

Strategic Regional Transit Transformation Project

HRT/Participating Cities Transit Planning Meeting
October 25, 2018

Overview

- **New Urban Agency Strategic Plan requirement**
- **Will satisfy State mandate**
- **Funding: 80% State Demonstration Grant**
- **16 months (Fall 2018 – Winter 2019)**

WSP Presentation: AGENDA

1 *Project Scope and Approach*

2 *Next Steps*

3 *Discussion*

Project Scope

- **Task 1: Project Management**
- **Task 2: Project Initiation**
- **Task 3: Performance Diagnostic**
- **Task 4: Regional Transit Services Review**
- **Task 5: Transit Subsidy Allocation Review**
- **Task 6: Intergovernmental Collaboration**
- **Task 7: Final Report**

Task 2: Initial Round of Outreach (in progress)

- **Key stakeholders identified: interviews in progress**
- **Get honest input through early interviews**
- **Use input from Task 2 to shape analysis in Tasks 3, 4 and 5**
- **Recent experience: outreach for WMATA project**



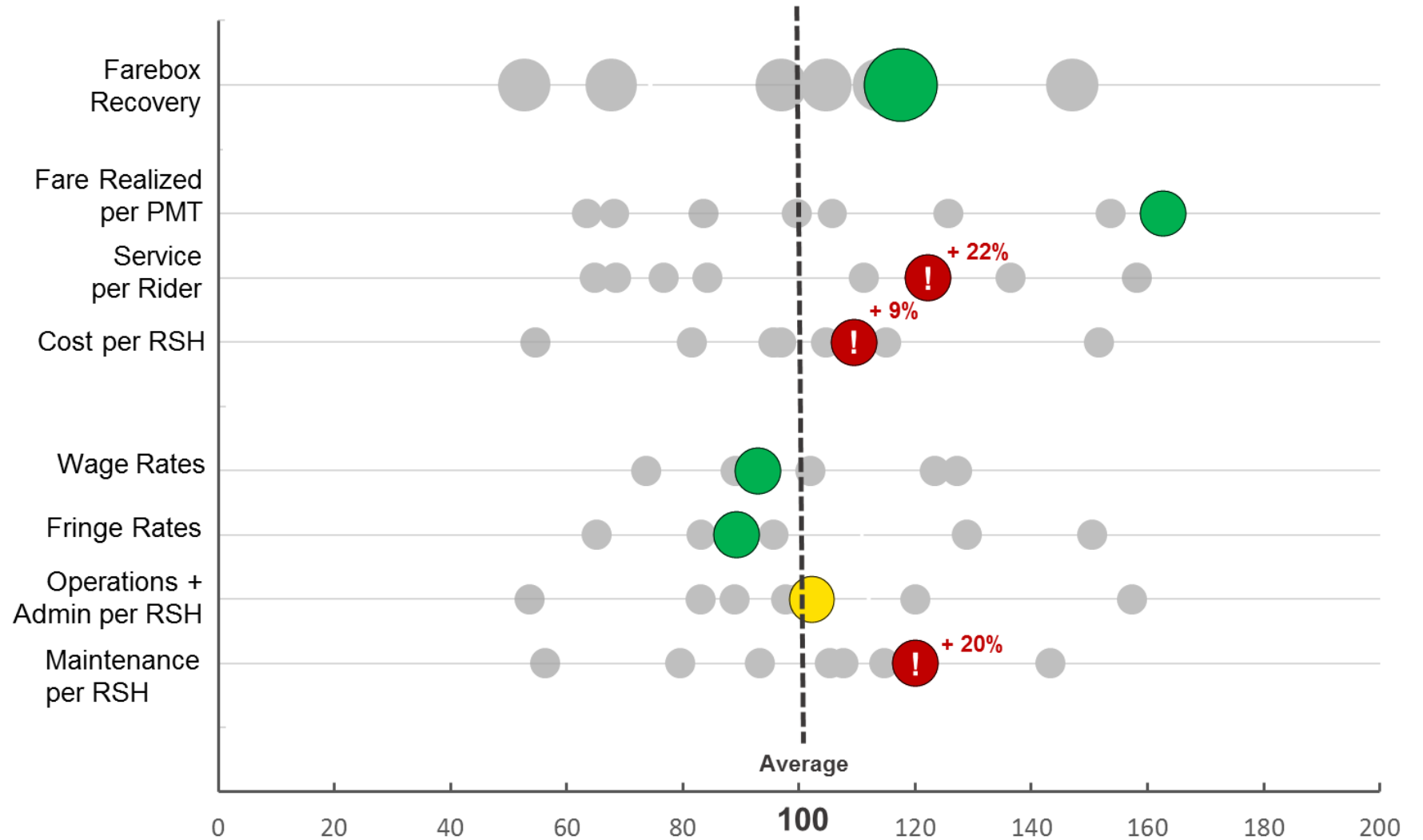
Task 3: Benchmarking: Assessment of HRT Operating & Financial Performance (in progress)

