



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

**BOARD WORK SESSION**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026**

**ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Jennifer Ide called the meeting to order at 12:01 P.M.

**Board Members Present:**

Al Pond  
Roderick Frierson  
Freda Hardage  
Kathryn Powers  
Jennifer Ide  
Jacob Tzegaegbe  
Sagirah Jones  
Elizabeth Bolton-Harris  
Ryan Loke  
Sarah Galica  
DeVon Hudson

**Board Members Absent:**

Russell McMurry  
Valencia Williamson  
Jannine Miller  
Shayna Pollock

**Staff Members Present:**

Jonathan Hunt  
Rhonda Allen  
LaShanda Dawkins  
Ralph McKinney  
Kevin Hurley  
Paul Lopes  
Steven Parker  
Larry Prescott  
Duane Pritchett  
Michael Kreher

**Also in Attendance:** Peter Crofton, Paula Nash, Jacqueline Holland, Kenya Hammond, Phyllis Bryant, Tyrene Huff

**2. CHAIR'S REPORT**

**Work Session Meeting Minutes**

Approval of the January 8, 2026, Work Session minutes. On a motion by Board Member Bolton-Harris, seconded by Board Member Powers, the motion passed by a vote of 10 to 0 with 10 members present.

**3. GM/CEO REPORT**

**Inclement Weather Service**

**Stakeholder and Media Engagements**

**MARTA Monthly Significant Initiatives Updates**

- Better Breeze
- CQ400
- Five Points Transformation
- Summerhill RAPID A-Line

**NextGen Bus Network Presentation**

**World Cup Readiness Presentation**

**Plan of Finance Update**

**4. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Real Estate
- Litigation
- Personnel

**5. OTHER MATTERS**

None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The Work Session adjourned at 2:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Tyrene L. Huff  
Assistant Secretary to the Board

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4fUymRxdAxE>

smarter. faster. better.



# NextGen Bus Network Update

MARTA Board Working Session – February 12, 2026

Ryan VanSickle, Director of Technical Services & Service Planning

Andrew Pofahl, Implementation Program Manager



## Reach Service



**23 days to launch**

*March 7, 2026*

## Full NextGen Network



**65 days to launch**

*April 18, 2026*

# Agenda

- » NextGen Network Overview
- » MARTA Reach Overview
- » Launch Activities

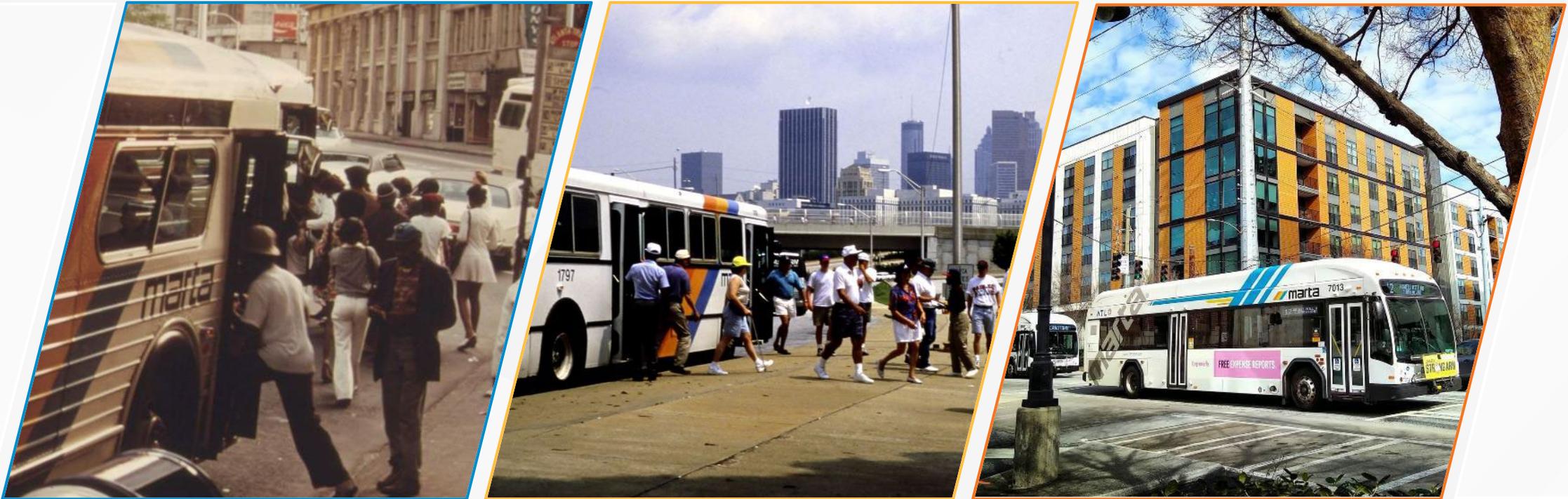




# NextGen Bus Network Overview

# A Generational Transformation

The bus network evolved gradually over years of expansion and adjustment.



The NextGen Bus Network is MARTA's **largest and most comprehensive network redesign** since the Authority's founding.



