

Executive Summary

FY2020

Pandemic Related Service Changes

Public Comment

Addendum Document to Title VI Analysis for November 2020 Major Service Changes

February 2022

Port Authority of Allegheny County

Planning & Service Development Department

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I. BACKGROUND

i. Resolution

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTION

**Authorization to Approve Title VI Analysis and Public Comment Period for
Pandemic-Related Service Changes**

Port Authority of Allegheny County (Authority) was organized and exists pursuant to the Second Class County Port Authority Act, as amended, to provide public transit services within and for Allegheny County. In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and related regulations adopted by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Authority maintains a Title VI Program (Program) to ensure that individuals are protected from discrimination based upon race, color, and national origin in the provision of the Authority's public transit services.

Pursuant to applicable FTA regulations and Program, the Authority is required to conduct an analysis prior to implementing any major service changes to determine whether any such major service changes would have a disparate impact on the Authority's ridership based on race, color, or national origin, and if so, the means by which to mitigate such impact. The Authority is also required to conduct an analysis prior to implementing any major service changes to determine whether any such major service changes would disproportionately burden low-income populations, and if so, means by which to mitigate such impact. Regardless of the reason, FTA considers any major service change that lasts for 12 months or longer to be permanent in nature.

In November 2020, and as a direct result of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic's drastic effects on ridership and riding patterns, the Authority implemented 20 major service changes that were at the time considered temporary in nature. Major service changes affect more than 30 percent of a route's weekly trips, directional miles or service hours and can also include the addition of a service day to a route. While the Authority still considers these pandemic-related service changes to be temporary in nature, the Authority must treat them as permanent for Title VI regulatory and Program and public comment purposes since they will remain in place for more than 12 months. Accordingly, the Authority has completed a Title VI major service changes service equity analysis for the pandemic-related changes that were made in November 2020 and continue to date (Title VI Analysis).

A copy of Title VI Analysis is attached as Exhibit A to the resolution. As more fully detailed in Title VI Analysis, and while some of the service changes made had a disparate impact on minority populations or put a disproportionate burden on low-income populations, the Authority's mitigating action is that it does not consider the service changes permanent in nature and will continue to monitor ridership and route performance and continue modifying service as ridership and riding patterns continue to change as the region continues to emerge from the pandemic.

This resolution approves and adopts the Authority's Title VI Analysis for the pandemic-related major service changes. This resolution also authorizes the Authority to conduct the required public comment period, including at least one public hearing, regarding the pandemic-related major service changes made in November 2020 and continuing to date.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Port Authority of Allegheny County (Authority) was organized and exists pursuant to the Second Class County Port Authority Act, as amended, to provide public transit services within and for Allegheny County; and

WHEREAS, the Authority maintains a Title VI Program (Program) to ensure that individuals are protected from discrimination based upon race, color, and national origin in the provision of the Authority's public transit services in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related regulations adopted by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to applicable FTA regulations and Program, the Authority is required to conduct an analysis prior to implementing any major service changes to determine whether any such major service changes would have a disparate impact on the Authority's ridership based on race, color, or national origin, and if so, the means by which to mitigate such impact. The Authority is also required to conduct an analysis prior to implementing any major service changes to determine whether any such major service changes would disproportionately burden low-income populations, and if so, means by which to mitigate such impact. Regardless of the reason, FTA considers any major service change that lasts for 12 months or longer to be permanent in nature; and

WHEREAS, in November 2020, and as a direct result of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic's drastic effects on ridership and riding patterns, the Authority implemented 20 major service changes that were at the time considered temporary in nature. Major service changes affect more than 30 percent of a route's weekly trips, directional miles or service hours and can also include the addition of a service day to a route. While the Authority still considers these pandemic-related service changes to be temporary in nature, the Authority must treat them as permanent for Title VI regulatory and Program and public comment purposes since they will remain in place for more than 12 months; and

WHEREAS, accordingly, the Authority has completed a Title VI major service changes service equity analysis for the pandemic-related changes that were made in November 2020 and continue to date (Title VI Analysis). A copy of Title VI Analysis is attached as Exhibit A to this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves and adopts for the Authority Title VI Analysis for the pandemic-related major service changes made in November 2020 and continuing as of the date of this Resolution.

FURTHER RESOLVED, and as also required for major service changes considered permanent for FTA regulatory purposes, the Authority's chief executive officer, chief communications officer and/or chief development officer be, and hereby are, authorized to proceed with a public comment period commencing on December 1, 2021 and ending on February 1, 2022, which will include at least one public hearing, in a form and manner approved by counsel, to provide the public with the opportunity to comment on the pandemic-related major service changes more fully detailed in Title VI Analysis.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chief executive officer, chief communications officer and/or chief development officer be, and hereby are, authorized and directed to take any and all actions necessary and proper to carry out the purpose and intent of this resolution.

ii. Need

In March 2020, the United States was hit by the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. As a result of this pandemic, both Port Authority's ridership dropped by more than 75%, and the agency struggled to fill service with Operators due to illness. Additionally, capacity restrictions were put in place on transit vehicles to limit the number of riders at any one time, creating strain on routes with significant continued ridership in communities with many essential workers.