- Peer agencies in terms of service and size have been identified**
- Unbiased data source: National Transit Database**
- Show HRT's areas of above-average and below-average performance**
- Synthesize in memo appropriate for decision-makers (in progress)**

Task 3 Example

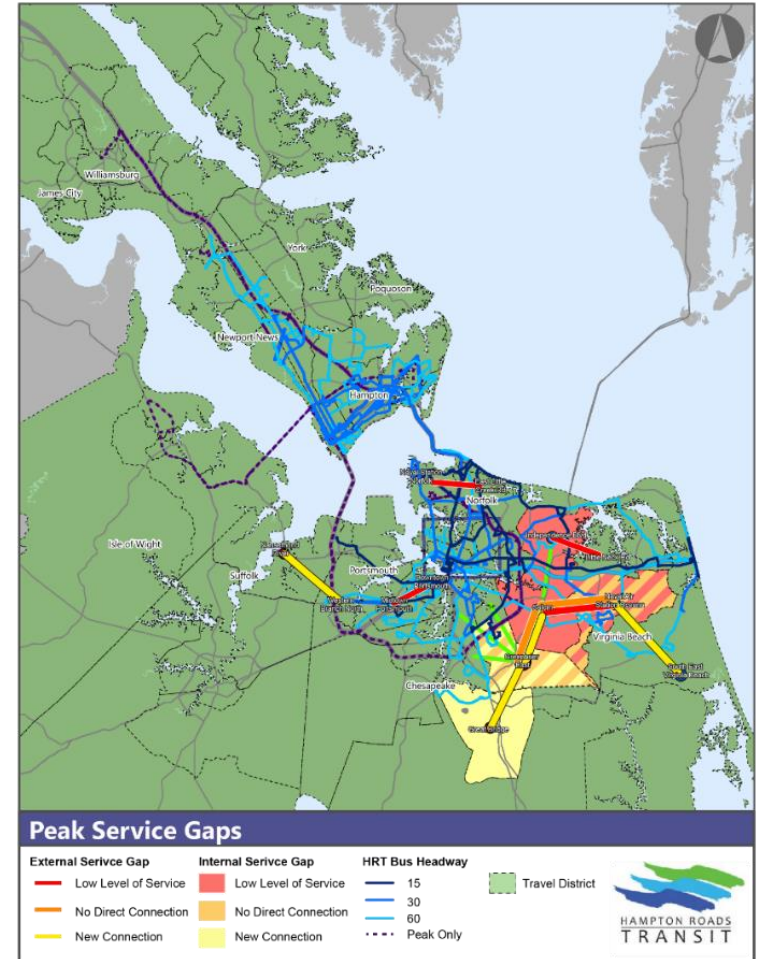
Key metrics for WMATA on Operating+ Financial Performance

WMATA Rail System Financial Performance vs. 7 Peer Large Transit Agencies, 2015



Task 4: Transit Service Options

- **Start with Task 2 outreach**
 - Stakeholder aspirations for transit
 - Stakeholders' concerns, including budget
 - Goals for service optimization
- **Model alternative service concepts from other jurisdictions**
 - Models that have been tried
 - Models that have been scoped but not yet tried at full scale



Task 4: Potential Scenarios to be Reviewed

1. Cost-neutral scenario with redistribution of service to busiest routes
2. High-frequency routes with New Mobility for First-Mile/Last-Mile
3. High-frequency routes with Local Access Routes
4. High-frequency routes with infrastructure investments, e.g. Business Access and Transit lanes, Transit Signal Priority
5. High-coverage scenario: local service in all areas over a set level of density

