

Downtown – Uptown – Oakland Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project

**Service Informational Session for Public Comment Period
Proposed Service Changes for 2023-2024**

Planning Division

January 10th, 2023

What have we been doing?

- 2017
 - Spring – Original selection of preferred routing (3 routes)
 - Summer - Station location workshops public meetings
 - Fall - Mon Valley community meetings; direct connections to Downtown desired
- 2018 - Revisiting the service – public meetings; concurrence on new service plan (5 routes – 61A, 61B, 61C, 71B, P3 to be “BRT”)
- 2020 – 60% Design review public open house and meetings
- 2021 – January - 90% Design review public meetings
- 2022 – Summer – Scope update public meetings (branch infrastructure moved to future project phase)

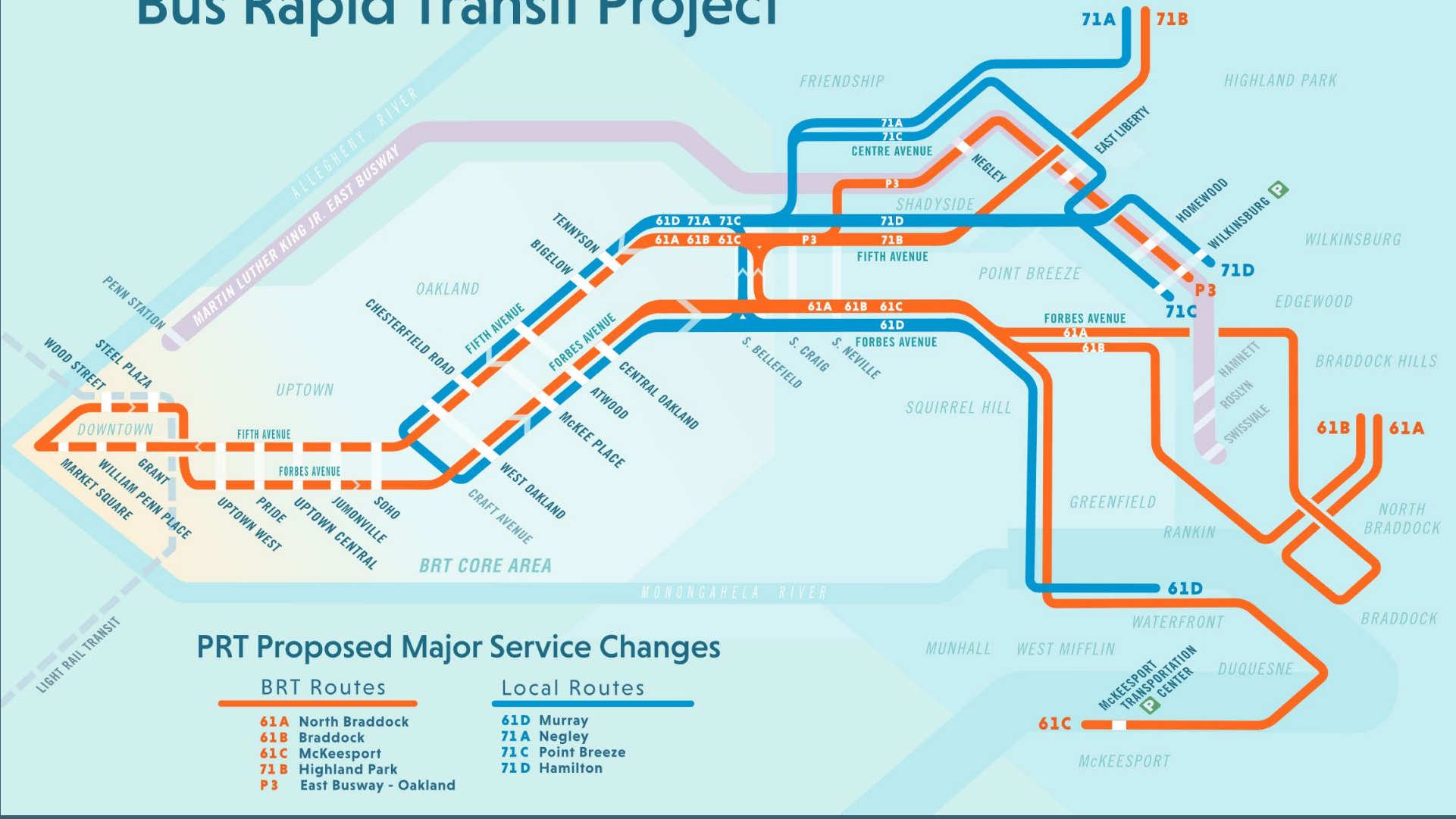
Proposed Service Changes

Why now? Proposed Timeline

- PRT is proposing to implement major service changes to routes **in advance of the completion of construction of the BRT project**. The main reasons for proposing this timeline are:
 1. PRT **service will be affected by construction** beginning in the Downtown area in 2023. Construction will slow down buses, leading to additional reliability issues for routes that are already struggling with reliability.
 2. PRT continues to experience a **shortage of Bus Operators** which are affecting its ability to cover 100% of scheduled service and which have been requiring PRT to reduce scheduled service. These changes would free up operational hours and workforce to ensure reliability is met.