# Evolution of the NextGen Bus Network

**2021**

**2022**

**2023**

**2024**

**2025**

**2026**



Engagement on Network Concepts

NextGen Draft Bus Network Development

Network Refined, Hearings, and Board Adoption

Project Kickoff & Concept Plan Development

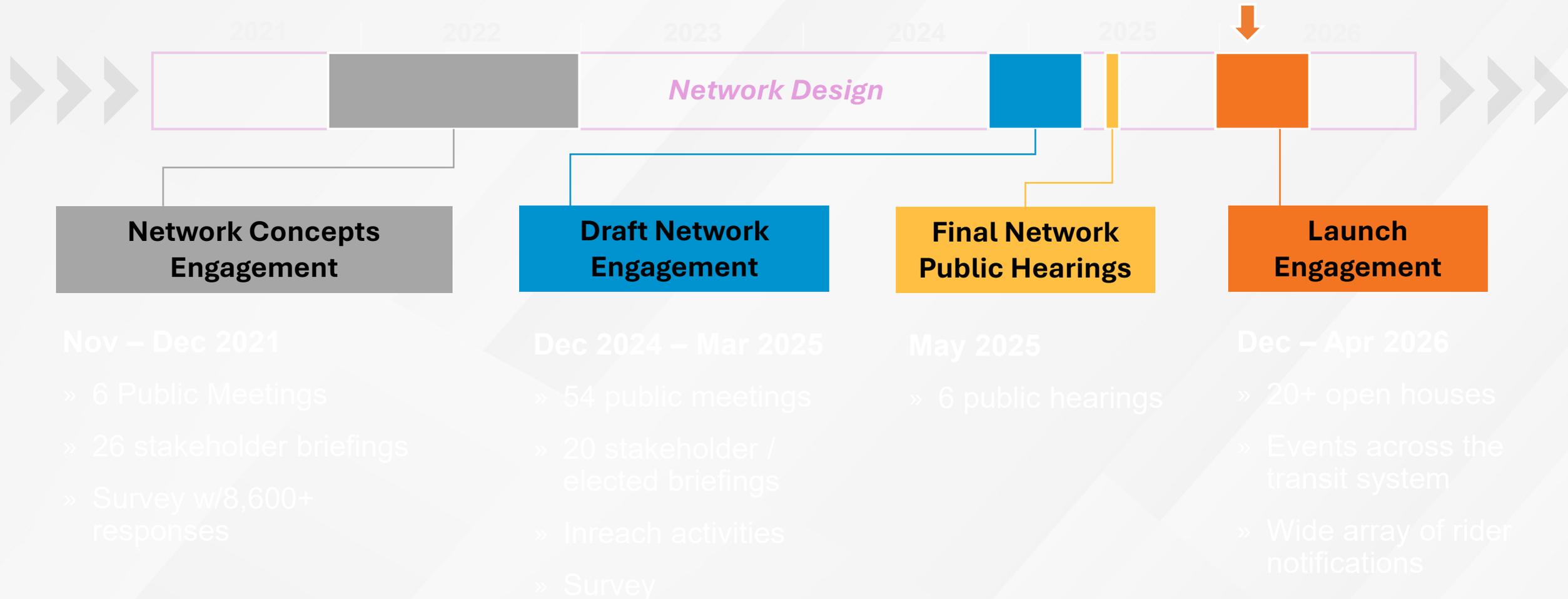
MARTA Board Policy on NextGen Network

Engagement on Draft Network

Launch of NextGen Network



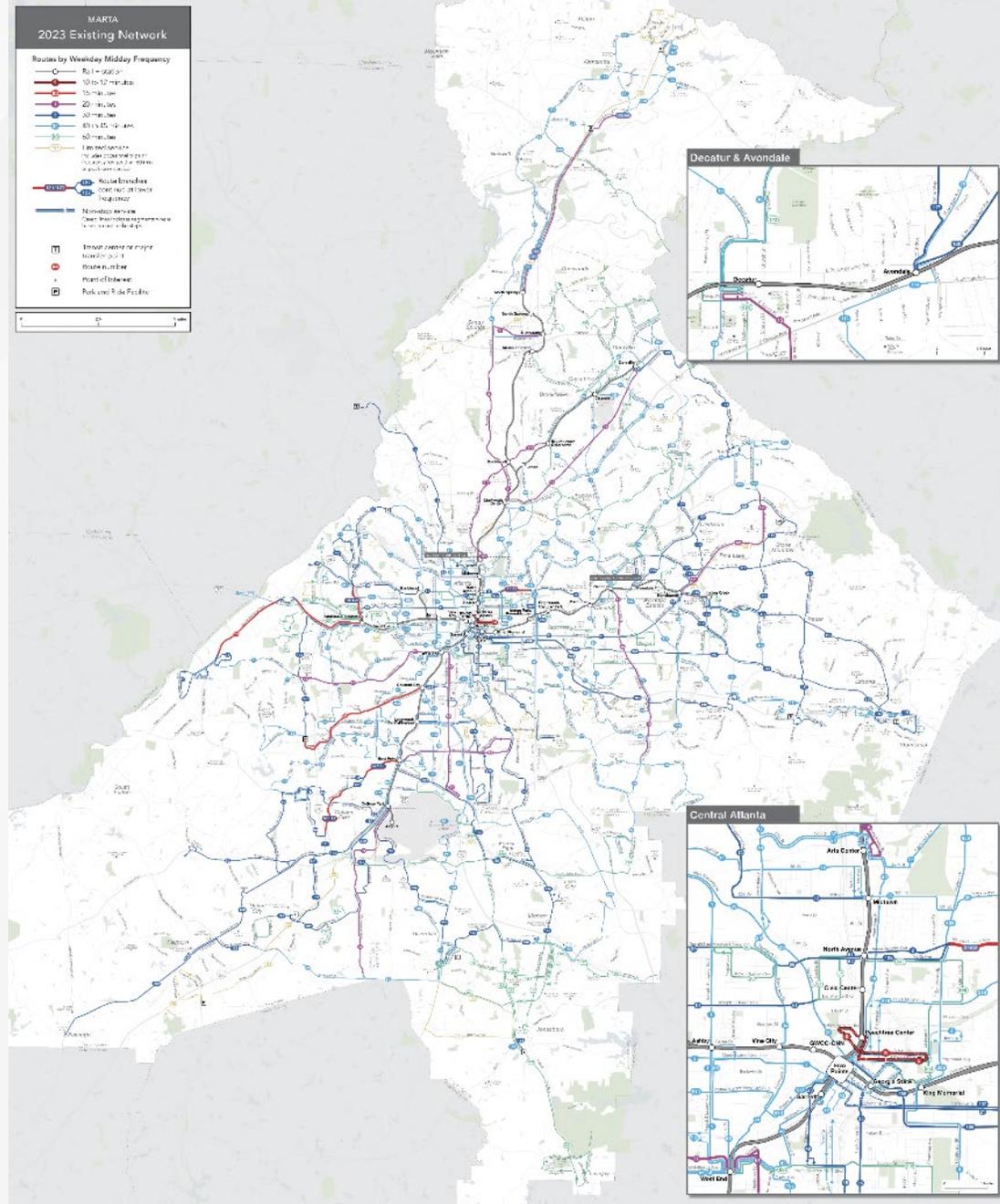
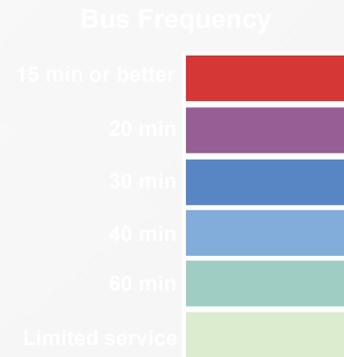
# Public Engagement Activities