Task 4: Transit Service Options

- **Identify costs and benefits, clearly present the advantages and disadvantages of each.**
- **Workshops including local governments and stakeholders will be organized to review scenarios.**
- **The best fit may combine elements from different templates.**
- **As a preferred scenario emerges:**
 - Detail scenario to TDP-recommendation level: alignments, frequency, span.
 - Costing will help determine cost allocation implications, which will feed Task 5.
- **A Service Implementation Project could follow after a preferred scenario is agreed upon.**

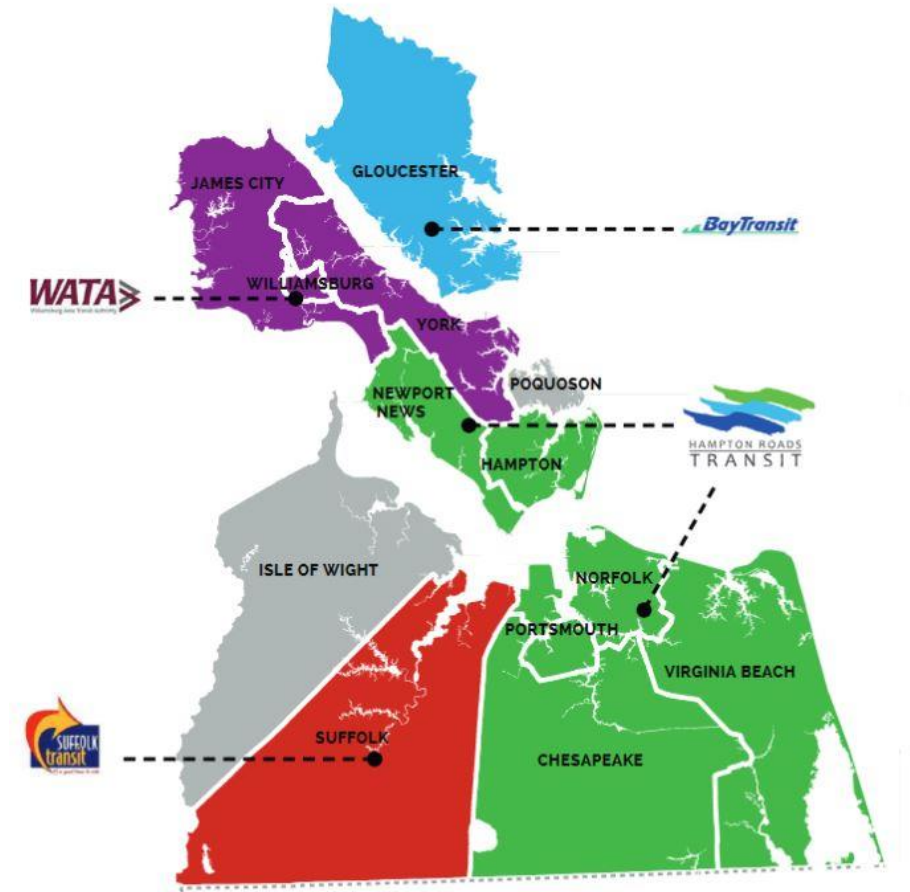
Task 5: Cost Allocation

- Review of HRT cost allocation agreement in light of preferred scenario
- Progress is made when discussions focus on goals and how to achieve them
- Changes to cost allocation are the last thing to fall into place



Task 6: Intergovernmental Collaboration to Enable Change

- A transit system redesign depends on stakeholders' support for new service and business models.
- Stakeholders will support improvements that address their goals.
- Analysis more likely generate buy-in when there is significant stakeholder consultation.



WSP Conclusions

- **Heart of the effort is to look for broad regional buy-in on the pattern, volume and cost of service informed by a ground-up analysis of options**
- **Regardless of service model considered, benchmarking will shed light on how HRT compares to peer agencies and point to ways for improvement**

Next Steps

- **Complete initial interviews/meetings**
- **Complete benchmarking memo for sharing with jurisdictions**
- **Convene first meetings of:**
 - Technical Work Group
 - Regional Advisory Panel

Discussion

Task 4: Potential Scenarios

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Other scenarios?

Thank you for your time!