

PRT to Host Bus Line Redesign Meeting

<u>FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE</u> (October 29, 2024) — Pittsburgh Regional Transit invites the public to a meeting next month to provide an update on the first draft of its comprehensive bus network redesign and gather community input.

The meeting will take place on Thursday, November 14, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the August Wilson African American Cultural Center on Liberty Avenue in downtown Pittsburgh. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. No registration is required. Light refreshments will be available.

The first draft, Draft Network 1.0, reimagines the bus network to enhance service quality and reliability, expand connections, attract new riders, and better meet the needs of communities with high transit demand. By reallocating resources from areas where ridership has decreased—especially since the pandemic—the first draft connects more Allegheny County residents to jobs, healthcare, grocery stores, and shopping centers using PRT's existing operating budget.

Highlights of the draft include increased one-seat rides to Oakland, new crosstown routes and transit hubs, and more frequent service throughout the week and on weekends.

In addition to fixed bus service, the draft also introduces the concept of microtransit, where smaller, union-operated vehicles would serve communities that are challenging to reach.

Since the draft's release on September 30, PRT has engaged more than 1,000 residents at 40 events across Allegheny County. The project website, www.buslineredesign.com, has already received more than 20,000 visitors and 4,000 comments.

PRT will continue to host and participate in in-person and online events throughout the county, gathering public input through the end of January 2025. Planners will use the feedback they receive to refine the draft and present a revised proposal in spring 2025, with phased implementation anticipated to begin in 2026.