In November 2020, Port Authority implemented 30 major service changes, 20 of which were directly in response to the ongoing pandemic. A major change is one that affects more than 30 percent of a route's weekly trips, directional miles or service hours. The intent of these changes was to rebalance service away from underused commute routes and toward routes serving low-income riders who were experiencing crowding and pass-ups on a regular basis. These 20 changes were considered temporary changes responding to COVID-19, and were anticipated to be returned to "normal" service levels following the winter 2020-2021 wave of the pandemic.

Throughout 2021, continued waves and troughs in the pandemic led the service development team to continually put on hold the return of service to the commuter routes, leading to the need to conduct a formal Title VI analysis in the fall of 2021 as the FTA considers changes lasting longer than 12 months to be "permanent" in nature and require analysis and formal process for input as defined by the agency. Although the FTA considers changes that remain in place for more than 12 months to be permanent, Port Authority is continuing to monitor ridership and route performance and plans to continue modifying service as ridership changes.

II. COMMUNICATIONS

In November 2020 Port Authority implemented 20 (twenty) major service changes intended to temporarily rebalance service from underused commuter routes toward local routes that were experiencing pass-ups due to capacity restrictions.

On November 9, 2021 Port Authority released a statement indicating that Port Authority staff would present a resolution to the Authority's Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee seeking approval of a Title VI analysis and a 60-day public comment period on service changes the agency implemented late last year.

November 19, Port Authority's Board approved the resolution authorizing the public comment period. The public comment period began December 1, 2021 and ended on February 1, 2022. A virtual public hearing information session occurred on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. A hybrid in-person/virtual public hearing was held on Thursday, January 27 from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m.

i. Advertisements

Advertisements/notices about the proposed changes and public hearing/comment period were published in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, in the New Pittsburgh Courier, and online.

1. **Newspaper**

- a. Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
 - i. Thursday, December 2, 2021
 - ii. Thursday, January 6, 2021

(See Exhibit B for Tear Sheets of Advertisements)

(See Exhibit C for Affidavit of Distribution)

- b. New Pittsburgh Courier
 - i. Wednesday – Tuesday, December -1-7, 2021
 - ii. Wednesday – Tuesday, January 5 - 11, 2021

(See Exhibit D for Tear Sheet of Advertisement)

2. **Online**

- a. Facebook

(See Exhibit E for Facebook Advertisements)

- i. Q&A Session (Facebook Ad 1): \$662.21
- ii. Public Comment Session (Facebook Ad 2): \$100

ii. Brochure

- i. Sent to legislative offices:
 - 1. Senator Jim Brewster
 - 2. Senator Jay Costa

3. Senator Wayne Fontana
4. Senator Devlin Robinson
5. Senator Lindsey Williams
6. Rep Emily Kinkead
7. Rep Anita Kulik
8. Rep Anthony DeLuca
9. Rep Austin Davis
10. Rep Brandon Markosek
11. Rep Bud Cook
12. Rep Dan Deasy
13. Rep Dan Frankel
14. Rep Dan Miller
15. Rep Ed Gainey
16. Rep Carrie DelRosso
17. Rep Jessica Benham
18. Rep Jake Wheatley,
19. Rep Jason Ortitay
20. Rep Lori Mizgorski
21. Rep Michael Puskaric
22. Rep Robert Mercuri
23. Rep Sara Innamorato
24. Rep Summer Lee
25. Rep Natalie Mihalek
26. Rep Robert Matzie
27. Rep Timothy O'Neal
28. Rep Valerie Gaydos
29. Rep Nick Pisciotano

- ii. Available in Service Center, 623 Smithfield St, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, from December 1, 2021 to February 1, 2022

(See Exhibit F for Brochure)

iii. Question & Answer

An informational session was held on Tuesday, January 11th, 2022, from 5:30pm – 7:00pm on Microsoft Teams. Members of the public had to sign up to attend the meeting via Port Authority's website. Participants were provided a brief overview of the November 2020 major service changes and given an opportunity to ask questions about the changes and/or the process of the public comment period and hearing. Participants were told that no comments would be recorded from the informational session, and that comments needed to be emailed, called in, or written in to the Port Authority (information was given as to how) to provide formal comment.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS

i. Website

Beginning December 1, 2021 and ending on February 1, 2022, members of the public could review the service changes and submit comments through the Port Authority website at www.portauthority.org/comments

(See Exhibit G for a Website Screenshots)

A total of forty (40) individuals submitted forty-one (41) comments through the website. Generally, commenters were concerned about the loss of frequency, particularly on Route 58 Greenfield. A majority of the comments that were unrelated to these service changes called for enforcement of mask wearing and higher frequency of service on routes that were not affected by these changes.

