



# Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority Update

November 2023





# Reinventing Metro Service Improvements

- 24-hr service on 7 routes
- 7 new crosstown routes
- Simplified fare structure to \$2 across County
- New *MetroNow!* on-demand service
- New Northside Transit Center
- New & improved weekend service
- Increased frequency for faster service
- Increased span across most routes
- Free Wi-Fi & charging ports on buses
- EV charging stations at transit centers
- Regional Paratransit Collaborative



# Bus Stop Improvements

- Added 68 benches & 26 shelters since 2022
- 205 shelters & 400 benches total
- Improved customer amenities (wayfinding, real-time signs, etc.)
- Bus Stop signage, infrastructure and maintenance project underway





# MetroNow! On-Demand Service



## First Two Pilot Zones Launched

- Springdale/Sharonville zone launched in May
- Colerain/Northgate zone launched in July

On-demand service scheduled by phone (551-5555) or *MetroNow!* app for travel within a community for first-and last-mile connections to main routes & destinations within a neighborhood using shuttle-style vehicles





# Reinventing Metro Service Improvements IMPACT

\*METRO







# Metro's Ridership



Total Fixed Route Ridership by Month









# Transit Infrastructure Fund





# Transit Infrastructure Fund

Thanks to the passage of Issue 7, 25% of sales tax proceeds received by Metro go to fund transit-related infrastructure projects such as roads, bridges, sidewalks, etc. in Hamilton county each year. So far, more than **\$294 million** awarded:



## Year 1:

- \$227M awarded (\$205 for Western Hills Viaduct over next 15 years)
- 32 projects; 22 municipalities

