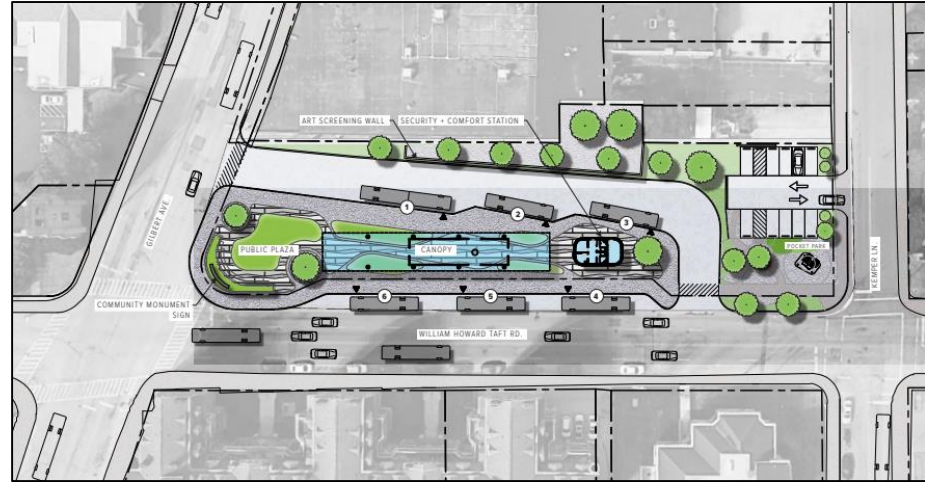




# New Transit Center: Walnut Hills



- 2624 Gilbert Ave
- Q2 2026 procure for construction
- Q4 2026 start construction
- Q1 2028 operational



# Next Stop: Continued Progress

- Nearly 4K updated bus stop signs across Metro's network
- New Sales Office on Government Square
- 400 new benches & 205 shelters & Simme seats
- Three more MetroNow! zones
- MTIF round six awards
- Final design for Walnut Hills Transit Center
- Improved customer amenities (wayfinding, real-time signs, etc.).
- Continued organizational focus on safety, service quality and financial sustainability





## Thank You

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