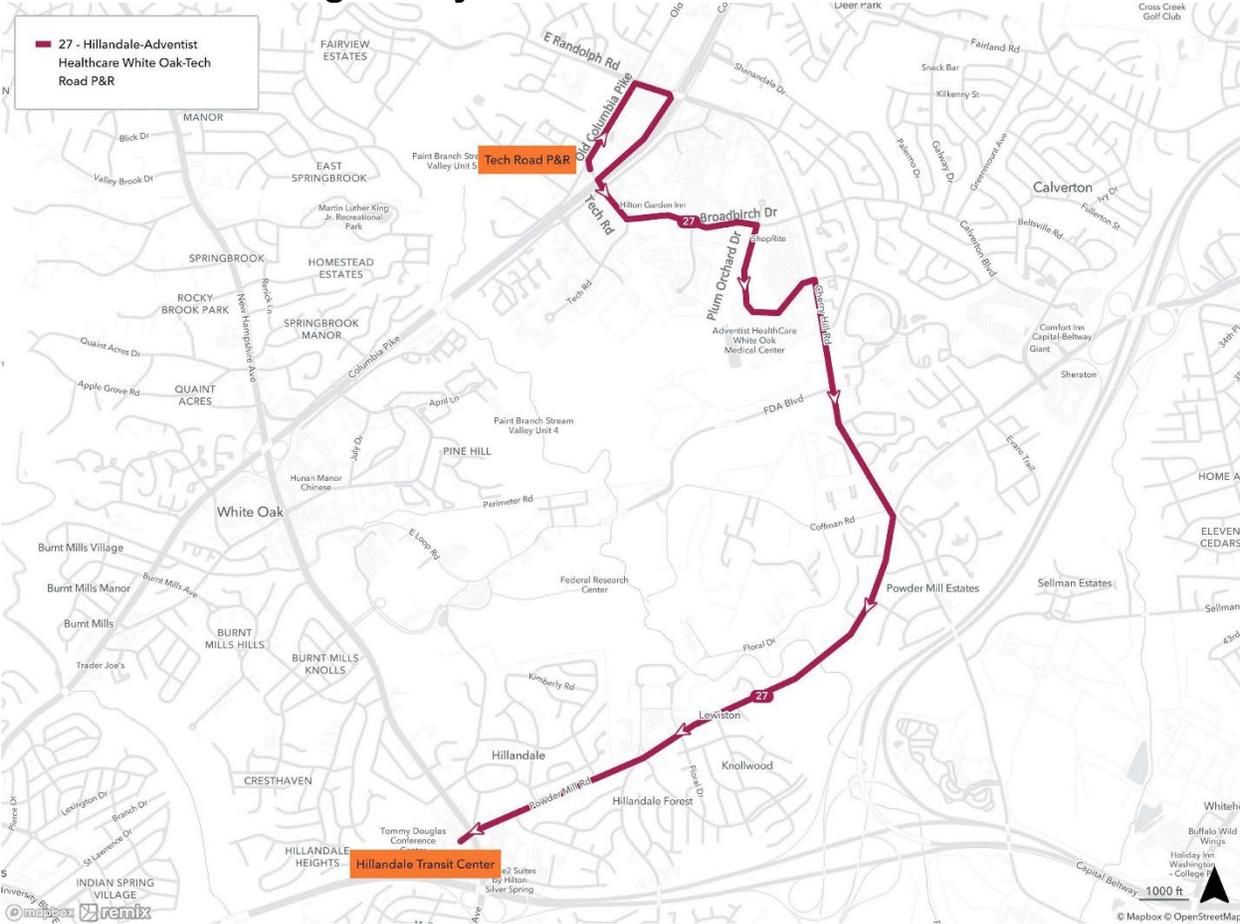


New Ride On Route 27 Service to Adventist Healthcare White Oak Medical Center Began July 17



On July 17, 2022, the Montgomery County Department of Transportation Division of Transit Services launched the new [Ride On Route 27](#) to serve Adventist Healthcare White Oak Medical Center (WOMC) and the surrounding area. This new service comes after a public hearing held on June 2, 2022, which allowed MCDOT to receive input and feedback about the new service, in order to provide the best opportunity for implementing a successful service.

The new route operates between Hillandale Transit Center and the Tech Road Park and Ride lot with stops along Powder Mill Road, Cherry Hill Road, Plum Orchard Drive,

Broadbirch Drive, and Tech Road. The route has connections with [Metrobus](#), [Ride On](#), and [Flash](#) bus routes, as well as other transportation services within the network.