# Existing Network

- » **113** fixed bus routes
- » **Frequent** service on 5 corridors
- » **20-minute** service on 9 routes
- » **5 peak-hour-only** routes
- » No on-demand zones







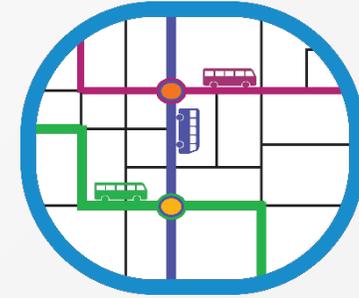
# Key Features of the NextGen Bus Network



More frequent services



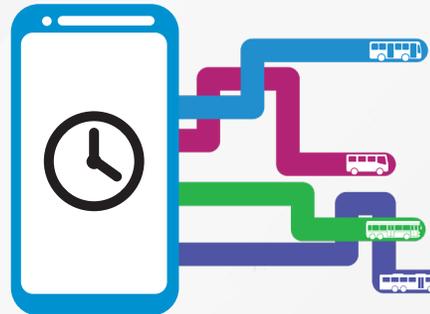
Consistent service 7 days a week



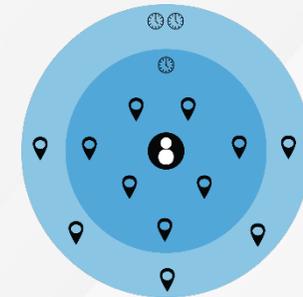
Simpler routes with fewer transfers



Timed transfer locations



New on-demand service



Access to more places in less time



# The Big Picture

The NextGen Bus Network will nearly triple the number of residents with access to **frequent service (buses at least every 15 minutes)**.

- » Significant improvements in access to jobs, fresh groceries, education, healthcare, and other opportunities

# Smarter, Faster, Better Outcomes



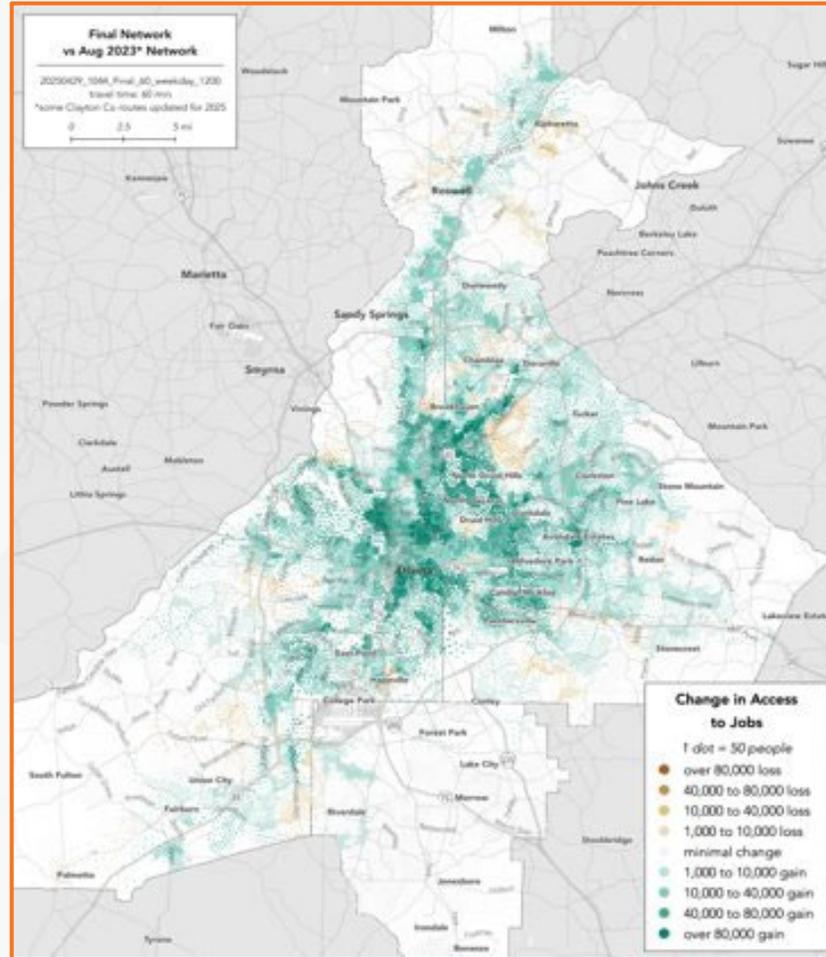
**+21%**  
Colleges/Universities  
Reachable in 1 hour or less