## Year 2:

- \$39.2M Awarded\*
- 36 Projects; 25 municipalities

## Year 3:

- \$27.8M Awarded\*
- 38 proposals; 20 municipalities

*\*Does not include WHV allocation*













# Transit Infrastructure Fund Community Impact



## Sycamore Township – Montgomery Sidewalk Improvements - \$697K



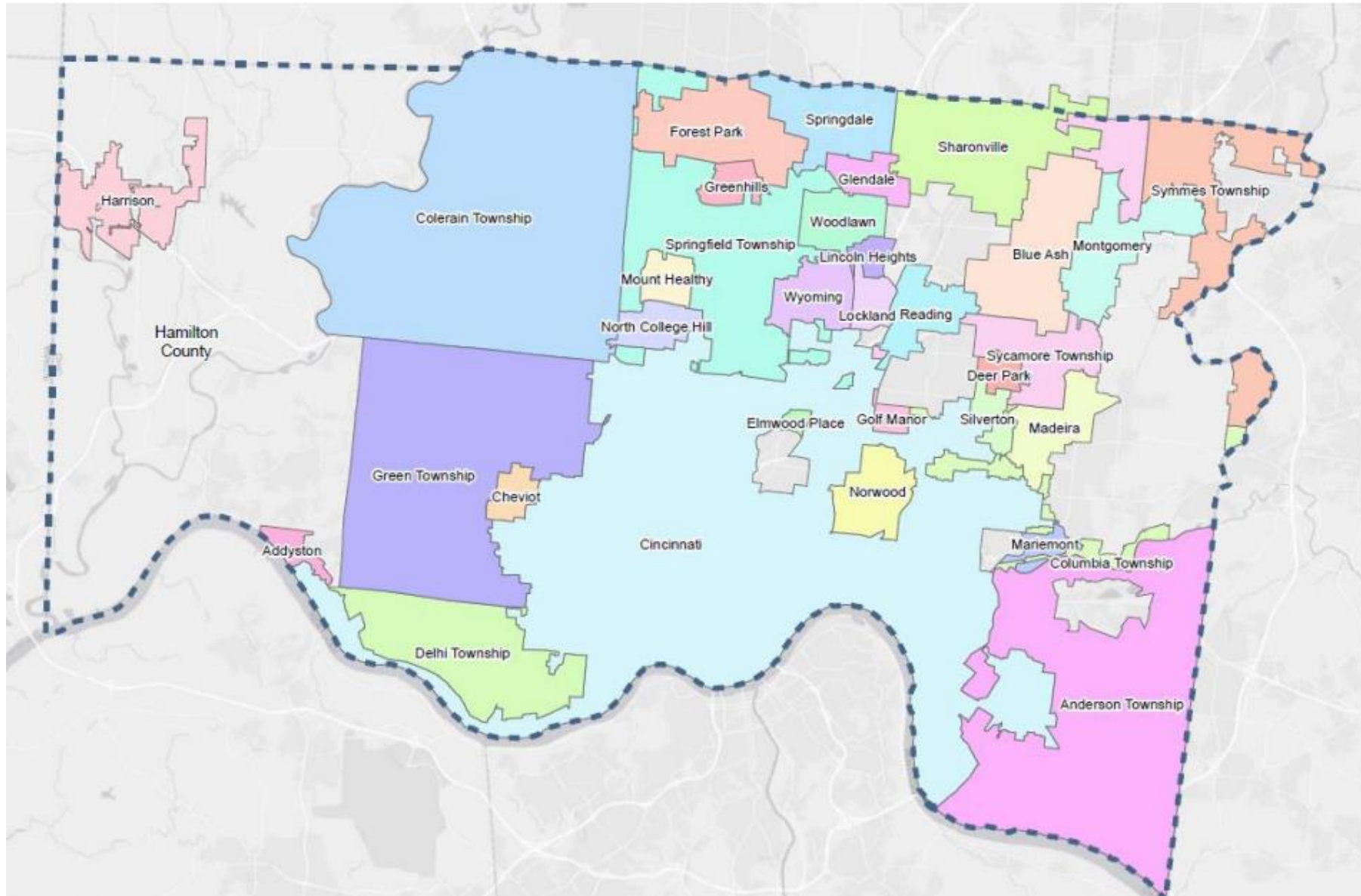
Before



After

1973  2023

# Geographic Distribution of Projects (rounds 1-3)

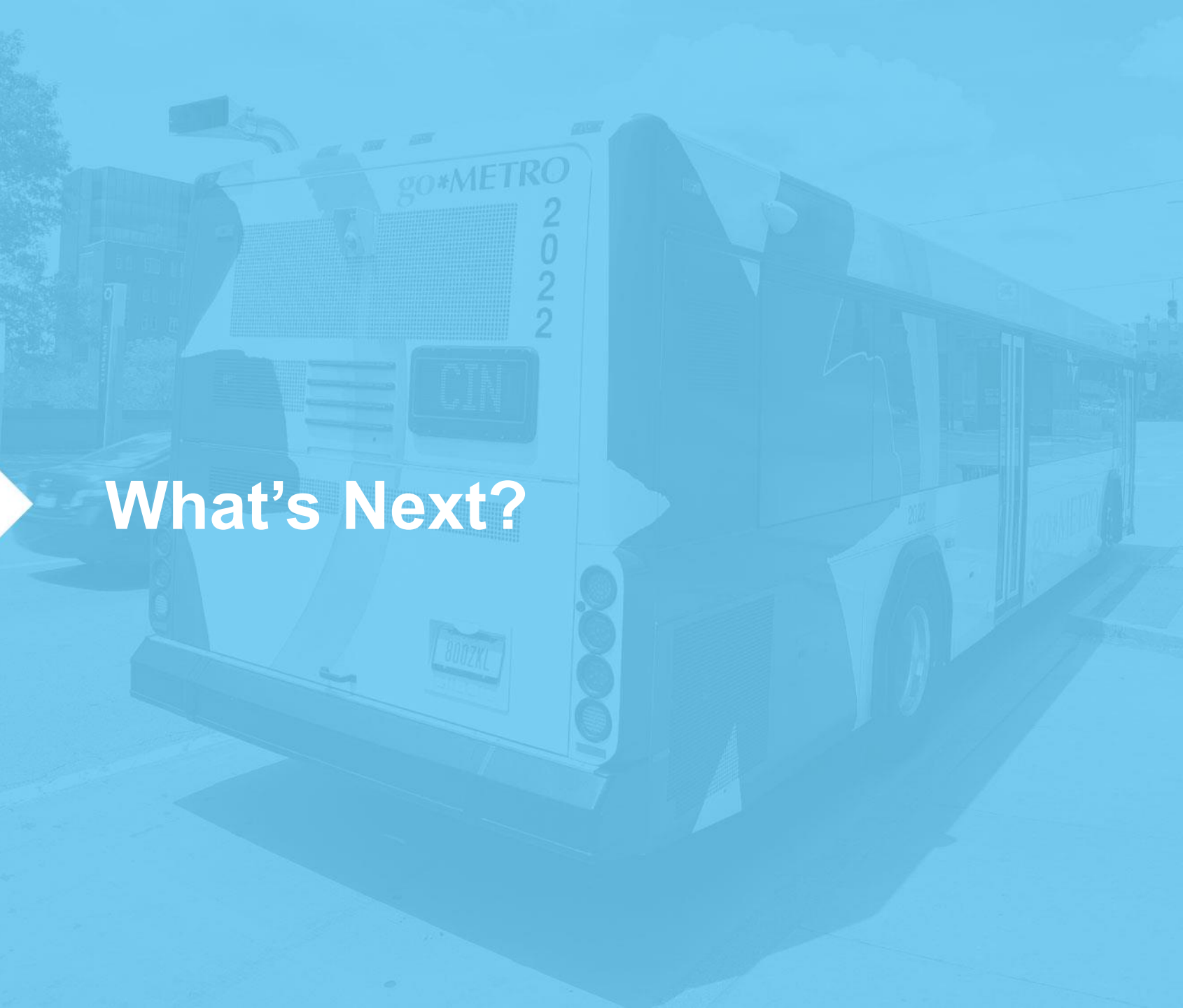








What's Next?





