

DeKalb County 2026 Q1 Update

March 3, 2026

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Interim General Manager/CEO



Agenda

Ridership

Capital Program

Preliminary Planning

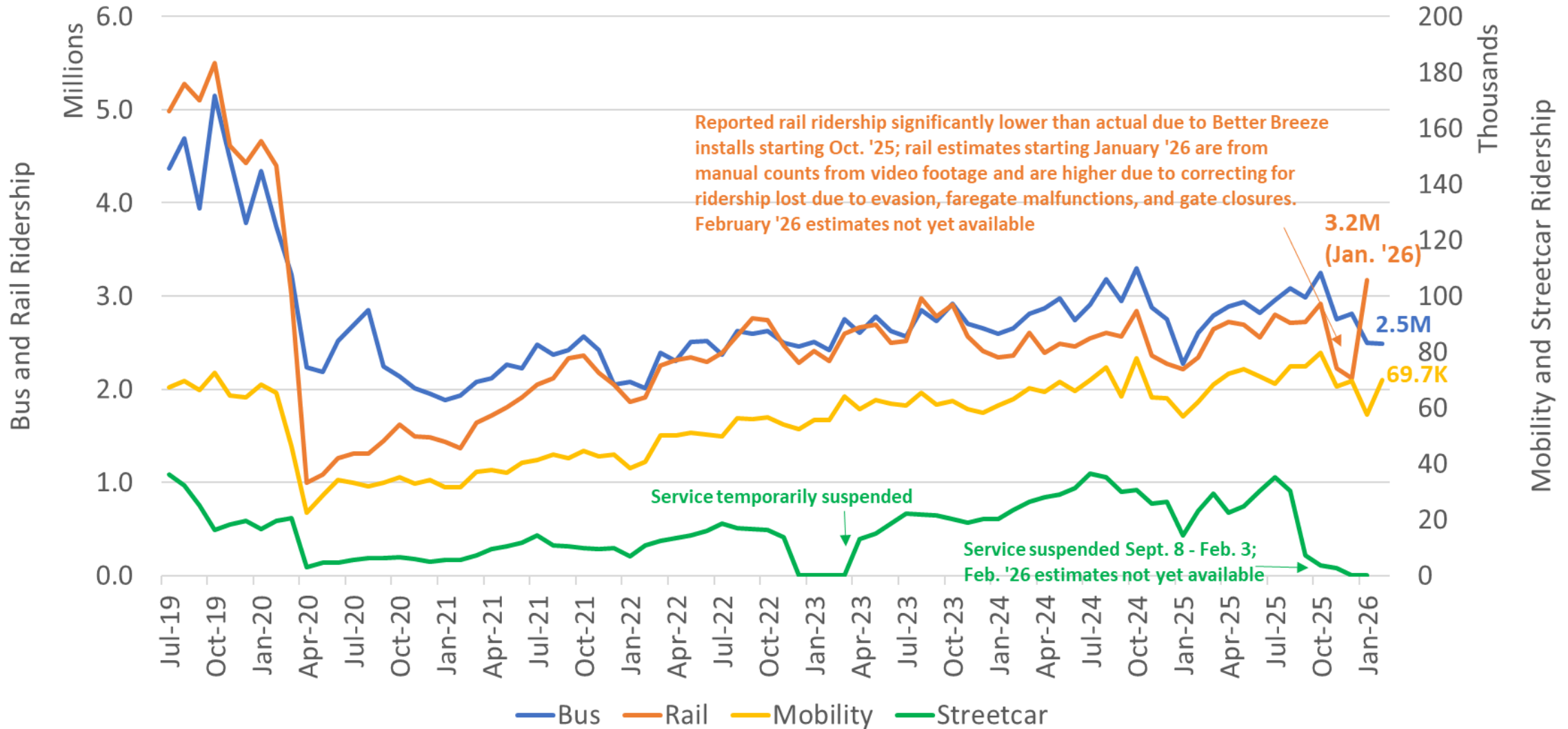
Station Rehab & TOD

Other News



Ridership

MARTA Monthly Ridership by Mode July 2019 - February 2026