**+27%**

More Grocery Stores  
Reachable in 1 hour or less



**+31%**  
More Hospitals  
Reachable in 1 hour or less



**+190%**  
Residents Near  
Frequent Service



**+6%**  
Residents With  
Transit Access



**+22%**  
Jobs Reachable  
In 1 hour or less



# MARTA Reach Overview



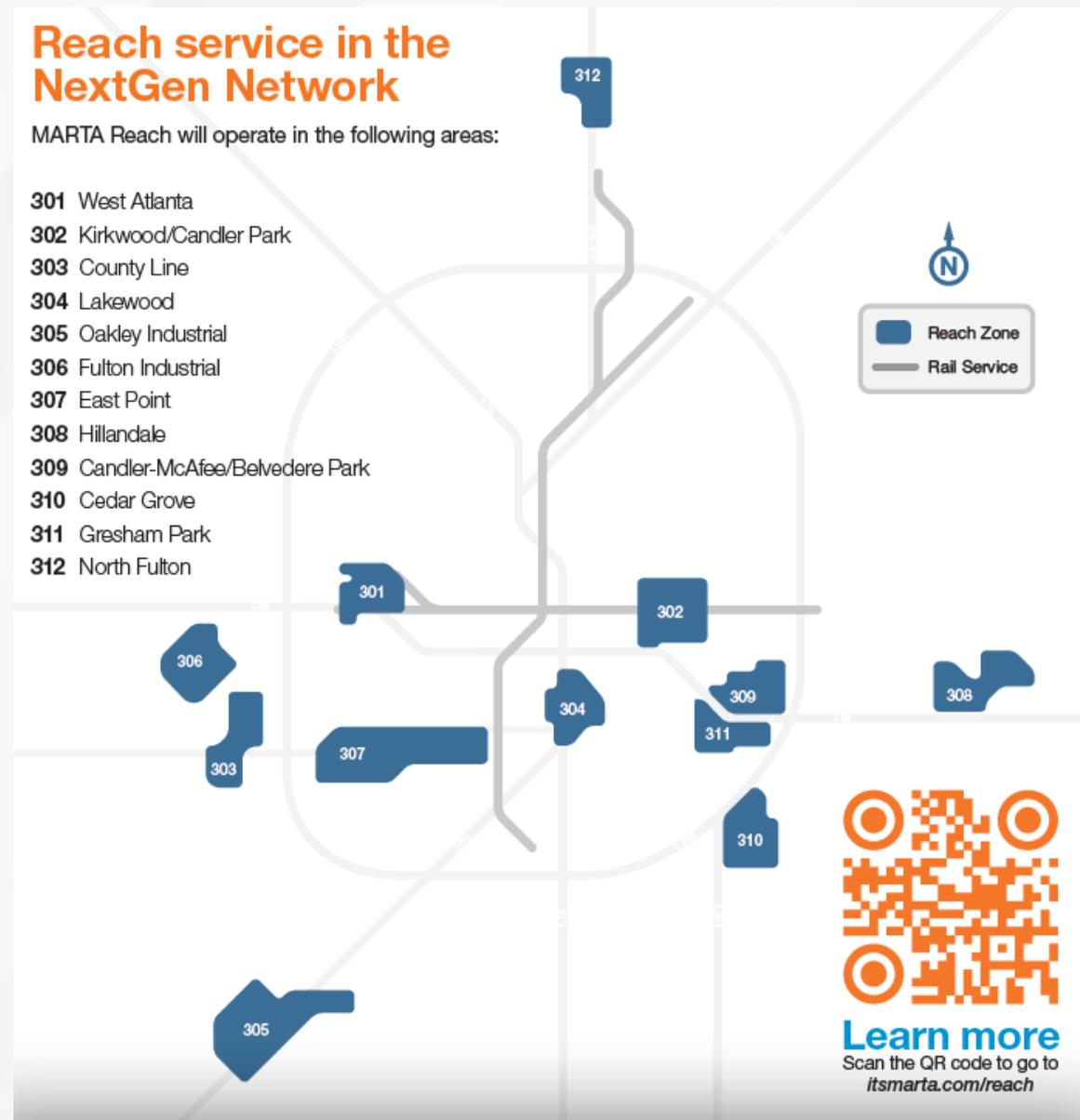
# MARTA Reach Service

- » Launching 6-weeks before NextGen on March 7
- » 12 Zones
- » Curb-to-curb service within zone
- » Pickups within 30 minutes of request
- » Replaces fixed-route coverage in lower density, lower ridership areas
- » Provides first-and last-mile connections to MARTA rail, frequent buses, major transfer points