# Reinventing Metro Phase III



- Four more MetroNow! zones to launch in 2024:
  - Blue Ash/Eventdale
  - Bond Hill/Roselawn
  - Montfort Heights/Finneytown
  - Pleasant Run North



- Two NEW Crosstowns roll out Dec. 3
  - Rt. 22 Glenway Crossing – Madisonville
  - Rt. 36 Price Hill- Norwood
  - Plus more improved alignments, frequency & better connections

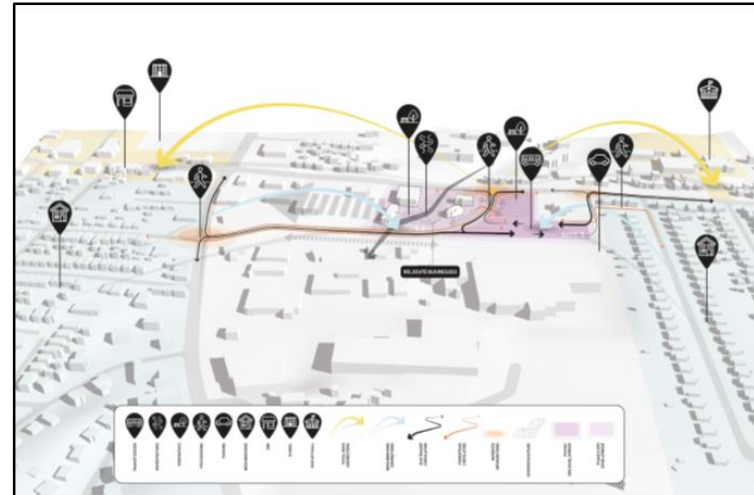
# Coming Soon: New Transit Centers



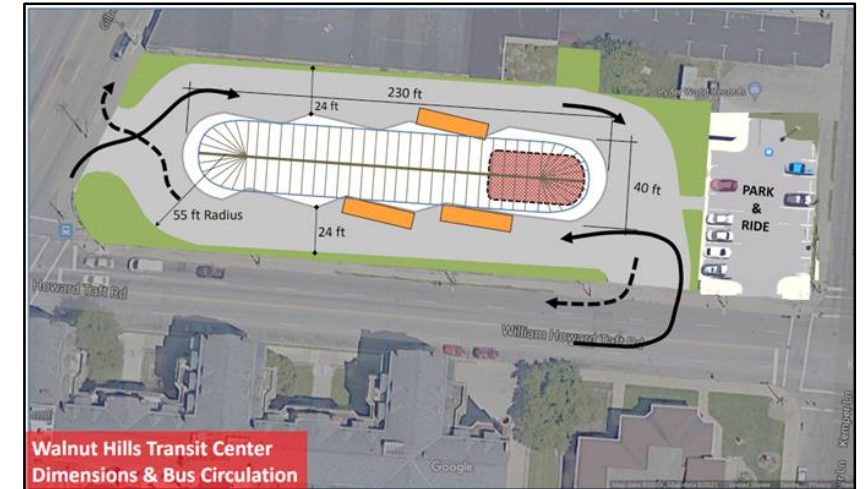
- North College Hill:



