

DASH (bus)

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(September 2016) (Learn how and when to remove this message)

DASH is the main public transit bus operator in the Northern Virginia city of Alexandria. DASH provides bus service within the City of Alexandria, connecting to local and regional public transit services in the Washington metropolitan area. DASH operates throughout the city of Alexandria, with 124 buses on eleven routes.^[7] DASH buses serve all five Washington Metro stations within Alexandria city limits, with additional hubs at the Mark Center Building, the former Landmark Mall, and The Pentagon. DASH buses carry over five million passengers annually as of 2024.^[8]

DASH is operated by the **Alexandria Transit Company** (ATC), a non-profit corporation wholly owned by the City of Alexandria. ATC is governed by an eleven-person board of directors elected by the city council. [9] The Alexandria Transit Company was formed to supplement the regional rail and bus service provided by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and to provide a local bus service to the City of Alexandria.

History [edit]

In 1981, in anticipation of the opening of the Metrorail stations and the subsequent reordering of Metrobus service, the City Council authorized a feasibility study for a city-sponsored bus

DASH





DASH bus at Van Dorn Street station

Parent City of Alexandria

Founded March 1984^[1]

Headquarters 3000 Business Center Drive,

Alexandria, VA

Service area Alexandria, Virginia

Service type Bus service

Alliance WMATA

Routes 10 and the King Street

Trolley^[2]

Fleet Gillig · New Flyer ·

Proterra^{[3][4]}

Daily ridership 14,900 (Q1 2023)^[5]

 $4,209,500 (2015)^{[6]}$ Annual system. In 1982, the study recommended a five-route system, ridership using 18 buses. Fuel type Diesel, Diesel-electric Hybrid, In 1983, the City Council developed an RFP (Request For Battery electric Proposal) for management companies to develop a detailed Operator Alexandria Transit Company plan for the operation of transit service in the City of Website dashbus.com Alexandria. The city chose to establish a non-profit public

service cooperation that would be wholly owned by the City. This arrangement provided means by which:

- The transit system could be run as a business-type enterprise, and
- City Council could retain overall policy control yet be free from the day-to-day operation of a transit system.

On October 23, 1983, the City Council set up a Transitional Task Force and, on January 24, 1984, instructed the City Attorney to proceed with the incorporation of a non-profit company. The certificate of incorporation was issued by the State Corporation Commission on January 31, and the organizational meeting of the company was held on February 6.

In January 1984, the General Manager employed by the Management Company that was awarded the management contract reported for duty and final preparations began for the opening of revenue service on March 11.

On October 19, 2020, DASH unveiled its first all-electric transit bus at the City Hall of Alexandria. [10]

In September 2021, the entire network was restructured as part of the Alexandra Transit Vision Plan to create a more useful and equitable bus network that encourages more people to get to more places using transit. All Routes were renumbered in either the 30s or 100s eliminating the AT designations.^[11]

Fares [edit]

As of September 5, 2021, DASH is fare free.^[12] Before the free fares, DASH's base fare was \$2.00 for riders paying cash or SmarTrip.^{[13][14]} In 2007, DASH converted its buses to allow the use of the WMATA SmarTrip, an electronic debit farecard. DASH continued to accept and issue paper transfers until they were eliminated altogether January 1, 2013.^[15]

Fleet [edit]

Photo	Builder and model name	Model year	Length	Numbers (Total)	Vehicles in service	Fuel type	Notes
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	Gillig Phantom 40'	2005	40 ft (12.19 m) ^[3]	101–102 (2 buses)	1	Diesel	 Ex-PRTC OmniRide, acquired in 2019. These buses have suburban configuration and single doors. Originally numbered 701-702; renumbered in early 2020 due to a numbering conflict with new buses. Occasionally used as backup buses.^[3]
		2011		200–206 (7 buses)	7		• First low floor buses for DASH. ^[16]
		2012		207–211 (5 buses)	3 retiring	Discol	
(3) Nombre 2	Gillig	2014	35 ft	212–216 (5 buses)	5	hybrid	
Ret to Conference of Community	Low Floor -	2015	(10.67 m)	217–229 (13 buses)	13		
		2017		230–233 (4 buses)	4		
		2018		501–514 (14 buses)	14	Diesel	