Broad Comment Content	Number of Comments
Unrelated	20
Concerned about loss of frequency on Route 58 Greenfield	10
More engagement needed in advance of service changes	0
More transparent metrics for how service decisions are made	1
Higher frequency on routes with added service is positive	3
Concerned about loss of frequency on Routes 65, P7	0
More focus on those who cannot drive	1
Redistribute resources to where they are most needed	0
Return to previous service levels	6

Full comments available upon request.

ii. Phone

Beginning December 1, 2021 and ending on February 1, 2022, members of the public could leave a message on a recorded line by calling 412-566-5335.

There were no voicemails received.

iii. Written Comment

i. Mail

Written comment could have been sent to Port Authority of Allegheny County, Attn: Service Change Comments, 345 Sixth Avenue, Third Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. All comments must have been received at the above address by the close of business on February 1, 2022.

There were no written comments received.

iv. Public Hearing

Port Authority conducted one public hearing over Microsoft Teams.

The hearings were covered by most major media outlets, including, but not limited to Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, KDKA-TV, WTAE-TV, WPXI-TV and others.

Members of the public were asked to register in advance in order to speak at the meetings.

American Sign Language interpreters were present and translated throughout each meeting.

Service Change Hearing: January 27, 2022

3:00 pm – 6:30 pm

1. Total Commenters: Six (6)
2. Total Public Listeners: Fifty-eight (58)
3. Board Attendees: Five (5)
 - a. Jennifer Liptak, Vice Chair
 - b. Stephanie Turman
 - c. John Tague
 - d. Michelle Zmijanac
 - e. Jessica Walls-Lavelle
4. Total Port Authority Staff: Twelve (12)

The six (6) public speakers’ comments broadly called for more upfront engagement prior to service changes being decided upon and greater transparency in metrics used to drive those decisions. A more detailed summary is below:

Broad Comment Content	Number of Comments
Unrelated to Hearing content	2
Concerned about loss of frequency on Route 58 Greenfield	2
More engagement needed in advance of service changes	3
More transparent metrics for how service decisions are made	2
Higher frequency on routes with added service is positive	1
Concerned about loss of frequency on Routes 65, P7	1
More focus on those who cannot drive	1
Redistribute resources to where they are most needed	1
Return to previous service levels	1

Full Transcripts available upon request.

v. Comment Summary

Across all mediums, there were forty-six (46) total commenters.

Broad Comment Content	Number of Comments
Unrelated	22
Concerned about loss of frequency on Route 58 Greenfield	12
More engagement needed in advance of service changes	3
More transparent metrics for how service decisions are made	3

Higher frequency on routes with added service is positive	4
Concerned about loss of frequency on Routes 65, P7	1
More focus on those who cannot drive	2
Redistribute resources to where they are most needed	1
Return to previous service levels	7

IV. SUMMARY

Port Authority is committed to continuing to balance service with the needs of the riders and returning service on routes with reductions when conditions allow. The agency will continue to look for opportunities to engage the public when possible about potential service changes, beyond what is required legally.

(See Exhibit A for Title VI Finding by Route)

V. EXHIBITS

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Full comments & transcripts available upon request.

Exhibit A: Title VI Findings by Route

Route	Type of Major Service Change	Change Category	Title VI Results
Route 1	Additional trips added to all service days	Addition of weekly trips	No impacts
Route 12	Additional trips added to all service days	Addition of weekly trips	No impacts
Route 38	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route 58	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	Disproportionate burden
Route 59	Addition of weekday Service	Addition of weekly trips	Both disparate impact and disproportionate burden, but positive change
Route 65	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	Disproportionate burden
Route 19L	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route G2	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route G3	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route G31	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route O1	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route O12	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route P12	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	Disparate impact
Route P13	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route P68	Extension of route on all service days	Extension of route	Disparate impact, but positive change
Route P7	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	Both disparate impact and disproportionate burden
Route P76	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	Disparate impact
Route Y1	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route Y45	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
RED line	Addition of weekday Service	Addition of weekly trips	No impacts

Exhibit B: Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Advertisements

Biden: HIV/AIDS strategy needs to confront inequity

By Aamer Mochari
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Wednesday unveiled his new HIV/AIDS strategy to end the more than 10-year-old epidemic, calling for a renewed focus on vulnerable Americans — including gay and bisexual Black and Latino men, who his administration says are 500 times sicker than others as they are disproportionately affected.

The new strategy, which declares racism a “public health threat,” was released on the annual commemoration of World AIDS Day. His report to serve as a framework for how the administration shapes its policies, research, programs and planning over the next three years.

But Mr. Biden acknowledged that the country still needs to work to destigmatize HIV/AIDS and noted that LGBT and racial minority groups have “suffered the brunt” of the epidemic that’s killed more than 1 million worldwide, including 700,000 Americans.