- Uptown Transit Center:



- Walnut Hills:





# Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)



- Hamilton Ave. & Reading Rd. selected for BRT service
- Glenway Ave. and Montgomery Ave. to receive enhancements

## BRT Features:

- Limited stops & faster travel
- Smart traffic signals
- Bus-only lane and infrastructure enhancements
- Same-level boarding
- Off-board payment
- Reduces congestion and pollution
- Spurs economic development along corridors

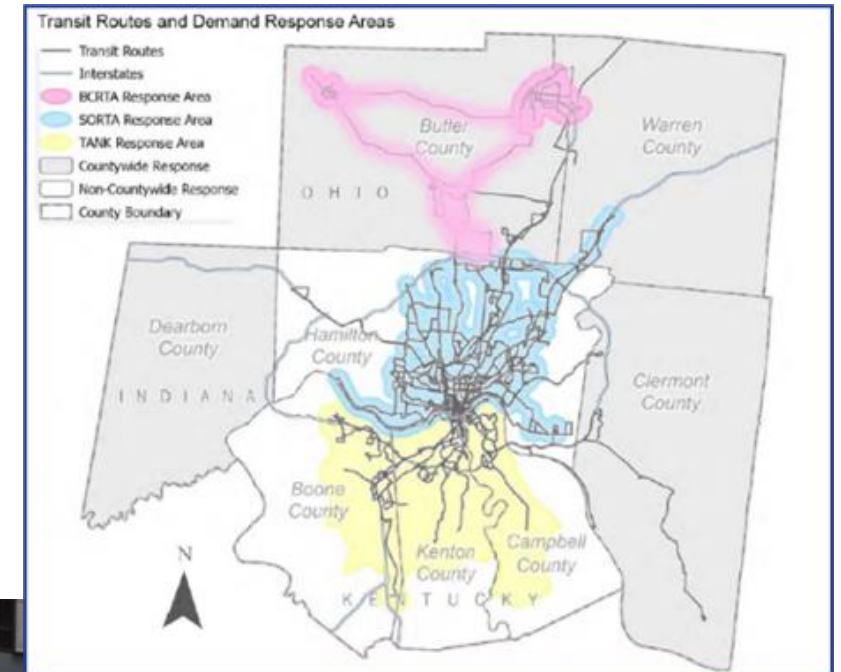


# Regional Paratransit Coordination



Coordination across 7 counties to enhance regional paratransit service for people with disabilities:

- Improve coordination of admin functions
- Integrate new technologies regionally
- Coordinate and expand service availability
- Create marketing opportunities
- NEW GOhio transit website guide









Success is a TEAM Effort





# Accomplishment Highlights

- Celebrated 50 years of service Aug. 15, 2023
- Approved historic contract with ATU Local 627 to increase wages & benefits
- Increased diversity spend by 1300% from \$72K in 2019 to \$8M+ in 2023
- Invested \$500K annually in Everybody Rides Metro Foundation to provide reduced fare for low-income riders for jobs, healthcare and social services
- Cut ribbon on updated Silverton Facility serving Access paratransit customers
- Launched cash-less University EZRide program with UC & Cincy State



# Accomplishment Highlights

- Ohio Auditor of State 2023 Award with Distinction for excellence in financial reporting
- Northside Transit Center received 3 American Institute of Architects Award for design
- Numerous community impact awards, including:
  - Business Courier CEO C-Suite Award
  - Business Courier COO C-Suite Finalist
  - Cincinnati Magazine's "Cincinnati 300" list
  - 2023 Nuestra Familia Award from Ohio Latin Affairs Commission
  - Cincinnati of the Year from City of Cincinnati
  - COMTO Thomas G. Neusome Leadership Award
  - OPTA Leonard Ronis Leadership Award
  - Think Transit 2023 Award of Excellence for Innovation
  - PRSA CEO Communicator of the Year
  - 6 PRSA Blacksmith Awards for PR & Marketing







# THANK YOU

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