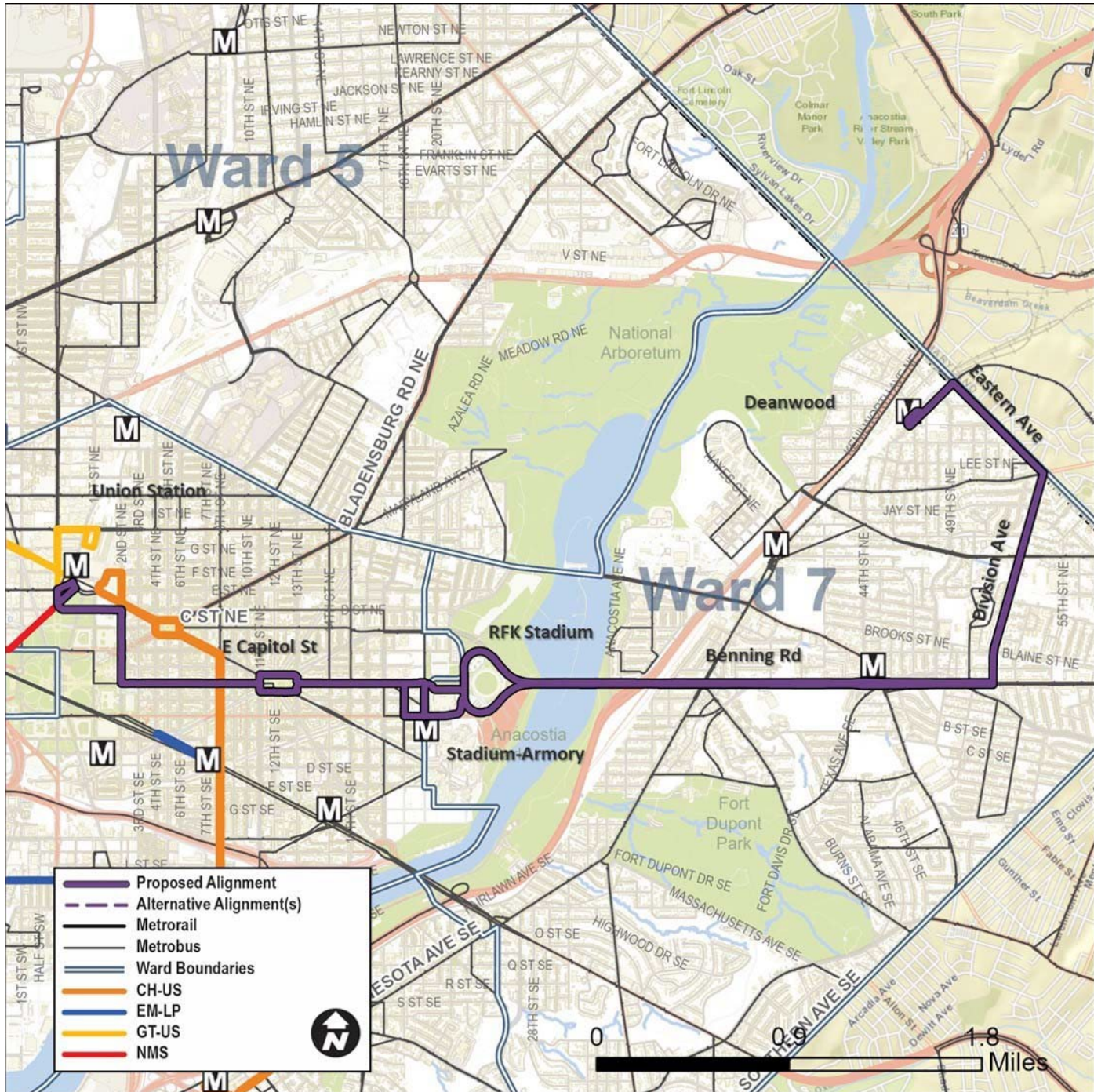




## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### 1. What route is being proposed to serve Ward 7?

The proposed Ward 7 DC Circulator route will provide new bus connections within and beyond Ward 7. The proposed route starts at the Deanwood Metro Station and continues on Eastern Avenue, Division Avenue, and East Capitol Street NE to serve the Benning Road Metro Station, before continuing onward to Ward 6 to serve the Stadium-Armory Metro Station, and ends at Union Station via East Capitol Street SE and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NE. The map below illustrates this proposed Ward 7 Circulator service.





## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### 2. What areas will the Ward 7 DC Circulator route serve?

The proposed Ward 7 DC Circulator route will offer bus service from Deanwood to Union Station providing DC Circulator service that comes often and on-time. The new route will provide:

Service to major destinations:

- **Within Ward 7**, including:
  - Deanwood Metro Station
  - Deanwood Library
  - Sheriff Road
  - East Capitol Street NE
  - Benning Road Metro Station
- **To Ward 6**, including:
  - Union Station
  - US Supreme Court and the Library of Congress
  - Lincoln Park
  - RFK Stadium and the DC Armory

Access to (either directly or within a short walk):

- **Educational facilities** within Ward 7, including: Ron Brown High School, Woodson H.D. High School, KIPP DC Quest Academy, Kelly Miller Middle School, Burrville Elementary School, Houston Elementary School, and Plummer Elementary School
- **Activity centers and parks** in Ward 7, including: Deanwood Library, Deanwood Recreation Center, Kenilworth Recreation Center, Woodson Senior Recreation Center, Marvin Gaye Park, Fletcher-Johnson Recreation Center, Capitol View Neighborhood Library, Washington Tennis and Education East Capitol Campus, Marshall Heights Community Development, and historic destinations across the Anacostia River, including the US Capitol Building and Supreme Court
- **Shopping centers and markets**, including Safeway, Greenway Market, Dollar Plus Food Store, Z Mart Grocery, Benco Shopping Center, and retailers at Benning Road and Minnesota Avenue
- **Medical centers and urgent care**, such as the Minute Clinic at 40<sup>th</sup> Street NE and Benning Road, Integrated Care Center, MedStar Health Urgent Care in Capitol Hill, BridgePoint Hospital Capitol Hill, the Kaiser Permanente Capitol Hill Medical Center

Transit connections to (either directly or within a short walk):

- **DC Circulator routes** between Union Station and the National Mall, Congress Heights, and Georgetown
- **WMATA Metrobus routes in Ward 7**: R12, U5, U6, U7, V2, V4, V7, V8, V14, W4, X9, and 96
- **WMATA Metrobus routes in Ward 6**: B2, D6, D8, X2, X8, X9, 80, 90, 92 and 96
- **WMATA Metrorail services** available at:
  - Deanwood Metro Station (Blue and Orange Lines)
  - Benning Road Metro Station (Blue and Silver Lines)
  - Stadium-Armory Metro Station (Blue, Orange, and Silver Lines)
  - Union Station (Red Line)
- **MTA MARC commuter rail and Amtrak regional trains** available at Union Station
- **MTA commuter buses** (230, 250, 735, and 850) near Union Station
- **Interstate bus services** (Greyhound, Bolt Bus, MegaBus, etc.) at Union Station
- **DC Streetcar H Street-Benning Road Line** (with an [extension planned](#) on Benning Road)