“I want to make sure that everyone in the United States knows their HIV status, and everyone with HIV receives high-quality care and treatment that they deserve and that we end the harmful stigma around HIV and AIDS,” Mr. Biden said.

The new strategy asserts that “over generations, ‘structural inequities’ have resulted in racial and ethnic health disparities that are severe, far-reaching, and unresolvable.”

African Americans make up about 13% of the U.S. population but accounted for more than 80% of new infections. The Latino population accounted for nearly 20% of new infections but makes up about 16% of the U.S. population.

Historically, gay and bisexual men have been the most disproportionately affected group. They account for about 80% of new HIV infections, even though they are only 2% of the population, according to the CDC.

In 2018, 50% of new HIV infections were among Black gay and bisexual men, 35% among Latino gay and bisexual men, and 40% among gay and bisexual men under the age of 25.

Discrimination also prevents existing workers, Black women’s HIV infection rate is 11 times that of white women and four times that of Latino women.

To reduce the disparities, the strategy includes calls for focusing on the needs of disadvantaged/underserved populations, supporting racial justice, combating HIV-related stigma and discrimination and providing food security and employment opportunities for people with or at risk for HIV.

“We have to follow science and that means eliminating bias that perpetuates discrimination, enacts disparate, discourages HIV testing and takes us further away from our goal,” Mr. Biden said.

The Biden administration recently announced it will host the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the White House next year. The United States has contributed about \$1 billion to the fund, about a third of all donor contributions.

A giant red ribbon, a symbol of support for people living with HIV, was displayed on the North Portico of the White House to mark World AIDS Day. The two-story ribbon display has become an annual tradition at the White House since 2007.



President Joe Biden talks to guests after speaking to commemorate World AIDS Day during an event Wednesday in the East Room of the White House in Washington. (AP Photo/Andrew H. Guthrie)

Prince Harry thanks doctors, scientists for their work in fight against AIDS

Prince Harry marked World AIDS Day by honoring the lives of those who died to the pandemic, a health crisis that was important to his late mother, Princess Diana.

He also applauded the work of doctors and scientists who have fought against HIV and brought attention to the same stigma, lockdowns and the COVID-19 pandemic.

“On this World AIDS Day we recognize the 40 years that have shaped the ‘real’ story,” the Duke of Sussex wrote in an open letter addressed to World Health Organization chief Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, and World Bankers, the executive director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, or UNAIDS.

“We honor those whose lives have been cut short and mourn our community that has worked tirelessly against this disease. We need to do more, for everything you stand for and have accomplished, this all shows how grateful we thank you,” he added.

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Public Hearing & Comment Period for Pandemic-Related Major Service Changes

In November 2020, as a direct result of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic's drastic effects on industry and aging patterns, Port Authority of Allegheny County implemented 23 major service changes that are fully implemented below that were operational temporarily at the time these changes were made. Major service changes affect more than 20 percent of a route's weekly trips, scheduled miles or service hours and can also include the addition of a service day to a route. All though the Authority still considers these pandemic-related service changes to be temporary in nature, the Authority need their input as provided by Federal Transit Administration regulatory purposes at 49 CFR 659.

Accordingly, Port Authority is establishing a public comment period for the purpose of receiving public comments regarding Port Authority's pandemic-related major service changes. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** begins 5:00 PM EST on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, and ends at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

- Public comments will be accepted via the following methods:
- 1. Web form comment posted at www.portauthority.com/feedback.
 - 2. By first-class mail by U.S. mail or hand-delivery to: Port Authority of Allegheny County, Public Service Change Case team, 1000 N. Centre, 345 Sixth Avenue, Third Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.
 - 3. By contacting 412.586.5215 and leaving a message on a recorded line.

In addition to receiving public comment online, via U.S. mail or hand-delivery or by calling and leaving comments on a recorded line, Port Authority will also make a public hearing to receive and public comment on the pandemic-related major service changes.

PUBLIC HEARING IS PERSON-AND-BUS-ONLY: Thursday, January 13, 2022
1 PM to 5:00 PM EST - and comment to be received both in person and online.
Physical Location: Port Authority of Allegheny County, 1000 North Blvd. Room 345 Sixth Avenue, 3rd Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

Online Hearing Link: To be provided upon completion of registration to provide an comment. Register below at www.portauthority.com/feedback or call 412.442.2020 to be notified by 5:00 PM EST on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, to receive COVID requirements. Mail responses will be limited to three business per speaker. To request special accommodations, please contact Port Authority of the Customer Service team by email before 5:00 PM EST on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

All meetings will be recorded and transmitted by a court reporter and made part of Port Authority's official records.

During the public comment period and prior to the public hearing taking place on January 27, Port Authority will also hold an online information session to further discuss and answer questions concerning the pandemic-related major service changes.