Montgomery County Ride On Bus to Resume Collecting Fares on Monday, Aug. 1, with New Rate Set at \$1

After 28 months of temporarily suspending fare collection due to the COVID-19 health crisis, Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (MCDOT's) Ride On bus system will resume fare collection on Monday, August 1 on all services, including [Ride On](#), [Ride On extRa](#), [Flex](#), and [Flash](#). Fares will continue to be free throughout July.

The one-way fare pre-pandemic, which was \$2, will be reduced to \$1 and the monthly passes, which were \$45 per rider, will be \$22.50 starting August 1. The new fares were supported by County Executive Marc Elrich and approved by the County Council in May.

County bus fares will be free for [seniors](#) (age 65 and older), [persons with disabilities and youth under 19](#) (older if still in high school). Specialized SmarTrip cards are needed and can be obtained through the [MCDOT Mobile Commuter Store](#), [Silver Spring TRiPS Commuter Store](#), any [County library](#) or the [Montgomery County Division of Treasury](#) in Rockville. Students can also obtain their "Youth Cruiser" card through their school.

For riders transferring from a Metro train or bus, the Ride On fare will be free. Ride On passengers transferring to a Metro bus will have to pay the \$1 difference in fare.



Fare Collection Resumes August 1, 2022

New Reduced Rate:

\$1.00

for All Trips!

Kids, seniors & disabled still ride for free.



The new rates were recommended in a "[Fare Equity Study](#)" conducted by MCDOT and released in October. The study recommended the balance of benefits and costs, with benefits primarily accruing to the populations the County is hoping to support.

To decrease boarding time and reduce long lines, riders are encouraged to use SmarTrip cards or the [SmarTrip mobile app](#) (available for Apple and Android). Riders without pre-paid fares are asked to have exact fare readily accessible.

Riders can plan trips online with [Ride On Real Time](#).

Wonder what it's like to work for Ride On?

Hear from one of our current operators, Hubbard Caster Jr., who's been with the county since 2018.



Describe your position with Ride On.

My position at Ride On is that of a Bus Operator who is responsible for the operation of various types of transit vehicles transporting people. In addition, I train or retrain operators as needed in order to improve their operation skills. I am also a Union Shop Steward, responsible to ensure good working conditions and relationships between rank and file members and management.

What is the best part of your job?

The best part of my job is the people interactions that are required and is the foundation of our organization.

What are the advantages and the disadvantages of being a bus operator?

The advantage of being a Bus Operator is that you get to meet all levels of people in society from all parts of the world. A disadvantage to being a Bus Operator is the various hours/timing worked, that is required of public transportation.

What advice would you give future operators?

Being people oriented and understanding of all people is a must. You may be the only positive image in many peoples' lives.

What do you like about working for MCDOT?

The thing I like most about MCDOT is that it is growing, and new opportunities will be presented in the future for those aspiring to move forward in the transportation industry.

A Unique Destination of the Ride On Bus – Glenstone Museum

Ride On buses provide vital transportation to many important services and destinations within Montgomery County, but they can also take you to a variety of unique cultural and educational spots in the area.

[Glenstone Museum](#) is a museum of modern and contemporary art, utilizing nearly 300 acres of gently rolling pasture and woodland in Montgomery County. The museum opened in 2006 and provides an intimate setting for experiencing works of art and architecture within a natural environment. The museum includes its original building, the Gallery, as well as additional structures opened in its 2018 expansion: the Arrival Hall (LEED platinum), the Pavilions and the Café (both LEED gold).

The fall 2022 exhibition schedule will feature a presentation by R.H. Quaytman and an installation of recent paintings by Wade Guyton. This will be the first time each artist has exhibited at Glenstone.

“Both of these two influential artists have stretched the boundaries of painting in recent decades. Quaytman looks for connections to bygone eras and distant places, while Guyton focuses on the relentless churn of information that renders news and technological innovations—including his own—instantly obsolete,” said Emily Wei Rales, director and co-founder of Glenstone. “We thank them for the opportunity to share their genre-defying and thought-provoking works with our visitors.”

Glenstone is open Thursdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors are also invited to explore the grounds or participate in self-guided sculpture tours. Admission to Glenstone is free but tickets are required and information can be found at: www.glenstone.org. Passengers who arrive at Glenstone on the Ride On bus ([Route 301](#)) receive guaranteed entry.