Capital Program

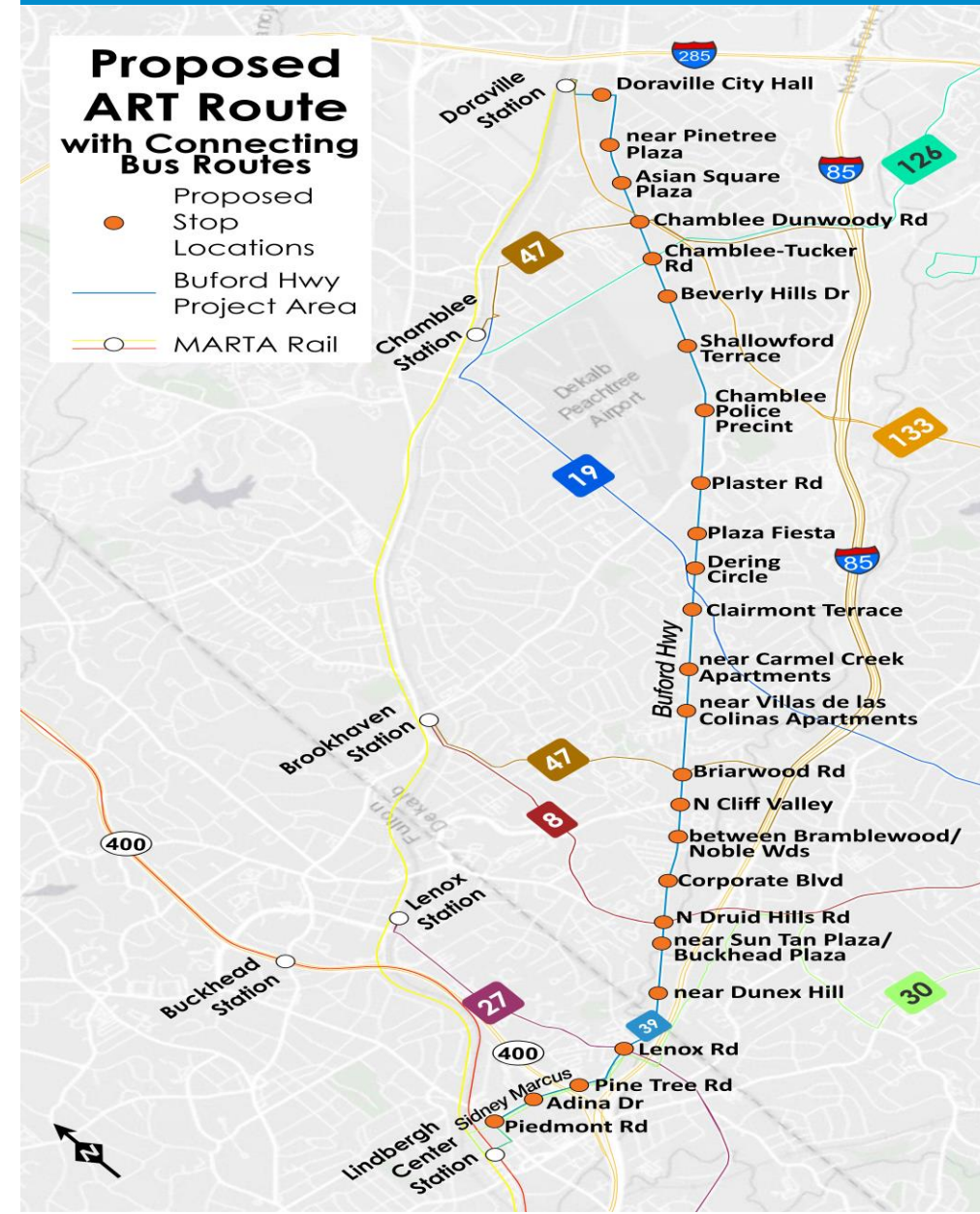
Buford Highway ART

Steps to Construction

- 30% design complete
- Final design candidate in negotiations
- Anticipated contract award: By the end of Q2 2026
- Final design timeline: 18 months
- Construction procurement timeline: Approx. 6 months
- Estimated construction start: Early 2028