IMPORTANT: SESSION ONLINE ONLY: Tuesday, January 11, 2022
5:30 PM EST to 7 PM EST.

Register to attend the virtual meeting at www.portauthority.com/feedback by 5 PM on Monday, January 10, 2022. To request special accommodations, please contact Customer Service at the number below no later than 5 PM EST on Tuesday, December 28, 2021.

If you prefer to, comments will be taken live at the end of the information session. For more information, call Customer Service at 412.442.2020, 877.412.2011, 1000 North www.portauthority.com/feedback

Summary of Port Authority of Allegheny County Pandemic-Related Major Service Changes:

Major Service Change Type	Transit Routes Affected
Number of all routes (by line)	1, 17
Number of weekday lines	76, 89
Route addition	158
Reduction of end-of-trips	34, 58, 59, 76, 80, 83, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

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U.S. says it's applying lessons of Jan. 6 failings

By David S. Gelles
and Aaron C. Davis
for Washington Post

Senior White House officials have said the government's use of a special force to clear the way for the Jan. 6 riot — known as the Jan. 6 Special — was a failure to protect the public and the president.

Those conclusions, unveiled in a report by the Jan. 6 Commission, a bipartisan body created by the government in 2021 to investigate the events, are not the only ones. The report also says the Jan. 6 Special was a failure to protect the president and the public.



U.S. Capitol Police, left, and members of the Jan. 6 Commission, right, stand near a podium on Jan. 6, 2021, at the U.S. Capitol in Washington.

The report also says the Jan. 6 Special was a failure to protect the president and the public. It also says the Jan. 6 Special was a failure to protect the president and the public.

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Public Hearing & Comment Period for Pandemic-Related Major Service Changes

In November 2021, as a direct result of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic's steady effects on the U.S. and other nations, the U.S. Postal Service implemented 20 major service changes (see table) to ensure that the U.S. Postal Service continues to provide the best possible service to our customers. These changes are necessary to ensure that the U.S. Postal Service can continue to provide the best possible service to our customers in a safe and secure environment.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Begins 10 AM EST on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 and ends 4 PM EST on Monday, January 1, 2022.

Public comments will be accepted via the following methods:

- 1. Web: www.usps.com/pscc
- 2. Email: pscc@usps.com
- 3. Mail: U.S. Postal Service, 425 North Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002

It is requested that you provide comments on the U.S. Postal Service's proposed changes to the U.S. Postal Service's major service changes.

FOR INFORMATION: The U.S. Postal Service is currently reviewing the U.S. Postal Service's major service changes.

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Exhibit C: Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Affidavit of Distribution

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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Allegheny County
My commission expires December 4, 2024
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Exhibit D: New Pittsburgh Courier Advertisements

...from the pandemic may be at radio stations are learning that today's younger listeners have no problem listening to online-based programs more than terrestrial-based ones. It's given top management food for thought — "hmm, maybe we should see who's creating a buzz online, and offer them employment on our platform."

In March 2009, Jackson created "J.R. Sport Brief" on YouTube, where he expressed that Major League Baseball slugger Gary Sheffield should retire, hang it up as he approached 40 years old. As it turned out, Sheffield was signed by the New York Mets the following month, played 100 games, hit just 10 home runs, and then called it a career.

As the years and videos went on, Jackson's name and brand continued to grow. He was getting millions of views per year, and it eventually caught the eye of the country's most respected sports radio station, WFAN in

...host of CBS Sports Radio, broadcasting nationwide each weeknight.

But Jackson, coming from humble beginnings, didn't act like he had arrived. In September, he began a tour where he spoke to thousands of college students about the media industry, spreading whatever knowledge he could to help them reach their goals.

"There should be no reason why the students don't get opportunities faster," Jackson told the Courier during his visit to Point Park University in Downtown Pittsburgh, Oct. 4. "They don't have to wait for 'traditional media.' They have all the tools in the world to push forward with whatever they want to do."

Jackson has spoken to students at HBCUs like Morehouse, Clark Atlanta, Howard and Morgan State, and Primarily White Institutions such as Draxel, University of Georgia, and Springfield College. Jackson also visited universities in the Midwest and West Coast



J.R. JACKSON hosts a nationally syndicated sports show, "J.R. Sport Brief," weeknights at 10 p.m. on CBS Sports Radio. It can be heard in Pittsburgh on 93.7 The Fan. (Photo by Rob Taylor Jr.)

during the two-month tour.

Jackson told the Courier he hoped he increased the need for diverse voices on the tour, as oftentimes, Jackson's found himself as the only Black person around at sports

radio stations.

"There's no reason that in a lot of markets or places that I still have to be either the youngest person on there or the only African American, or the African American that didn't play professionally," Jackson told the Courier. "I think it's lazy in a lot of regards." Jackson added: "It's easy to have groupthink and stick to what you know and hire who you're comfortable with, but everybody has to be able to step outside the box."

