

# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

# Providing Bus Stop Amenity and Accessibility Information via WMATA's Public Website

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GIS in Transit Conference October 16, 2013 | Washington D.C.



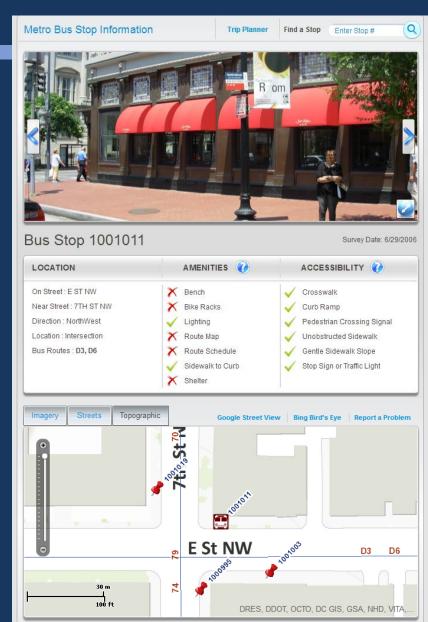
## **Need for Project**

- Approximately 11,100 bus stops in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia.
- All buses in the Metro fleet are accessible.
- MetroAccess is a shared-ride, door-to-door paratransit service for people whose disability prevents them from using bus or rail.
  - 30,000 eligible customers
- Give customers familiarity with stops before they travel.



### **Bus Stop Information Format**

- Application will be available on WMATA.com
- Show photos, maps, and information related to universal and accessible design features.
- Data was collected by surveys
- Information is stored in GIS database





# Give Customers Information about Bus Stops using GIS Data

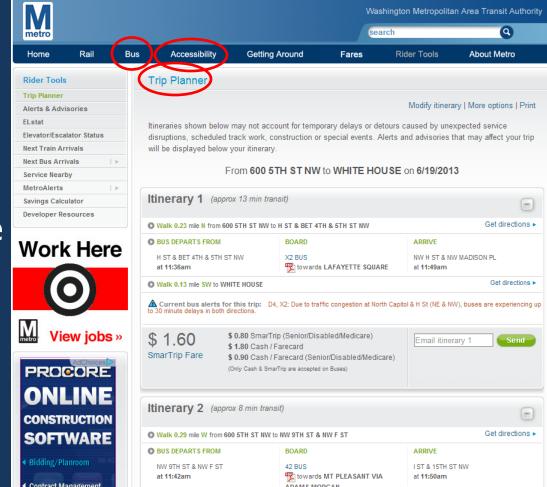
- This tool will give customers the information they need about bus stops along their trip in order to use fixed route with confidence.
  - Accessibility design elements
  - Universal design elements
- The Bus Stop Information application is ready for website integration and internal beta testing.





#### How to access on WMATA.com

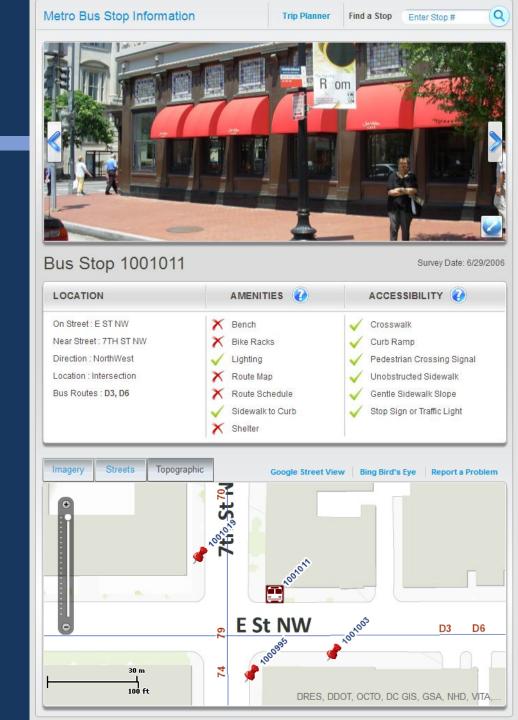
- Access to this application will be on public website:
  - Trip Planner
  - Accessibility dropdown
  - Bus dropdown
- Application will fit within WMATA website frame, and match WMATA website colors and styles.





# **Application**

- Site specific photos from WMATA database.
- Bus stop information will be in the same format for all stops.
- Map from WMATA
   database.
- Links for external sites with other maps and photos.
- Survey date.





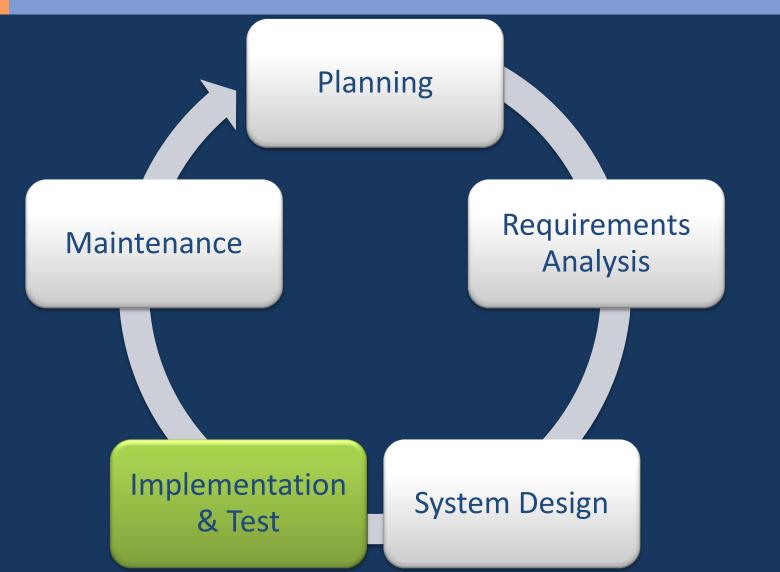
## **Application**

- Navigate to other stops.
- Customers may help update information by "Report a Problem" link.
- Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 compliance
  - Hovering over the text will give a full sentence text description for screen readers.
  - Testing by external organization.





# **Current Application Stage**





# **Design Challenges**

- Should meet Accessibility requirements
  - 508 compliant
- Easy to read and understand GIS data
  - Images, Text, Map
- Visually outstanding
  - Block design
- Blend and Fit within existing website
  - Color Scheme, Application extent



# **Implementation Challenges**

- Choosing Application platform
  - ArcGIS API for Flex
  - ArcGIS API for JavaScript
  - ArcGIS API for Silverlight
- Should be device independent
  - JavaScript, HTML, CSS
- Combining inputs from different data sources
  - GIS and non-GIS data



# **Integration Challenges**

Hand-off from main non-GIS website "www.WMATA.com"



### **Next Steps**

- Integrate application with main website and perform beta testing.
- WMATA internal involvement and marketing.
- Comments from external focus groups.
- Continue to update the data source with ongoing surveys of the bus stops.
  - Data collection ranges from 2007-2013.
- Release to the public summer 2014.





# Washington (DC) Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

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# Thank You!