## 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



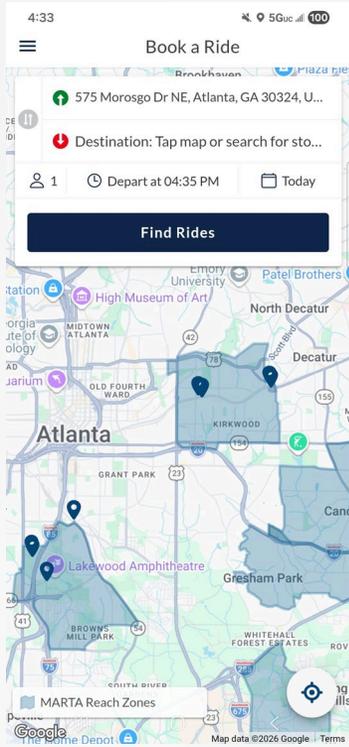


# MARTA Reach Vehicles

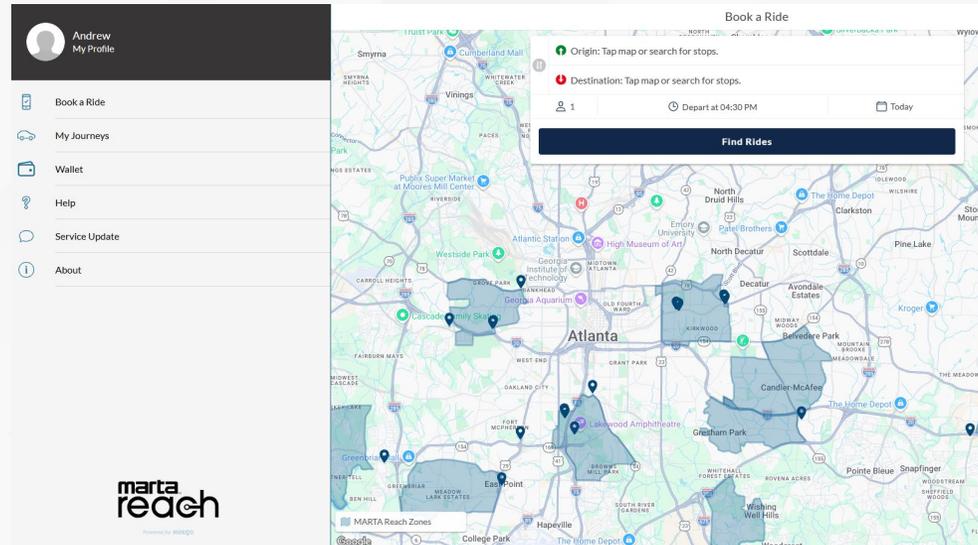




# Trip Booking



Mobile Application



Website

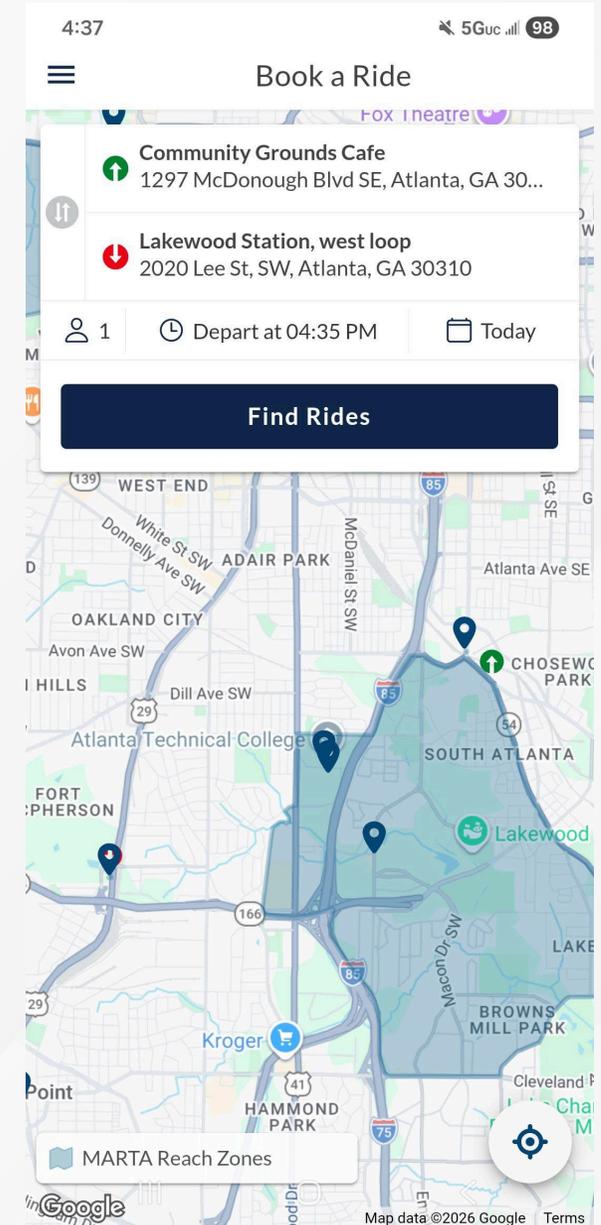


Over the Phone



# Trip Example

1. Customer requests a ride from Community Grounds Café to Lakewood Station
2. Software assigns the trip to one of three available vehicles and provides operator with routing to pick-up
3. Operator picks up the customer within expected time and software provides routing to Lakewood
4. Operator drives customer to Lakewood and drops the customer off by estimated arrival time
5. Operator waits at Lakewood Station for next trip assignment





# Launch Activities



# Outreach Schedule

- » 25 February Open Houses
- » +60 Station Pop-up's in March and April
- » "Street Team" deployments to complement Station Pop-ups in March and April



*Temporary Bus Stop Signs*

*Ad & Social Media Campaigns*

*Open Houses*

*On-System Outreach*



# Outreach Materials

**marta** | NextGen Bus Network

## Your bus route is changing

### April 18, 2026

*Smarter. Faster. Better.*

Learn more at [itsmarta.com/nextgen](https://itsmarta.com/nextgen)

**marta** | NextGen Bus Network

### Come learn how your bus route changes!

<b>Monday, February 9</b> NW Library at Scotts Crossing 4 – 8PM	<b>Tuesday, February 10</b> East Point Station 7 – 11AM 3 – 6PM
<b>Wednesday, February 11</b> Exchange Recreation Center 4 – 8PM	<b>Thursday, February 12</b> North Springs Station 7 – 11AM 3 – 6PM

Learn more at [itsmarta.com/nextgen](https://itsmarta.com/nextgen)

**Your bus route is changing**

### April 18, 2026

- More frequent buses
- Simpler routes
- Timed transfers
- More consistent schedules
- New MARTA Reach on-demand zones

**Learn more**  
Scan the QR code to go to [itsmarta.com/nextgen](https://itsmarta.com/nextgen)

**marta** | NextGen Bus Network

To request this information in another language or in an accessible format, call 404-848-4037 or 404-848-5655 (TTY). Customer Service | 404.848.5000

Bus Posters

**marta** | NextGen Bus Network

**We're bringing you smarter, faster, and better service**

MARTA's NextGen Bus Network will connect you to more places with faster service, shorter waits, and new on-demand zones.

**More access. More places. More opportunities.**  
The new bus network will bring major improvements to riders across the system. Nearly every route will change.

**What's new?**  
The new bus network uses new and improved strategies to make your service easier and more consistent. The new service will have:

- More frequent routes**  
The new network will feature 15-minute service frequency in 17 corridors, plus other frequency increases in many other places.
- Simpler routes, fewer transfers**  
New and improved fixed route services will operate more efficiently and save you time.
- Timed transfer locations**  
Key connections will be coordinated to reduce wait time. Several locations will feature upgraded amenities and pedestrian features.
- More consistent schedules**  
All routes and Reach zones will operate every day, every week, and many feature better frequency mid-day and on weekends.
- MARTA Reach on-demand service**  
New on-demand services will take you around the neighborhood or connect you to other MARTA services for longer trips.

**Learn more**  
Scan the QR code to go to [itsmarta.com/nextgen](https://itsmarta.com/nextgen)

Customer Service | 404.848.5000

Factsheets

**marta** | NextGen Bus Network

### Your bus route is changing April 18, 2026

Fixed route services at [itsmarta.com/nextgen](https://itsmarta.com/nextgen)

Line	Route	Frequency	Start	End	Notes
1	...	...	...	...	...
2	...	...	...	...	...
3	...	...	...	...	...
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Route Crosswalks

# Your bus route is changing

## April 18, 2026

**Learn more**  
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**marta** | NextGen Bus Network

To request this information in another language or in an accessible format, call 404-848-4037 or 404-848-5655 (TTY).