Goals

- Projected annual ridership: 1,859,400
- Investment: Approximately \$52M



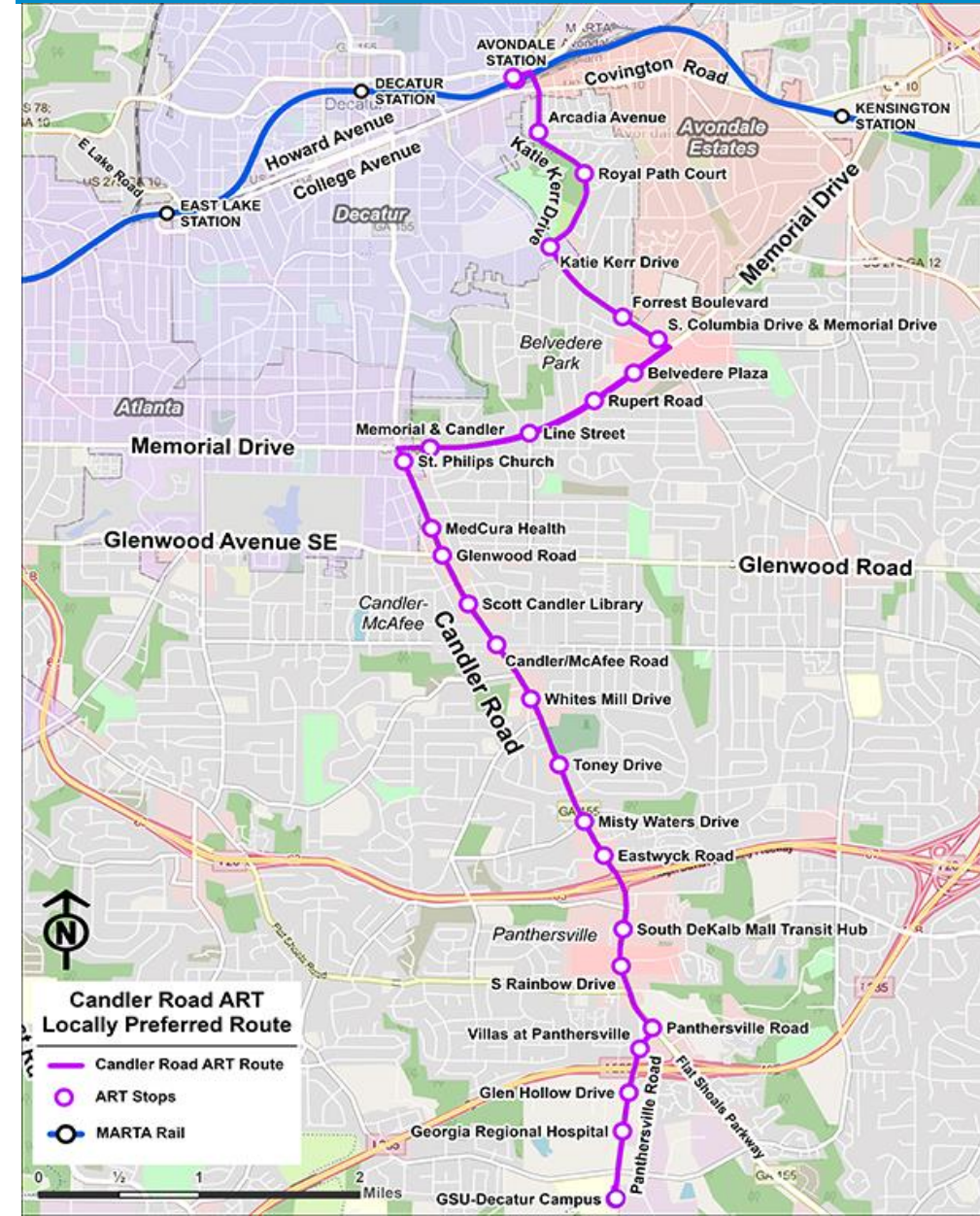
Candler Road ART

Steps to Construction

- 30% design complete
- Final design candidate in negotiations
- Anticipated contract award: By the end of Q2 2026
- Final design timeline: 18 months
- Construction procurement timeline: Approx. 6 months
- Estimated construction start: Mid 2028

Goals

- Projected annual ridership: 784,500
- Investment: Approximately \$54M



South DeKalb & Stonecrest Transit Hubs



South DeKalb Transit Hub Rendering

Design Process

- 30% Design complete
- Final Design paused

Next Steps

- Real Estate Acquisition
- *Construction commencing in 2028



Stonecrest Transit Hub Rendering

Design Process

- 30% Design complete
- Postponing Final Design consultant solicitation

Next Steps

- Real Estate Acquisition
- *Construction commencing in 2028



Preliminary Planning

South DeKalb Transit Initiative

Planning Status

- Started with 10 BRT alternatives
- Narrowed to 2 BRT alternatives
 - ✓ Interstate 20 (Stonecrest to Five Points Station)
 - ✓ Covington Highway (Stonecrest to Kensington Station)

Next Steps

- At the conclusion of the DeKalb Transit Master Plan (TMP)
 - ✓ Continue refining top two alternatives
 - ✓ Finalize and adopt Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA)





Station Rehab & TOD

Decatur East/Avondale Station TOD

Background

- ✓ Property sold to Columbia Residential in January 2024 with financial participation from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, City of Decatur, Decatur Housing Authority and DeKalb County.

Scope

- ✓ 80-unit senior affordable housing
- ✓ 30% AMI - 17 units
- ✓ 50% AMI - 7 units
- ✓ 60% AMI - 46 units
- ✓ Market Rate - 10 units

Progress

- ✓ Ribbon cutting last month



“The Link at Columbia Senior Residences”

East Lake Station

- North pedestrian bridge replacement is complete
- New north elevator is open
- South bridge is ready for installation
- Removal of the existing bridge and installation of the new bridge is expected to begin in mid-April



Kensington Station TOD

Kensington Master Plan

- MARTA re-released the Kensington TOD RFP with revised terms to seek a private developer for Phase I of the Master Plan
 - ✓ RFP Released
 - November 2025
 - ✓ Site Visit/Bid Conf
 - December 2025
 - ✓ Proposals Due
 - March 2026