Jackson's nationally syndicated show airs from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. weeknights on 93.7 The Fan in Pittsburgh. More African Americans are starting to gain traction in the sports radio arena. In Pittsburgh, "The Fan" features Paul Zeise, Josh Taylor and former pro athletes Dorin Dickerson and Arthur Moats as sports talk hosts who

are African American. WFAN in New York City recently announced that an African American, Keith McPherson, would host its weeknight slot. Fox Sports Radio, a competitor of CBS Sports Radio, teamed African American Chris Droussard and Rob Parker to host its weeknight show. ESPN Radio, another competitor of CBS Sports Radio, has African American and former NFL star Keyshawn Johnson spearheading its national morning show.

Where the national sports networks have gotten the memo about trying to get more diverse, overall, the local sports radio scene has a ways to go. Most local sports stations have no more than two African American sports hosts (full- or part-time), while White hosts can number from 8 to 14 at some of the larger stations. Jackson told the Cou-

rier that his brand, "J.R. Sport Brief," belongs to him. He created it, and it goes with him wherever he goes. It's not owned by any radio or online company. While he's excited to be on CBS Sports Radio each weeknight, he said that his progression in the industry will continue with or without terrestrial radio. He made it clear to the students that they should be progressing each day, too, molding their brand in the process.

"Make them pay attention," Jackson's advice was to the students. "If you feel that there's not a space, we live in such a society right now, make one. You have the tools, they're free. I started my show with a (Sony) Handycam. It took nine years... Make people pay attention, and you do it in the most polite, respectful, professional way."

Public Hearing & Comment Period for Pandemic-Related Major Service Changes

In November 2020, as a direct result of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic's drastic effects on ridership and riding patterns, Port Authority of Allegheny County implemented 20 major service changes (as more fully summarized below) that were considered temporary at the time these changes were made. Major service changes affect more than 30 percent of a route's weekly trips, directional miles or service hours and can also include the addition of a service day to a route. Although the Authority still considers these pandemic-related service changes to be temporary in nature, the Authority must treat them as permanent for Federal Transit Administration regulatory purposes at this time.

Accordingly, Port Authority is conducting a public comment period for the purpose of receiving public comments regarding Port Authority's pandemic-related major service changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD Begins 9 AM (EST) on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 and ends at 5 PM on Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

Public comments will be accepted via the following methods:

1. Written comment online at www.portauthority.org/comments
2. Written comment sent by U.S. mail or hand delivery to: Port Authority of Allegheny County, Attn: Service Change Comments, Heinz 57 Center, 345 Sixth Avenue, Third Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
3. Or by calling 412-566-5335 and leaving a message on a recorded line.

In addition to receiving public comment online, via U.S. mail or hand delivery or by calling and leaving comments on a recorded line, Port Authority will also hold a public hearing to receive oral public comment on the pandemic-related major service changes.

PUBLIC HEARING (IN-PERSON AND ONLINE) Thursday, January 27, 2022

3 PM to 6:30 PM (EST) – oral comment to be received both in-person and online
Physical Location: Port Authority of Allegheny County
Neal Holmes Beard Room
345 Sixth Avenue, Fifth Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Online Hearing Link: To be provided upon completion of registration to provide oral comment. Register: Online at www.portauthority.org/comments or call 412-442-2000 to testify by 5 PM (EST) on Tuesday, January 25, 2022. In-person COVID requirements: Mask required.

Oral testimony will be limited to three minutes per speaker. To request special accommodations, please contact Port Authority at the Customer Service number listed below no later than 5 PM (EST) on Thursday, January 13, 2022.

All hearings will be recorded and transcribed by a court reporter and made part of Port Authority's official records.

During the public comment period and prior to the public hearing taking place on January 27, Port Authority will also host an online informational session to further discuss and answer questions concerning the pandemic-related major service changes.

INFORMATIONAL SESSION (ONLINE ONLY) Tuesday, January 11, 2022
5:30 PM (EST) to 7 PM (EST)

Register to attend the virtual meeting at www.portauthority.org/comments by 5 PM on Monday, January 10, 2022. To request special accommodations, please contact Customer Service at the number below no later than 5 PM (EST) on Tuesday, December 28, 2021.

If time permits, questions will be taken live at the end of the informational session.

For more information, call Customer Service at 412-442-2000 (TTY 412-231-7007) or visit www.portauthority.org/comments

Summary of Port Authority of Allegheny County Pandemic-Related Major Service Changes

Major Service Change Type	Transit Routes Affected
Addition of all service day trips	1, 12
Addition of weekday trips	59, RFD
Route extension	PG8
Reduction of weekday trips	38, 58, 65, 19L, G2, G3, G31, 01, 012, P12, P13, P7, P76, Y1, Y45

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Public Hearing & Comment Period for Pandemic-Related Major Service Changes

In November 2020, as a direct result of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic's drastic effects on ridership and riding patterns, Port Authority of Allegheny County implemented 20 major service changes (as more fully summarized below) that were considered temporary at the time these changes were made. Major service changes affect more than 30 percent of a route's weekly trips, directional miles or service hours and can also include the addition of a service day to a route. Although the Authority still considers these pandemic-related service changes to be temporary in nature, the Authority must treat them as permanent for Federal Transit Administration regulatory purposes at this time.