Bus Rapid Transit Project

P Pittsburgh
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PRT Proposed Major Service Changes

BRT Routes

- 61A North Braddock
- 61B Braddock
- 61C McKeesport
- 71B Highland Park
- P3 East Busway - Oakland

Local Routes

- 61D Murray
- 71A Negley
- 71C Point Breeze
- 71D Hamilton

5 routes with major service changes (61D, 71A, 71C, 71D, P3)

16 routes with minor changes (28X, 58, 61A, 61B, 61C, 54, 67, 69, 71B, 75, 81, 82, 83, 87, 93, P7)

Proposed Major Service Changes



Route	Change Detail
Route 61D Waterfront	The inbound 61D route will serve the Fifth Ave at Chesterfield Road bus stop, turn left on Craft Ave in Oakland, turn left again on Forbes Ave in Oakland, and then begin its outbound routing at the Forbes Ave at Craft Ave far side bus stop.
Route 71A Negley Route 71C Point Breeze Route 71D Hamilton	The inbound 71A, 71C, and 71D routes will serve the Fifth Ave at Chesterfield Road bus stop, then turn left on Craft Ave in Oakland, turn left again on Forbes Ave in Oakland, and then begin their outbound routing at the Forbes Ave at Craft Ave far side bus stop. They will serve Forbes Ave bus stops in Oakland before turning left on Bellefield Ave and then right onto Fifth Ave to continue their normal outbound routes beginning at the Fifth Ave at Bellefield Ave intersection.
Route P3 Oakland-East Busway	<p>Route P3 will have two routing changes. The first change is a shortening of the outer end of the route. The P3 will terminate outbound at Wilkinsburg Station and will no longer serve Hamnett, Rosslyn, and Swissvale Stations on the East Busway. The second change is an extension of the inner end of the route. Rather than turning around at Robinson Ave in Oakland, the P3 will continue to Uptown and Downtown. It will continue inbound on Fifth Ave, turn right on Liberty Ave in Downtown Pittsburgh, turn right on Sixth Ave, turn left on Forbes Ave, and continue on Forbes Ave in Downtown Pittsburgh, Uptown, and Oakland before turning left onto Bellefield Ave in Oakland, then turning right onto Fifth Ave in Oakland to continue its outbound trip.</p> <p>Additionally, the P3 will have day of service additions. The route will begin offering approximately 30-minute service on Saturdays and Sundays. Saturday span of service will be from approximately 6:30 AM to 11:00 PM. Sunday span of service will be from approximately 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM.</p>

-- 2023 --

2024 or beyond

Proposed Minor Routing Changes



-- 2023 --
 2024 or beyond

Route	Change Detail	Change Summary
Route 61A Route 61B Route 61C Route 71B	Routes have their Downtown Pittsburgh loop reversed. Inbound buses on Fifth Avenue continue on Fifth Ave all the way to Liberty Ave, turn right onto Liberty Ave, then right onto Sixth Ave, finally making a left onto Forbes Ave to continue outbound routing on Forbes Ave. Route 71B stays on Forbes Ave through Uptown and Oakland until making a left onto Bellefield Ave, then right onto Fifth Ave to resume outbound routing.	Two block shift in Downtown Pittsburgh. 71B Only – One block shift in Uptown and Oakland.
Route 54	Route uses Forbes Ave moving eastbound through Oakland from the Birmingham Bridge to S Craig St, left onto S Craig St to resume outbound routing.	One block shift in Oakland.
Route 75	Route uses Forbes Ave moving eastbound through Oakland from the Birmingham Bridge to Bellefield Ave, left onto Bellefield Ave, then right onto Fifth Ave to resume outbound routing.	One block shift in Oakland.
Route 81 Route 83	Routes turn left on Oakland Ave instead of Bellefield Ave in Oakland from Forbes Ave, then continue straight on Oakland Ave past Presbyterian Hospital towards the Hill District.	Three block shift in Oakland.
Route 93	Route turns right onto Halket from Blvd of the Allies heading towards Lawrenceville, then turns right onto Forbes Ave in Oakland until making a left onto S Craig St, then right onto Fifth Ave to resume outbound routing.	One block shift in Oakland.
Route 28X	Route continues straight on Fifth Avenue headed towards Downtown to use BRT lanes.	Two block shift in Uptown (reverse of the 67 and 69).
Route 67 Route 69	Routes turn left onto Blvd of the Allies on ramp between Oakland and Uptown to use Blvd of the Allies inbound instead of Fifth Ave to Downtown.	Two block shift in Uptown (reverse of the 28X).

Proposed Minor Service Level Changes

2024 or beyond

Route	Change Detail	Change Summary
Route 61A Route 61B Route 61C Route 71B	Add trips to early morning and late evening to bring service closer to a 24-hour day.	Early and late trip additions.
Route 82 Route 87	Add morning rush hour trips to accommodate direct Downtown riders.	Trips added to morning rush hour.
Route 58	Add trips to accommodate riders at peak hours.	Add trips to AM and PM rush hour.
Route P7	Add trips to accommodate riders at peak hours.	Add trips to AM and PM rush hour.

Schedule and Next Steps



Winter 2022/2023:

- **Public comment period runs through February 1 (website, phone call, write a letter, or attend a hearing virtually or in person)**
- Summarize public comment and finalize Title VI Report for Board authorization in February

Summer/Fall 2023:

- Begin construction of Downtown Loop (Phase 1)
- Finalize proposed service changes
- Implement major service changes (except P3), minor changes to 58, 82, 87, P7

Spring 2024: Begin construction in Uptown-Oakland (Phase 2)

Following construction:

- Implement major service changes to P3 and other minor service changes



Public Hearing Sessions – January 18



- In person where noted – Pittsburgh Regional Transit Board Room, 345 Sixth Avenue, 5th floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
- Online - Teams application (by phone or computer)
 - Please register for a time to provide oral public comment, or register to listen in only online or via phone
- Wednesday January 18, 2023
 - **10 AM to Noon ONLINE AND IN-PERSON**
 - **2 PM to 4 PM ONLINE AND IN-PERSON**
 - **6 PM to 8 PM ONLINE ONLY**

To Register: www.rideprt.org/brt or call 412-442-2000

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Questions?