Glenstone

*Route 301 riders receive guaranteed admission passes when you step off the bus at the Glenstone Museum Thursday - Sunday. Catch the bus anywhere along the route!



Ride On Route 23 Continues Long-Term Detour Due to Westbard Avenue Road Construction Project

The ongoing long-term Ride On Route 23 detour, which started on June 6, 2022, will continue through May 31, 2023, due to a construction project on Westbard Avenue between River and Ridgefield Road.

[Route 23](#) will operate its regular routing until it diverts from River Road to Little Falls Parkway, to Massachusetts Avenue and back on the regular route. Due to this detour, nine (9) bus stops will be closed and will not be served by Route 23 for the entire duration of the construction project.

The bus stops which will be closed and not served by [Ride On](#) for the duration of the construction project are:

Number	Stop
17042	RIVER RD & LITTLE FALLS PKWY
25416	RIVER RD & BUTLER RD



Image of the Shuttle bus

Customers may transfer to and from the Route 23 on Massachusetts Avenue using the following transfer bus stops:

- WB Massachusetts to Sibley Hospital: 23942 – Massachusetts Ave & Westbard Ave
- EB Massachusetts to Friendship Heights: 23914 – Massachusetts Ave at 5600 Massachusetts Ave
- NB Westbard to Westwood Shopping Ctr: 27108 – Westbard Ave & Massachusetts Ave
- SB Westbard to connect WB & EB route 23: 27125 – Westbard Ave & Massachusetts Ave

Why We Use Social Media to Connect With You

Thanks to the internet, our world today is more connected than ever. Information, services, and social interaction are always quite literally at our fingertips. During the ongoing COVID-19 health crisis, this connection has been further amplified. In order to distance ourselves physically, we've strengthened our digital resources and connections.

This is also true when it comes to Montgomery County's digital resources. At [Ride On](#), we rely on digital communication methods to keep the public informed on temporary and permanent changes to our services, as well as special events and exciting offers and

promotions. We also take advantage of the connection that social media platforms provide by using these platforms to listen to and gather feedback from our customers. Our customers can share comments, concerns, and compliments in real time.

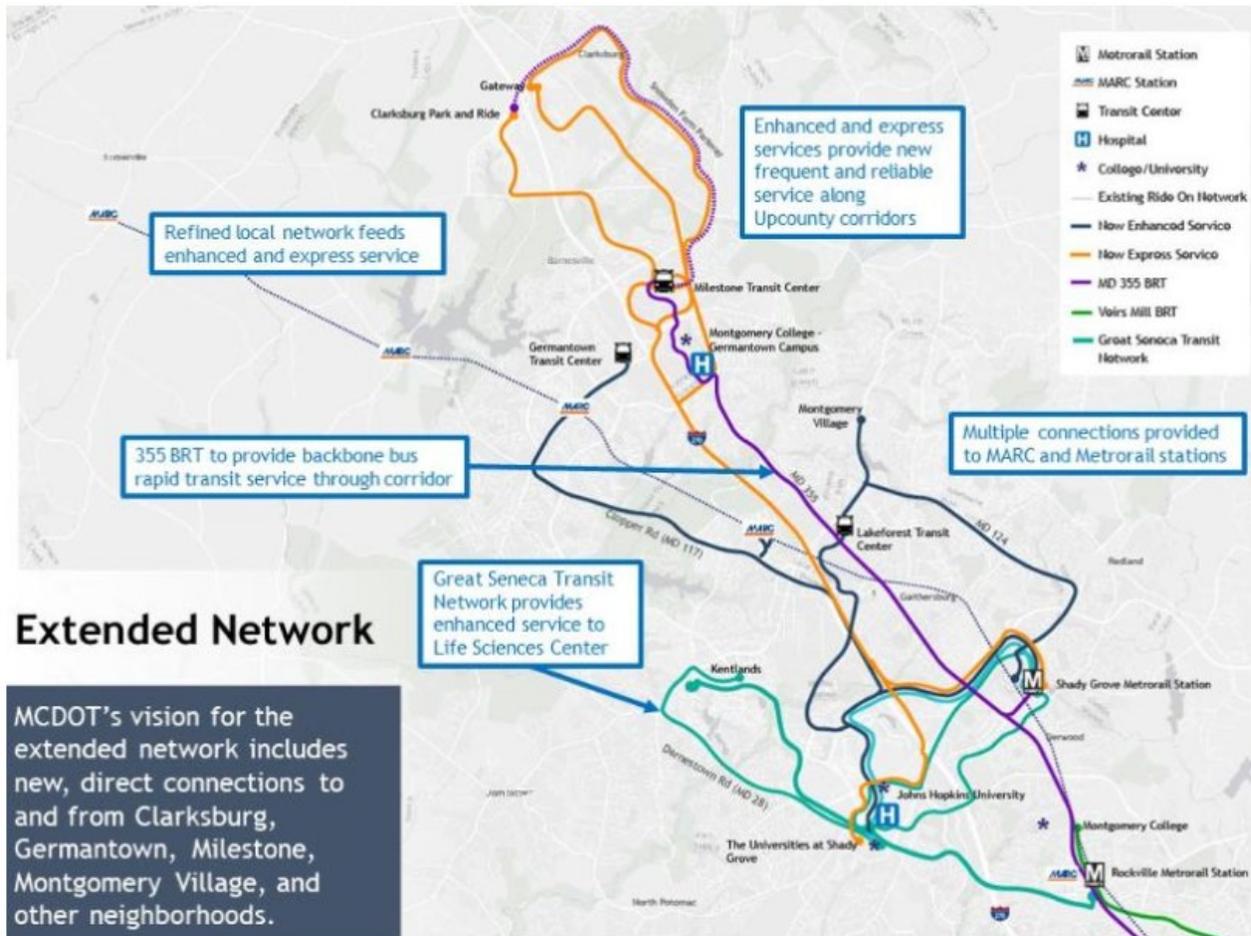
By following Ride On's social media accounts and subscribing to email alerts, riders can get the most up to date information on their favorite routes, service updates and additions, and interesting destinations within the community. To reach as many riders as possible, Ride On is giving away a FREE SmarTrip card to ten (10) of our new followers! Follow @RideOnMCT on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#) or subscribe to receive email alerts at montgomerycountymd.gov/govdelivery between Monday, July 25, 2022 and Friday, August 25, 2022 to enter to win!