		2011 2012 40 ft	2011		300–302 (3 buses)	2 retiring		• First low floor buses for DASH. ^[16]
	Gillig Low Floor		40 ft (12.19 m)	303–307 (5 buses)	3 retiring			
	40'	2014	(12.10 111)	308–309 (2 buses)	2			
		2017		310–311 (2 buses)	2	Diesel hybrid		
TOUT TO THE PARTY OF THE PARTY	Gillig Low Floor Trolley 29'^	2011	29 ft (8.839 m)	400–404 (5 trolley buses)	5		Operated on the King	
	Gillig Low Floor Trolley 35'^	2015	35 ft	405 (1 trolley bus)	1		Street Trolley route	
ST SERVICE	New 20	2019	(10.67 m)	515–527 (13 buses)	13			
	Xcelsior XD35			528–530 (3 buses)	3	Diesel		
The same of the sa	New Flyer Xcelsior XD40	2020	2020	40 ft	701–705 (5 buses)	5		
	New Flyer Xcelsior CHARGE XE40		40 ft (12.19 m)	801–803 (3 buses) ^[17]	3	Battery	First all- electric transit buses for DASH. ^[18]	
0,000	New Flyer Xcelsior CHARGE NG XE60 articulated	2021	60 ft (18 m)	901–904 (4 buses)	4			

TH-WALDON R	Proterra ZX5+			804-810 (7 buses) ^[17]	7		
	New Flyer Xcelsior XD40	2023	40 ft (12.19 m)	706–715 (10 buses) ^[3]	9	Diesel	715 entered special service for DASH's 40th Anniversary.

On order [edit]

Builder and model name	Length	Year	Fleet number	Fuel type	Notes
New Flyer Xcelsior CHARGE NG XE60 articulated	60 ft (18 m)	2025	905–906 (4 buses)	Battery electric	• To begin in FY25. ^[19]
New Flyer Xcelsior XD40	40 ft (12 m)	2025	716–721 (6 buses)	Diesel	
ТВА	TBD	2026	(13 buses)	Battery electric	 To begin in FY27. Funded by the FY23 FTA Bus and Low- and No-Emission Grant Awards.^[20]
		2027	2027 (12 buses)		Expected to begin in FY27.

Retired fleet [edit]

Year	Builder and model name	Numbers (preserved numbers)	Year Retired	Picture	Notes
1984	Bus Industries of America Orion I (01.502)	1-17	2001		

1986		18-19	2002		
1990– 91	Bus Industries of America Orion I (01.507)	20-33	2005		Bus #28 is preserved by Commonwealth Coach & Trolley of Roanoke, VA.
1996		34-43	2012	2 to 40 10 to	
1998	Gillig Phantom 35'	44-53	2014		
1999		54-58	2015	1000	
1999– 2000	Orion Bus Industries Orion V (05.503)	59-68	2017		Bus #59 is preserved by Commonwealth Coach & Trolley of Roanoke, VA.
2002		69-76	2019–20		
2004– 05	- DaimlerChrysler	77-90	2019–21		
2007	Commercial Buses Orion V (05.503)	91-99 (96)	2019–22		 Last order of Orion buses for DASH.^[21] 97 is preserved by Friends of the NJ Transportation Heritage Center
	Gillig Phantom 35'	100-103	2019		Last order of high floor buses for DASH.
2001– 02	Neoplan USA AN460 (articulated)	601-614	2020–21		 Ex-Westchester County Bee-Line, acquired in 2019. First non-WMATA- operated articulated buses in the Washington region.^[22]
2002	Motor Coach Industries D4500	103–105	2024–25	0 1740	 Ex-PRTC OmniRide, acquired in 2019. Originally numbered 703-705; renumbered

in early 2020 due to a numbering conflict with new buses.

Routes [edit]

Route/Name	Termir	nals	Streets traveled	Service notes
30 Van Dorn Metro – S	Van Dorn Metro			Some AM Eastbound
Whiting St – Duke St – King St Metro – Old Town Circulator – Braddock Rd Metro	Landmark Mall Rdwy & Mall Entrance	Road Metro	• S Van Dorn St	peak trips begin at Edsall Rd & S Whiting St
31 NVCC – King St – King St Metro – Old Town	NVCC- Alexandria	Braddock Road Metro	King St	
Circulator – Braddock Rd Metro		King Street Metro		
32 Landmark – Van Dorn Metro – Eisenhower Ave – King St Metro	Landmark Mall Rdwy & Mall Entrance	King Street Metro	Eisenhower AveS Pickett StHolmes Run Pkwy	
33 King St Metro – Commonwealth Ave – Mt Vernon Ave – Potomac Yard Metro	Potomac Yard Metro	King Street Metro	Mount Vernon Ave	 Began serving Potomac Yard Metro on May 19, 2023^[23]
34 Lee Center – S Royal St – N Fairfax St – Potomac Yard Metro	Potomac Yard Metro	Lee Center	N Fairfax StS Royal St	 Originally served Braddock Rd Metro until May 21, 2023^[23]
35 Van Dorn Metro – Yoakum Pkwy – N Beauregard St – Pentagon Metro	Pentagon Metro	Van Dorn Metro	S Van DornStNBeauregardSt	Some late night trips terminate/begin at Park Center