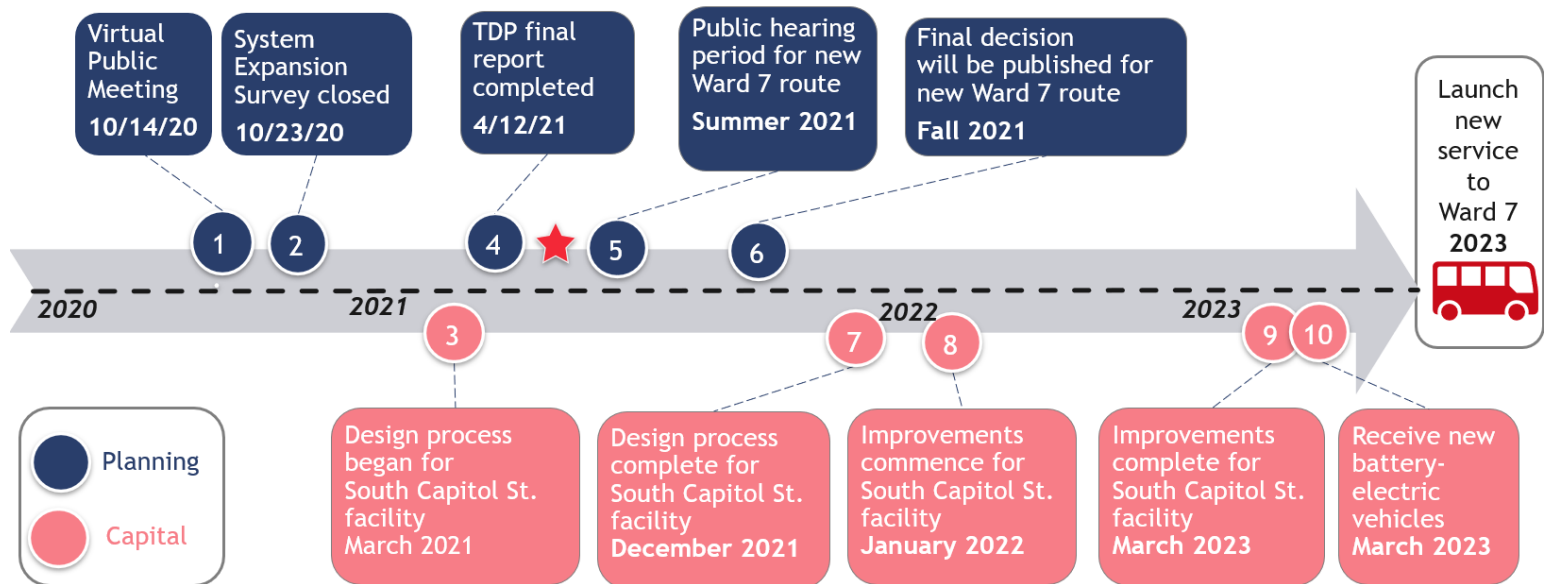
## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### 3. Will the Ward 7 DC Circulator route include the use of electric buses?

Yes, the proposed Ward 7 DC Circulator route would use battery electric buses. The buses are being procured now by the District and will be made by Proterra. Delivery of the vehicles is expected in the spring of 2023.

### 4. When will the Ward 7 DC Circulator route begin service?

Currently, the route is expected to begin service by mid-2023 following the timeline below:



### 5. Could the Ward 7 DC Circulator route begin earlier than mid-2023?

Unfortunately, no. In order for the new route to be put into service, the existing electrical infrastructure of the bus garage needs to be upgraded and expanded and the new battery electric buses need to be built and delivered. Once these tasks have been accomplished, the new Ward 7 DC Circulator route will be able to begin service. See the project timeline above for more details.

### 6. Will the Ward 7 DC Circulator route be free?

Until September 30, 2021, DC Circulator service will remain free as part of Mayor Bowser's COVID-19 pandemic relief effort to get the District back in business. Mayor Bowser has proposed in her budget to DC Council to permanently make DC Circulator free. If you support this request, call or write the District of Columbia Committee on Transportation and the Environment [online](#) or over the phone (202-724-8062).

### 7. What will be the hours of service for the new Ward 7 DC Circulator route?

Monday through Friday, the route will operate between 6:00am and 9:00pm, with a bus coming every ten minutes. On Saturday and Sunday, the route will operate between 7:00am and 9:00pm, with a bus also coming every ten minutes.



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### 8. Is there an opportunity to have another route service Ward 7?

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has always, and will continue, to monitor transit needs across the District and to look for opportunities to expand the DC Circulator as that becomes possible. However, at the moment, DDOT is focused on preparing the proposed Ward 7 DC Circulator route to go into service by mid-2023.

### 9. What other improvements does the TDP 2020 plan include for existing DC Circulator service?

The DC Circulator Transit Development Plan (TDP) provides an evaluation all existing DC Circulator routes, including a review of how many people have used the service and the performance of each route overall. The plan highlights opportunities to:

- **Improve safety** at dangerous intersections and bus stops
- **Increase connections** between the DC Circulator routes and between other transit and transportation options available in the District
- **Ensure the buses** arrive on-time more often
- **Explore the concept** of extending the existing DC Circulator Rosslyn-Dupont route to U Street in addition to implementing the proposed DC Circulator Ward 7 route.

The full DC Circulator TDP report, including all of the recommendations, [can be found here](#).