Rail Car/Station Ads



# Rider Tools

**marta** | NextGen Bus Network

**Trip Planner**

Alexander Park

Emory University Hospital

Leave at 8:00am on a weekday **Hide Settings**

**Travel date and time**

08:00 AM  Weekday

**Other Settings**

Accessible Routing

Found 2 options

**Earliest Arrival** **Shortest Walk**

**55 minutes by MARTA bus**

309  15

Leave: 8:08am or 8:23am, 8:38am...  5 min

Arrive: 9:03am

**Earliest Arrival** **Fewest Transfers**

**51 minutes by MARTA bus**

15

Leave: 8:12am or 8:27am, 8:42am...  25 min

Arrive: 9:03am

© MapTiler | OpenStreetMap contributors

NextGen Trip Planner

## Enter Your Current Bus Route Number

ROUTE - 19 Clairmont Road / Howard Avenue

### Current Route: 19 - Clairmont Road / Howard Avenue

NextGen Route #	NextGen Route Name
15	Clifton Road / Candler Road
17	Clairmont Road / North Druid Hills Road
46	I-85 Access Road / Briarwood
48	I-85 Access Road / North Brookhaven

Find Your Route Tool

Both available at [www.itsmarta.com/nextgen](http://www.itsmarta.com/nextgen)



# Stop Changes

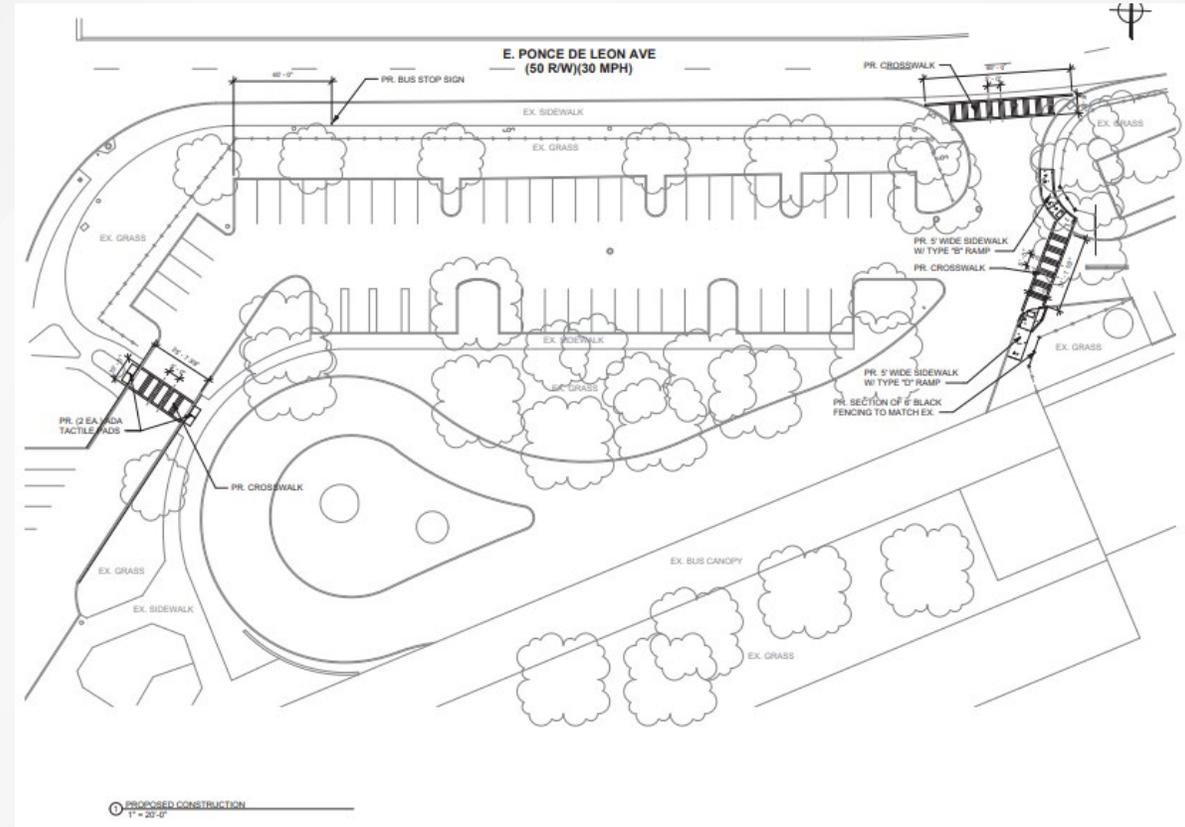
- » +6,200 Temporary Bus Stop Signs installed
- » Amenities relocations underway
- » Removal of temporary signs and installation of permanent signs post-launch





# Infrastructure Improvements

- » 49 Total Improvements
  - Intersection Geometry Modifications
  - Transfer Point Construction
  - MARTA Station/Park-and-Ride Modifications
  - Pedestrian Improvements
- » 16 of 49 are “Launch Critical”
- » Strong coordination with Jurisdictional Partners



Avondale Station North Bus Bay Modifications



# Operator Preparation

## » Printed Training Manuals

- 1 Division Manual per Operator
- All Division Manuals available at Garages
- All materials available at [www.itsmarta.com/nextgen](http://www.itsmarta.com/nextgen)