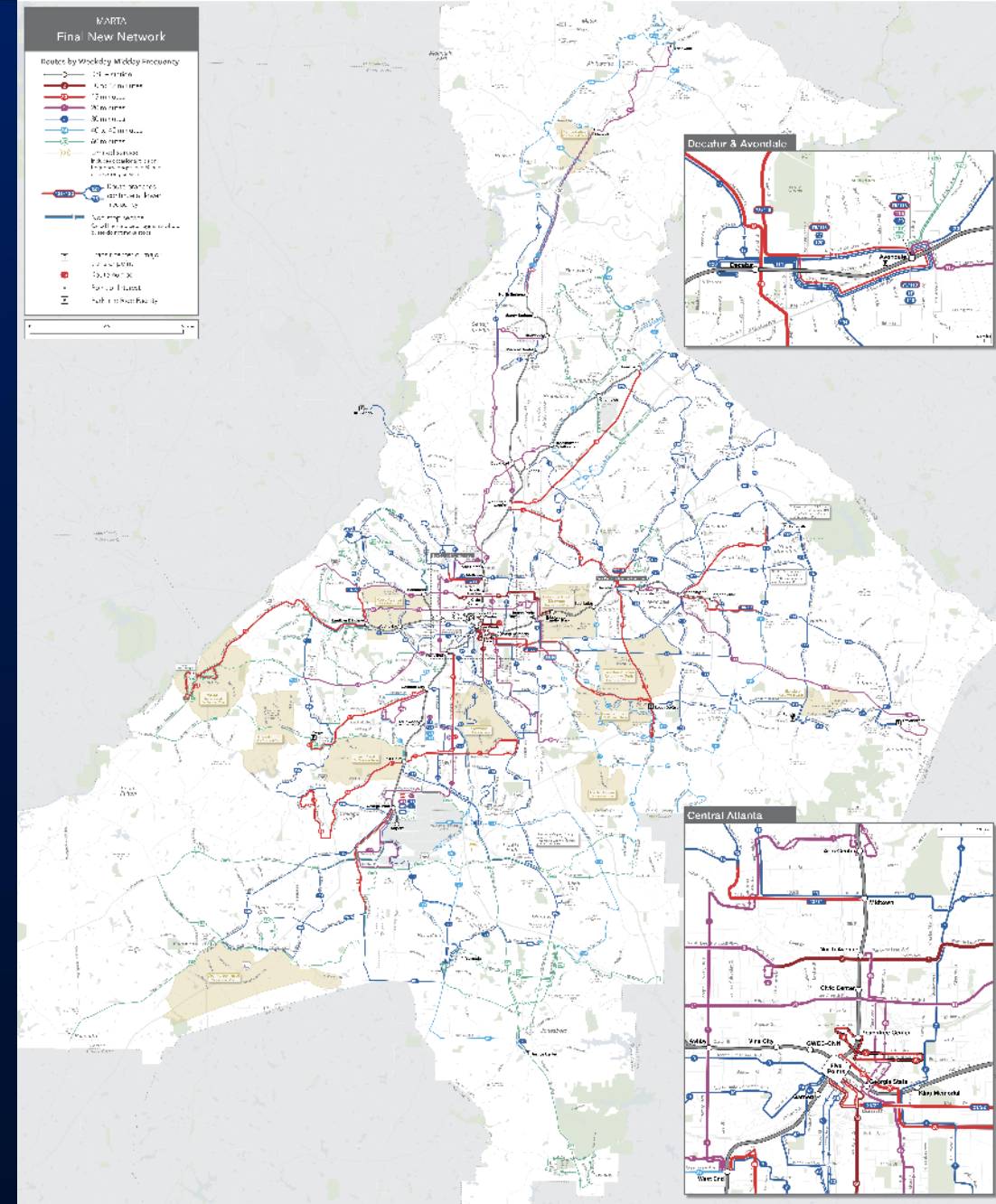




Other News

NextGen Bus Network

- Launches in *46 days* on April 18, 2026
- 25 Open Houses held in February
- Nearly 6,200 temporary signs installed
- On-system outreach in March and April
- 60+ Station Pop-Ups in March/April
- www.itsmarta.com/nextgen





- **Launches in 4 days on March 7, 2026**
- **MARTA Reach app, website, or call to request curb-to-curb service within 12 zones**
- **Connect to MARTA rail, frequent buses, major transfer points**
- **Sign-up by downloading MARTA Reach App**
- **www.itsmarta.com/reach**

Reach service in the NextGen Network

MARTA Reach will operate in the following areas:

- 301 West Atlanta
- 302 Kirkwood/Candler Park
- 303 County Line
- 304 Lakewood
- 305 Oakley Industrial
- 306 Fulton Industrial
- 307 East Point
- 308 Hillandale
- 309 Candler-McAfee/Belvedere Park
- 310 Cedar Grove
- 311 Gresham Park
- 312 North Fulton

A map of the Atlanta area showing the MARTA rail network as a grey line. Twelve blue shaded regions, each labeled with a number from 301 to 312, represent the Reach service zones. A legend in the top right corner shows a blue square for "Reach Zone" and a grey line for "Rail Service". A north arrow is also present.