			• Interstate 395	
36 Mark Center – Menokin Dr/Park Place – Shirlington – W Glebe Rd – Potomac Yard Metro	Potomac Yard Metro	Mark Center Station	 Seminary Rd Menokin Dr King St Valley Dr W Glebe Rd 	 Runs as 36A (via Menokin Dr/Martha Custis Dr) or 36B (via N Van Dorn St/Valley Dr) Began serving Potomac Yard Metro on May 19, 2023^[23]
102 Mark Center – Seminary Rd – Janneys Ln – King St Metro	Mark Center Station	King Street Metro	SeminaryRdJanneys Ln	Weekday service only
103 Braddock Rd Metro – Russell Rd – W Glebe Rd – Pentagon Metro	Pentagon Metro	Braddock Road Metro	 W Braddock Rd W Glebe Rd Interstate 395 	Weekday peak hour service only
104 Braddock Rd Metro – Cameron Mills Rd – Parkfairfax – Pentagon Metro	Pentagon Metro	Braddock Road Metro	 W Braddock Rd Cameron Mills Rd Interstate 395 	Weekday peak hour service only
King Street Trolley	King Street Metro	Market Square	King St	 Service to the Potomac River Waterfront was eliminated on July 5, 2021^[24]

Former Routes [edit]

Route Name Terminals	Major streets Notes
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AT1 Plus	Seminary Plaza – Beauregard – Landmark Plaza – Van Dorn Metro	Van Dorn Metro	Seminary Plaza	 Duke St N Beauregard St Seminary Rd
AT2	Braddock Metro – Old Town – Mark Center – Lincolnia	Lincolnia	Braddock Road Metro	Seminary Rd King St
AT2X	Mark Center – King Street Metro Express	Mark Center Station	King Street Metro	Seminary RdDuke St
AT3	Pentagon Metro – Parkfairfax – Old Town – Hunting Point	Hunting Point	Pentagon Metro	W Glebe RdRussel RdW Braddock RdPendleton St
AT4	Pentagon Metro – Parkfairfax – Old Town	City Hall via Pentagon Old Town Metro		W Braddock RdMadison StMontgomery St
AT3/4	Old Town – Parkfairfax Loop	City Hall via Old	l Town	Pendleton StW Braddock RdRussel RdW Glebe Rd
AT5	Braddock Metro – Old Town – Bradlee Shopping Center – Van Dorn Metro	Van Dorn Metro (weekdays) Eisenhower Ave Metro (weekends)	Braddock Road Metro	Van Dorn StKing St
AT6	NVCC Alexandria – King Street Metro	NVCC Alexandria	King Street Metro	King St
AT7	Lee Center – King Street Metro – Van Dorn Metro – Landmark Mall	Landmark Mall Rdwy & Mall Entrance	Nannie J. Lee Center	Eisenhower AveKing St
AT8	Braddock Metro – Old Town –	Van Dorn Metro	Braddock Road Metro	Duke StKing St

All routes were eliminated on September 5, 2021, replaced by new 30-and 100-series routes.^[25]

	Landmark Mall – Van Dorn Metro				
AT9	Mark Center – Bradlee Shopping Center – Shirlington – Potomac Yard	Mark Center Station	Potomac Yard Shopping Center	Seminary RdKing StGlebe Rd	
AT10	King Street Metro – Del Ray – Potomac Yard	King Street Metro	Potomac Yard Shopping Center	Commonwealth AveMount Vernon Ave	
102X	Mark Center Express	Mark Center Station	King Street Metro	Seminary RdJanneys Ln	Suspended as of December 1, 2021

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External links [edit]

Official website

A	Wikimedia Commons has
	media related to DASH
	(bus).

V.1.E	Transit in Metropolitan Washington, D.C.	[hide]
Agencies	WMATA · MTA · DDOT · NVTC · PRTC	
Washington Metro	Red Line • OR Orange Line • Blue Line • GR Green Line • YL Yellow Line • SV Silver List of stations	Line ·
Commuter rail	MARC Train (Penn Line · Camden Line · Brunswick Line) · Virginia Railway E. (Manassas Line · Fredericksburg Line)	xpress
Inter-city rail	Amtrak (Acela · Capitol Limited · Cardinal · Carolinian · Crescent · Northeast Regional · Silver Meteor · Silver Star · Vermonter)	Palmetto
Bus	Annapolis Transit · Arlington Transit · CUE Bus · DASH · Fairfax Connector · Loudoun County Transit · Frederick TransIT · Fredericksburg Regional Transit · Metrobu (list of routes) · MTA Maryland Commuter Bus · PRTC OmniRide · Regional Transportation Agency of Central Maryland · Ride On · Shuttle–UM · TheBus · MetroAccess (paratransit)	S
Bus rapid transit	Flash BRT · Metroway	
DC Streetcar	H Street/Benning Road Line	
Aviation	Dulles International Airport (AeroTrain) · Washington National Airport · Baltimore/Washington International Airport · Heliports	
Former services	DC Circulator	
Future projects	Purple Line · Corridor Cities Transitway · Pike Transit Initiative · West End Transitwa Route 7 BRT	y •

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