Accordingly, Port Authority is conducting a public comment period for the purpose of receiving public comments regarding Port Authority's pandemic-related major service changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD Begins 9 AM (EST) on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 and ends at 5 PM on Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

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PUBLIC HEARING (IN-PERSON AND ONLINE) Thursday, January 27, 2022
3 PM to 6:30 PM (EST) – oral comment to be received both in-person and online
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Neal Holmes Board Room
345 Sixth Avenue, Fifth Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Online Hearing Link: To be provided upon completion of registration to provide oral comment. Register: Online at www.portauthority.org/comments or call 412.442.2000 to testify by 5 PM (EST) on Tuesday, January 25, 2022. In-person COVID requirements: Mask required.

Oral testimony will be limited to three minutes per speaker. To request special accommodations, please contact Port Authority at the Customer Service number listed below no later than 5 PM (EST) on Thursday, January 13, 2022.

All hearings will be recorded and transcribed by a court reporter and made part of Port Authority's official records.

During the public comment period and prior to the public hearing taking place on January 27, Port Authority will also host an online informational session to further discuss and answer questions concerning the pandemic-related major service changes:

INFORMATIONAL SESSION (ONLINE ONLY) Tuesday, January 11, 2022
5:30 PM (EST) to 7 PM (EST)

Register to attend the virtual meeting at www.portauthority.org/comments by 5 PM on Monday, January 10, 2022. To request special accommodations, please contact Customer Service at the number below no later than 5 PM (EST) on Tuesday, December 28, 2021.

If time permits, questions will be taken live at the end of the informational session.

For more information, call Customer Service at 412.442.2000 (TTY 412.231.7007) or visit www.portauthority.org/comments

Summary of Port Authority of Allegheny County Pandemic-Related Major Service Changes

Major Service Change Type	Transit Routes Affected
Addition of all service day trips	1, 12
Addition of weekday trips	59, RED
Route extension	P68
Reduction of weekday trips	38, 58, 65, 19L, G2, G3, G31, 01, 012, P12, P13, P7, P76, Y1, Y45

PortAuthority.org

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emotional
bruises?

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Women's Center & Shelter
of Greater Pittsburgh

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412-687-8005 (24/7)

Text
412-744-8445 (9am - 9pm)

Online Chat
WCSbelieves.org (9am - 5pm)

Exhibit E: Facebook Advertisements

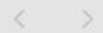
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Ad preview

Share

1 of 1 ad



Desktop News Feed

2 of 2



Port Authority

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We will be holding a public hearing on the November 2020 pandemic service changes on January 27. Prior to the public hearing, we will also host a virtual informational session on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. to answer questions you may have.

Register to participate or listen only at PortAuthority.org/Comments



TUE, JAN 11

Pandemic Service Changes: Informational Session

☆ Interested

115 people interested · 24 people going

OK



Port Authority

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Port Authority will be holding a virtual public hearing on Thursday, January 27, 2022 from 3-6:30pm on the service changes that were implemented in November 2020 as a result of the pandemic. Visit PortAuthority.org/Comments to register to provide your comments at the public hearing, or to sign-up to listen only.

If you are unable to attend, visit PortAuthority.org/Comments to learn more about how to submit your comments online, via phone, or through U.S. mail.



THU, JAN 27 AT 3 PM

Pandemic Service Changes: Virtual Public Hearing

126 people interested · 18 people going

☆ Interested

Exhibit F: Brochure

Public Hearing & Comment Period for Pandemic-Related Major Service Changes

PortAuthority.org

Public Hearing & Comment Period for Pandemic-Related Major Service Changes

In November 2020, Port Authority implemented 30 major service changes in response to the sharp decline and shift in ridership patterns resulting from the still-ongoing global pandemic, and to provide more robust weekend service. A major change is one that affects more than 30 percent of a route's weekly trips, directional miles or service hours.

The Authority's Board approved 10 of the changes -- the weekend service additions -- in July 2020. The remaining 20 changes -- five of which were additions to service and 15 of which were reductions in service -- were intended to temporarily rebalance service from underused commuter routes toward local routes that were experiencing pass-ups due to capacity restrictions.

Although Port Authority still considers these changes to be temporary, because the pandemic has lasted longer than 12 months, the agency is required by the Federal Transit Administration to conduct a formal Title VI analysis and hold a public hearing.