## » Route Familiarization Training

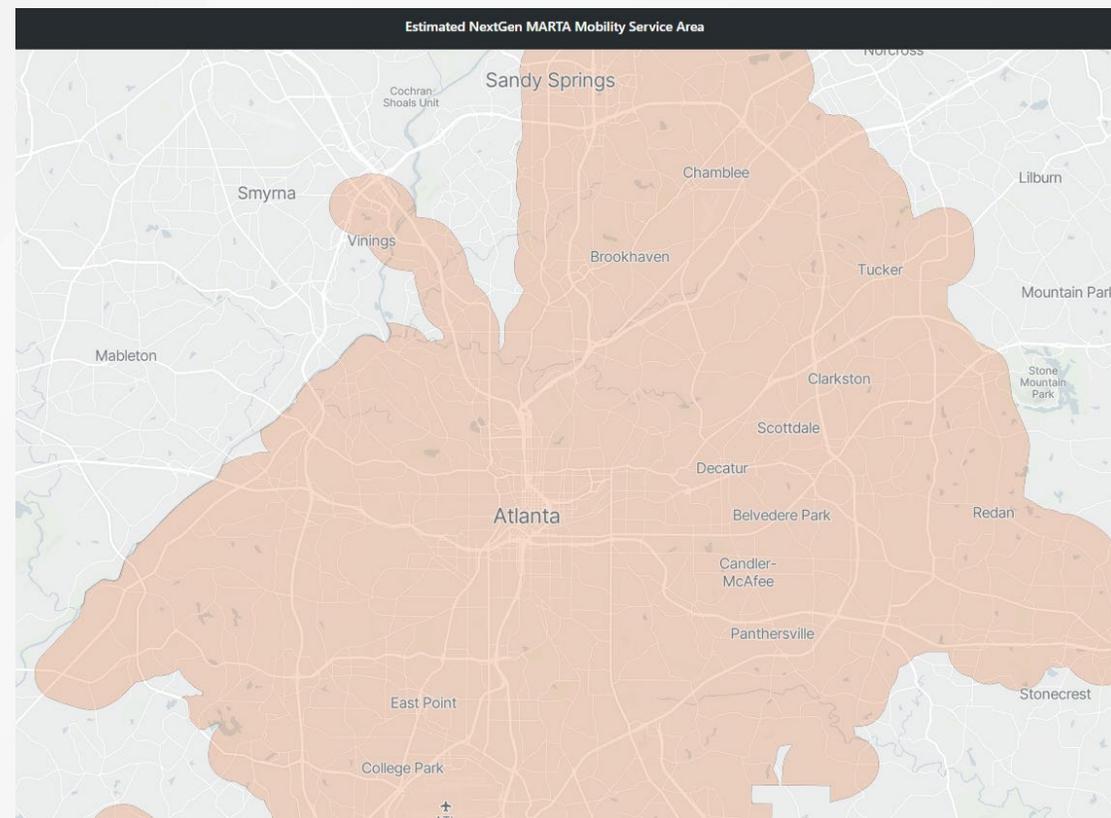
## » Vehicle Turn-by-Turns





# Mobility Impacts

- » Continued service with  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile of bus service
- » 60 residential addresses of existing Mobility customers outside new service area
- » Customers will continue to receive service for 1-year after NextGen Launch
- » Directly notifying these customers



Estimated Mobility Service Area

Available at [www.itsmarta.com/nextgen](http://www.itsmarta.com/nextgen)



## Reach Service



**23 days to launch**

*March 7, 2026*

## Full NextGen Network



**65 days to launch**

*April 18, 2026*



Stay up to date at:  
[www.itsmarta.com/nextgen](http://www.itsmarta.com/nextgen)



Thank you!





MARTA World Cup Updates

Board Work Session Meeting  
February 12, 2026

**Jon Gordon**  
Director of Customer Engagement

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# FWC26 Planning



# FWC26 Meetings

## External

- ACVB Points of Interest Meeting.
- South Metro Development FWC26 Panel.
- AMBSE: Second Series of Virtual Media Availability.
- Atlanta Host City Committee Meeting.
- 100 Days out Press Conference.
- Atlanta Environmental Committee Meeting.
- Atlanta Emergency Preparedness & Consequence Management Meeting
- All Host Transit Agency Coordination Meeting.

## Internal

- NIMS 402 training for Executives.
- FWC26 Committee Meeting.
- Training Workstream Planning Meeting.



# Operational Service & Support Strategies

## ➤ Rail Service:

- MARTA will increase frequency to 5-minute headways.

## ➤ Bus Service:

- Bus Operations will stage a 30-bus (minimum) rapid-response fleet.

## ➤ Mobility Service:

- Mobility Services is prepared to provide temporary ADA eligibility.

## ➤ Transit Ambassador Support:

- Up to 12 hours on Match Day and Non-Match Day deployment.
- Ambassador resources distribution: May 2026.
- Comprehensive training: May 2026.
- Other employee events.



# FWC26 Readiness



# Safety & Security

## ➤ Tactical Readiness: UASI Live-Scale Exercise



# Safety & Security

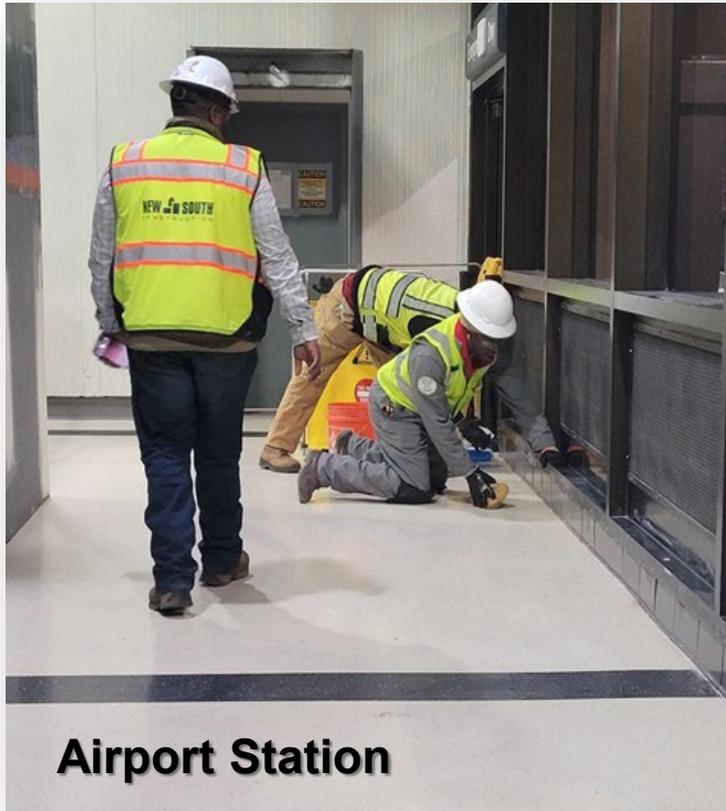
## ➤ Strategic Coordination: Multi-Agency TSA Tabletop Exercise



# Capital Preparedness

Prioritizing work efforts in those stations projected for greater use during the World Cup:

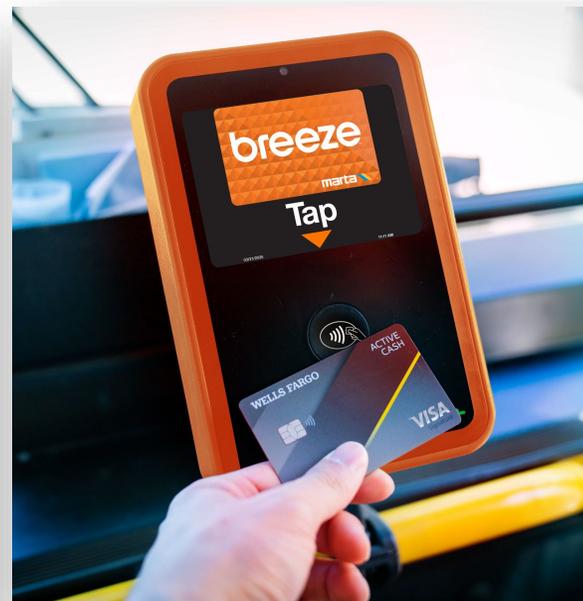
- Airport Station
- Five Points Station
- Garnett Station
- Indian Creek Station
- Peachtree Center Station
- SEC District Station
- Vine City Station



**Airport Station**



# Better Breeze and Station Phones





Thank You





# Plan of Finance

MARTA Board Work Session  
February 12, 2026

# Agenda

- Plan of Finance Overview
- Spring Transactions
- Summer/Fall Transactions
- Anticipated Results
- Timeline

# Plan of Finance Overview

## Spring Transactions

- Refund Series 2015B & C & 2016B – \$108M par value
- Refund Series 2021A – \$117.5M - mandatory call by June 16, 2026
- Refund Series 2021D – \$4.7M par value taxable bonds
- Tender Series 2017A,C, & D & 2019A – up to \$79M par value depending on market conditions
- Use commercial paper facility to optimize interest expense
  - Reduce interest cost by delaying long-term debt issuance
  - Benefit from low-cost CP borrowing rate given MARTA's high credit rating

## Late Summer Early Fall Transactions

- New Money Issuance – \$250M - \$300M fixed and variable rate debt
- Repay commercial paper borrowings

## Credit Agency Ratings

- S&P – AAA    KBRA – AAA

# Spring Transactions



# Refund Series 2015B & C and 2016B

- Par value: \$108M viable for refunding
- Timing: Refundable beginning April 2, 2026
- Estimated savings: NPV debt service savings of \$6.6M or 6.1%
- Estimated TIC of 3.7%



# Refund Series 2021A (Variable Rate)

Series 2021A Bonds have a mandatory refunding date of June 16, 2026

- Par value: \$117.5M
- Timing: refund on the first day of May or June, 2026
- Structure: refund with variable rate instrument to maintain exposure to low-interest variable rate debt
- Variable Rate Demand Bonds (VRDB) appear attractive relative to our current pricing





# Late Summer/ Early Fall Transactions



# New Money: Variable-Rate Refund Commercial Paper (CP)

Issue variable-rate bonds to refund short-term CP

- Par Value: ~\$100M - \$150M
- Timing: Late Summer/ Early Fall 2026
- Structure: increase variable-rate exposure from five percent to approximately ten percent
- Refund outstanding CP: Leverage lower-cost variable interest rates while limiting risk exposure to ~10% in the event that rates rise

# New Money: Fixed-Rate

## Issue fixed-rate bonds to replenish working capital

- Par Value: ~\$150M
- Timing: Late Summer/ Early Fall 2026
  - Use of CP allowed MARTA to postpone issuing higher-cost, long-term debt
- Structure: amortization optimized for steepening yield curve
- TIC: 4.38%

# **Additional Refunding Considerations**

*(smaller transactions for Spring or Fall if viable)*

## Tender Offering

- Series 2017A,C, & D and 2019A have \$79M of par value that produce at least 3% NPV debt service savings
- 25% participation rate could result in \$1.1M or 5.5% in NPV debt service savings

## Refund taxable par on a tax-exempt basis

- Series 2021D \$4.7M available on maturities 2026 - 2035
- Estimated NPV debt service savings of \$0.3M or 7.0%
- Estimated TIC 2.7%.

# Negotiated Bond Underwriter Pool

MARTA works with leading municipal finance underwriters who specialize in the transaction types we plan to execute

National Firms	Mid-tier Firms	Small-tier Firms
Bank of America	Academy Securities Inc.	Blaylock Van, LLC
Barclays Capital Inc.	Estrada Hinojosa & Company, Inc.	Cabrera Capital Markets LLC
Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC	FHN Financial Capital Markets	Crews & Associates, Inc.
J.P. Morgan Securities LLC	Fifth Third Securities, Inc.	Drexel Hamilton
Jefferies LLC	Loop Capital Markets LLC	Security Capital Brokerage Inc.
Morgan Stanley	Mesirow Financial, Inc.	Siebert Williams Shank & Co., LLC
TD Securities	Piper Sandler & Co	Stern Brothers & Co.
RBC Capital Markets	PNC Capital Markets LLC	
Wells Fargo	Ramirez & Co., Inc.	
	Raymond James	
	Truist	

# Anticipated Plan of Finance Results

## Spring

- **\$6.9M NPV Debt Service Savings:** Refund Series 2015B & C and 2016B
- **Maintain Variable-Rate Exposure:** Refund Series 2021A prior to mandatory call
- **Potential \$3M+ in Additional Debt Service Savings:** Tender 2017A, C, & D and 2019A and refund taxable Series 2021D

## Late Summer / Early Fall

- **\$250 - \$300M New Money Issuance:** ~\$150M fixed and \$100-150 variable
  - Increases variable debt exposure from five percent to ten percent
- Debt obligations remain manageable

## Credit Agency Ratings

- Fund working capital and maintain high credit rating (AAA with KBRA and S&P)

# Proposed Timeline

- **February 2026:** Issue and evaluate RFI responses and overall market conditions
- **March 2026:** Finalize deal structures and select underwriters
- **March 2026:** Rating agency calls
- **April 2026:** Price Spring transactions on April 8 for approval at April 9 board meeting
- **Late April – May 1, 2026:** Execute refundings
- **Summer/Fall 2026:** Execute new money issuance



Thank You