Learn more
Scan the QR code to go to
itsmarta.com/reach

a better breeze is coming

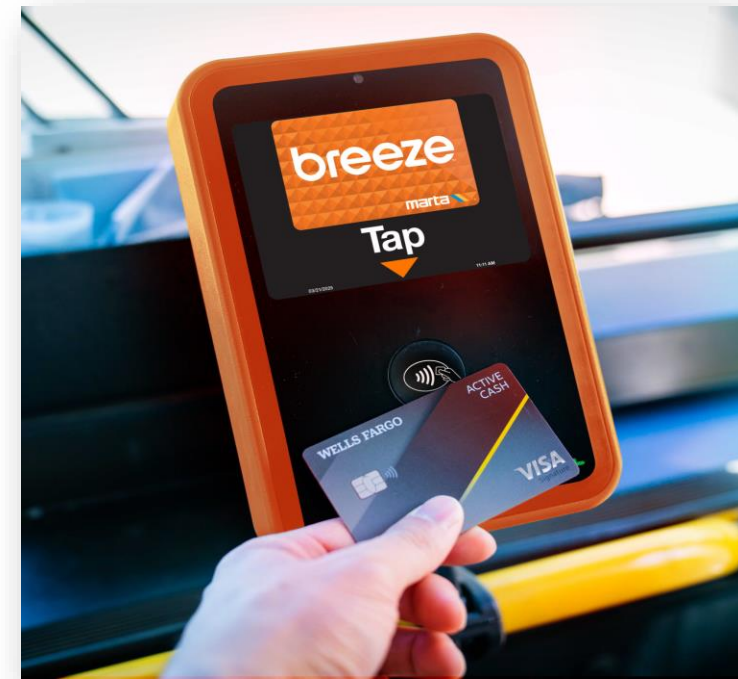


Project Overview

- Replacement of current fare system with all new hardware and software.
- Highlights include:
 - ✓ Tap and pay with credit/debit cards, Apple/Google pay, or new Breeze cards
 - ✓ New faregates and TVMs at all stations
 - ✓ New fare equipment on all vehicles

Project Status

- Station construction began Q3 2025
 - ✓ Construction underway at 23 of 38 stations.
 - ✓ Better Breeze launch planned for March 28, 2026
 - ✓ Old system deactivates May 2, 2026
 - ✓ Customers may transfer balances May 2 – Oct. 30, 2026



Public Safety

- Year-over-year, overall crime on the MARTA system is down 21%.
- Since February 2025, there have been no homicides and no increase in aggravated assaults.
- MARTA Police Department exceeded its goal of a 250-member force by the end of 2025 and is currently **278** officers strong.





- ## Successful Events
- ✓ Concerned Black Clergy Leadership Meeting (11/17)
 - ✓ Concerned Black Clergy Luncheon (11/20)
 - ✓ North DeKalb Senior Center (1/13)
 - ✓ Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Event (1/19)
 - ✓ Lou Walker Senior Center (1/20)
 - ✓ South DeKalb Senior (1/27)
 - ✓ MARTA Open House at HQ (1/29)
 - ✓ Leadership DeKalb Tour (1/29)
 - ✓ Rosa Parks Transit Equity Day (2/4)
 - ✓ Riders Advisory Council Meeting/Engagement (2/4)
 - ✓ NexGen Open House in Tucker (2/17)
 - ✓ NexGen Open House at Kensington Station (2/19)
 - ✓ NexGen Open House at Doraville Station (2/25)
 - ✓ Quarterly Breakfast with Commissioner Chakira Johnson (2/28)
 - ✓ Regular Literature Drops at Libraries
 - ✓ Monthly Toolkit Communications to Stakeholders





Thank You