Accordingly, Port Authority is conducting a public hearing and comment period for the purpose of receiving public comment regarding Port Authority's pandemic-related major service changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD Begins 9AM EST on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 and ends at 5PM on Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

Public comments will be accepted via the following methods:

1. Written comment online at <https://www.portauthority.org/comments>.

2. Written comment sent by U.S. mail or hand delivery to:

Port Authority of Allegheny County
Attn: Service Change Comments
Heinz 57 Center, 345 Sixth Avenue, Third Floor
Pittsburgh PA 15222; or

3. Oral comment by calling or by calling 412-566-5335 and leaving a message on a recorded line.

In addition to receiving public comment online, via U.S. mail or hand delivery and by calling and leaving comments on a recorded line, Port Authority will also hold a public hearing to receive oral public comment on the pandemic-related major service changes.

PUBLIC HEARING (IN PERSON AND ONLINE) Thursday, January 27, 2022

9 PM to 6:30 PM EST -- oral comment to be received both in person and online

Physical Location: Port Authority of Allegheny County
Neal Holmes Board Room
345 Sixth Avenue, Fifth Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

Online Hearing Link: To be provided upon completion of registration to provide oral public comment.

Register: Online at <https://www.portauthority.org/comments> or call 412.442.2000 to testify by 5 PM EST on Tuesday, January 25, 2022. In person COVID Requirements: Mask required

Oral testimony will be limited to three minutes per speaker. To request special accommodations, please contact Port Authority at the Customer Service number listed below no later than 5 p.m. EST on Thursday, January 13, 2022.

All hearings will be recorded and transcribed by a court reporter and made part of Port Authority's official records.

During the public comment period and prior to the public hearing taking place on January 27, Port Authority will also host an online informational session to further discuss and answer questions concerning the pandemic-related major service changes:

INFORMATIONAL SESSION (ONLINE ONLY) Tuesday, January 11, 2022

5:30 PM EST to 7 PM EST

Register to attend the virtual meeting at <https://www.portauthority.org/comments> by 5 PM on Monday, January 10, 2022.

To request special accommodations, please contact Customer Service at the number below no later than 5 PM EST on Monday, December 28, 2021. If time permits, questions will be taken live at the end of the informational session.

For more information, call Customer Service at 412.442.2000 (TTY 412.231.7007) or visit <https://www.portauthority.org/comments>.

Major Service Changes and Findings by Route

Route	Type of Major Service Change	Change Category	Title VI Results
Route 1	Additional trips added to all service days	Addition of weekly trips	No impacts
Route 12	Additional trips added to all service days	Addition of weekly trips	No impacts
Route 38	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route 58	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	Disproportionate burden
Route 59	Addition of weekday Service	Addition of weekly trips	Both disparate impact and disproportionate burden, but positive change
Route 65	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	Disproportionate burden
Route 19L	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route 62	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route 63	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route G31	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route 01	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route 012	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route P12	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	Disparate impact
Route P13	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route P68	Extension of route on all service days	Extension of route	Disparate impact, but positive change
Route P7	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	Both disparate impact and disproportionate burden
Route P76	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	Disparate impact
Route Y1	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
Route Y45	Reduction of weekday Service	Reduction of weekly trips	No impacts
RED line	Addition of weekday Service	Addition of weekly trips	No impacts

Exhibit G: Website Content



[Home](#) > [PandemicServiceInput](#)

Port Authority implemented 20 temporary major service changes in November of 2020 in response to the sharp decline and shift in ridership patterns resulting from the still-ongoing global pandemic. Although the Authority still considers these changes to be temporary, because they have lasted more than 12 months, Port Authority is required by the Federal Transportation Administration to hold a public comment period and conduct a Title VI analysis.

A summary of the changes can be found in the Title VI Service Analysis below.

[Title VI Service Analysis \(3.2MB\)](#)

The public comment period on these changes will begin at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 and end at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

A virtual public hearing was held on Thursday, January 27, 2022, from 3 to 6:30 p.m. All hearings were recorded and transcribed by a court reporter and made part of Port Authority's official records.

If you were unable to attend the public hearing, you can also provide comment by calling 412-566-5335 and leaving a message on a recorded line, or sending your comments via U.S. Mail or hand delivery to:

Port Authority of Allegheny County
 Attn: Service Change Comments
 Heinz 57 Center
 345 Sixth Avenue, Third Floor
 Pittsburgh, PA 15222

You're also welcome to submit your comments on the changes below.

Port Authority also held a Q&A and information session on Tuesday, January 11, 2022. If you were unable to attend this meeting, you can [view the slideshow here](#).

Major Service Change Type	Transit Routes Effected
Addition of all service day trips	1, 12
Addition of weekday trips	59, RED
Route extension	P68
Reduction of weekday trips	38, 58, 65, 19L, G2, G3, G31, O1, O12, P12, P13, P7, P76, Y1, Y45

The public comment period extends from December 1, 2021 to February 1, 2022.

First Name

Last Name

Zip code

Please provide your comment

[Submit](#)