### 10. How was the Ward 7 DC Circulator route decided?

In order to determine where the Ward 7 DC Circulator route would best provide new service in the ward, The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) team developed seven initial route alternatives, each which considered:

- **Existing bus and rail transit services** within and beyond Ward 7, to provide connections throughout the DC region
- **Current travel patterns** of Ward 7 residents and employees
- **Real estate development plans** that could shape the future of Ward 7
- **Social equity** concerns to ensure public investments in transportation justly benefit all residents, visitors and commuters

The DDOT team compared each of the seven route alternatives against one another, taking into account the percent of the route serving Ward 7, the amount of jobs and residents served, the amount of time each trip would take, and the annual operating cost.

DDOT reached over 1,700 residents in the Fall of 2020 to determine a new DC Circulator route in Ward 7 through:

1. **Meetings with community** groups throughout the Ward
2. **A focus group** of Ward 7 community leaders
3. **Public meetings** online and in-person
4. **Two surveys** to gauge the needs of Ward 7 residents and employees and to gauge key destinations the new route should serve.

The **Deanwood-Union Station route via East Capitol Street** is the locally preferred alternative route for Ward 7 (as seen in the map on page 1 of this FAQ) because it had the majority of over 1,700 responses supporting it. The Deanwood-Union Station route will also provide access to the highest number of jobs and residents, and the most activity centers, while also likely to attract the highest number of potential passengers. Read more about the analysis in the [Transit Development Plan \(TDP\) report](#).



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### 11. How will the proposed DC Circulator route address the divide between the northern and southern neighborhoods of Ward 7?

The lack of north/south connectivity within Ward 7 is a concern that has been brought up by some residents, both recently through input collected in Transit Development Plan (TDP) report, and through additional comments collected by the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) throughout the years. DDOT identified and shared with the public an initial seven route alternatives for the DC Circulator Ward 7 route, several of which featured a north/south connection within Ward 7. These route alternatives included proposed service to: Good Hope Market, Skyland Town Center, Jenkins Row Shopping Center, Penn Branch Center, Hillcrest, Naylor Road, Fort Dupont Park, the Parkside neighborhood, the Costco Shopping Center, Fort Lincoln and Dakota Crossing. Read more about these initial seven route alternatives in the “Ward 7 Route Alternatives” section of the [Transit Development Plan \(TDP\) report](#).

While these options were popular in the feedback received throughout the Transit Development Plan (TDP) public comment process, the Ward 7 DC Circulator route alternative that received the most support is between the Deanwood Metro Station and Union Station by way of Eastern Avenue, Division Avenue and Benning Road within Ward 7. Additional feedback can still be provided on this preferred route.

[Get involved](#) in the process online or over the phone (202-671-2020) and provide your thoughts on the preferred Ward 7 route.

### 12. What other opportunities exist for the elderly, disabled and low-income individuals to help expand public transportation options in Ward 7?

Elderly, disabled and/or low-income residents of Ward 7 can get involved in improving and expanding public transit access in Ward 7 to meet their needs by:

- **Keeping Circulator bus fares affordable** by calling or writing the District of Columbia Committee on Transportation and the Environment [online](#) or over the phone (202-724-8062).
- **Working with DDOT and WMATA to access hilly terrain**, such as on Alabama Avenue and 37th Street, via:
  - Paratransit service, which can be booked online or over the phone through WMATA’s [MetroAccess program](#).
  - [Getting involved](#) online or over the phone (202-671-2020) in planning for more frequent or for expanded transit service during critical hours on hilly terrain. You can also:
    - Join local [Advisory Neighborhood Commission \(ANC\)](#) to develop your ideas further.
    - Follow, watch or attend community [planning meetings](#) streamed live on DDOT’s social media accounts.
- **Request transit amenities and services** by notifying [311 online](#), via the mobile app or over the phone (call 311 or 202-727-1000), including the provision of shade trees for cooling, the pruning of overgrown plants, pest treatments, pothole repair, sidewalk repair, alley restoration, and litter removal along on transit stops and routes.
- **Exploring Mayor Bowser’s [live dashboard](#)** of Circulator ridership, transportation safety by Ward, remote work travel patterns, and open transportation service, emergency and construction planned.