Proposed Transit Network to Support the Great Seneca Science Corridor and Surrounding Areas

The [Great Seneca Transit Network](#) project advances the planning, design, and implementation of a new bus network to support the Great Seneca Science Corridor and surrounding areas. Montgomery County Department of Transportation developed the Great Seneca Transit Network as a near-term bus transit solution to provide direct, safe, and affordable transportation connections in the area.

The network would include 11 stations, dedicated bus lanes and bike lanes, transit signal priority at seven intersections, and new bike and pedestrian connections. The plan is for hubs at the Shady Grove Metrorail Station, the Universities at Shady Grove, and Adventist Shady Grove Hospital. This bus network will provide frequent and reliable connections between Kentlands, Crown Farm, King Farm, the Universities at Shady Grove, Adventist Shady Grove Hospital, Shady Grove Metro, Rockville, and other key destinations in support of the Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan. The service, which will be branded as [Ride On extRa](#), is slated to start in 2024.



Rockville Metro Station East Side Closure – Temporary Bus Stop Relocations – Extended Through Early October

The ongoing Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Administration (WMATA) construction and paving work at the Rockville Metrorail station has been extended through at least early October 2022. All bus stops on the East Side will remain closed and temporarily relocated due to this project, which began on Tuesday, June 7. Bus stops have been moved from the east side to either the west side or on the street at MD 355. Wayfinding signs have been placed at the Metro station to help riders locate their bus stops.

Ride On Routes which have been Temporarily Relocated are:

- | <u>Route</u> | <u>Destination</u> | <u>Temporary Bus Stop</u> |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| • 44 | Twinbrook | F |

- 45 Rockville Regional Transit Center & Twinbrook T6
- 46 Montgomery College & Medical Center A (westside)
- 47 Bethesda F
- 48 Wheaton T5
- 49 Glenmont T5
- 52 Montgomery General Hospital T6
- 54 Lakeforest Transit Center E
- 55 Germantown B (westside)
- 56 Lakeforest Transit Center E
- 59 Montgomery Village T4
- 63 Shady Grove E
- 81 White Flint F
- 101 Medical Center/Lakeforest A (westside)
- 301 Tobytown T6
- Flex Rockville Westside Kiss & Ride

Metrobus Routes which have been Temporarily Relocated are:

- Q1, Q2, Q5, Q6 Shady Grove G
- Q1, Q2, Q4 Silver Spring D (westside)
- Q5, Q6 Wheaton D (westside)
- T2 Friendship Heights C (westside)



Route	Destination	Bus Stop
Ride On		
44	Twinbrook	F
45	Rockville Regional Transit Center/Twinbrook	T6
46	Montgomery College/Medical Center	A (westside)
47	Bethesda	F
48	Wheaton	T5
49	Glenmont	T5
52	Montgomery General Hospital	T6
54	Lakeforest Transit Center	E
55	Germantown Transit Center	B (westside)
56	Lakeforest Transit Center	E
59	Montgomery Village	T4
63	Shady Grove	E
81	White Flint	F
101	Lakeforest Transit Center/Medical Center	A (westside)
301	Tobytown	T6
Flex	Rockville	West Kiss & Ride
metrobus		
Q1, Q2, Q5, Q6	Shady Grove	G
Q1, Q2, Q4	Silver Spring	D (westside)
Q5, Q6	Wheaton	D (westside)
T2	Friendship Heights	C (westside)

Changes are highlighted in blue.

Ride On interiors will continue to be cleaned by the County's Department of General Services with hospital-grade disinfectant. Bus filter and ventilation systems are also treated with a disinfectant.

All passengers are encouraged to wear face coverings when traveling by public transportation. All MCDOT buses have a supply of face coverings for those who cannot provide their own.

Ride On bus service remains free for all riders until August 2022.

For the most up-to-date service information, riders should follow @RideOnMCT on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#). In addition, information is available at [RideOnBus.com](#), by subscribing to receive email alerts at [montgomerycountymd.gov/govdelivery](#), or texting MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311 to receive text alerts.

For information on MCDOT programs and services visit [montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot](#), follow @MCDOTNow on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and [subscribe](#) to MCDOT's "Go Montgomery!" newsletter.

Of Note

Ride On's Micro-grid Electric Bus Charging Station to be Completed Soon

The [Brookville Smart Energy Bus Depot](#) is a first-of-its-kind integration of microgrid and EV charging infrastructure, delivering sustainability, reliability and resilience for the County's public transportation system. AlphaStruxure, a joint venture of Schneider Electric and the Carlyle Global Infrastructure Opportunity Fund, will design, build, finance, own and operate the project to enable Ride On's growing electric bus fleet. The project is scheduled to be completed in the coming months.

MCDOT Bus Priority Project

This Montgomery County Department of Transportation program provides for the planning, design and construction of improvements to bus service. The Bus Priority Project includes multiple projects that improve local bus timing, ease of access and safety such as marked dedicated bus lanes; queue jumps; passenger boarding and alighting improvements; implementation of transit signal priority; enhanced bus stops; and other similar improvements that will increase reliability and result in faster buses throughout Montgomery County.

These improvements will advance the transit network as specified by master plans. Potential improvements may also be identified through other planning and transit operations studies or requested by community members.

Click [here for more information and a list of completed projects](#).

SmarTrip® Cards Issued Before 2012 Are Due for Replacement

WMATA has installed new faregates at rail stations and will begin upgrading fareboxes on buses this fall. As a result, as of March 1, 2022, SmarTrip cards purchased before 2012 no longer work and must be replaced. If the serial number on the back of your card does not include “0167,” it needs to be replaced. For [step-by-step instructions](#) on how to replace old cards or transfer balances including SmartBenefits to another card, visit the [SmarTrip Card Replacement](#) page. Customers can easily replace their old farecards by mail, online, phone or in-person, and transfer any balance to a new or existing SmarTrip card or virtual card through [SmarTrip mobile pay](#) for iOS and Android.

Seniors, Persons with Disabilities and Kids Ride Free.

Did you know that with an ID, seniors, persons with disabilities, and young Montgomery County residents can take most Metrobuses in the County for free. Fares remain free on Ride On through the end of July 2022. More information on these fares can be found at [rideonbus.com](#).

Free COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing Taxi Service

MCDOT is providing FREE Taxi service to COVID-19 vaccination and testing sites, as well as County libraries to pick up N95 masks, for residents 65+ and residents with disabilities. To schedule a trip, call Connect-A-Ride at 301-738-3252 to get your free taxi code. Then call one of the following taxi services: Action Taxi 301 840-1000, Anytime Taxi: 301-637-9292 or Regency Taxi 301-990-9000 to schedule your trip.