



Maricopa Association of Governments 2008 Regional Conference:

Housing & Transportation
Human Services Coordination

Fixed Route Bus Service

April 8, 2008

Current Issues



Arizona—second fastest growing state

Maricopa County—largest population growth

Population of 3.9 million, expands to 6.2 million by 2030

Aging population

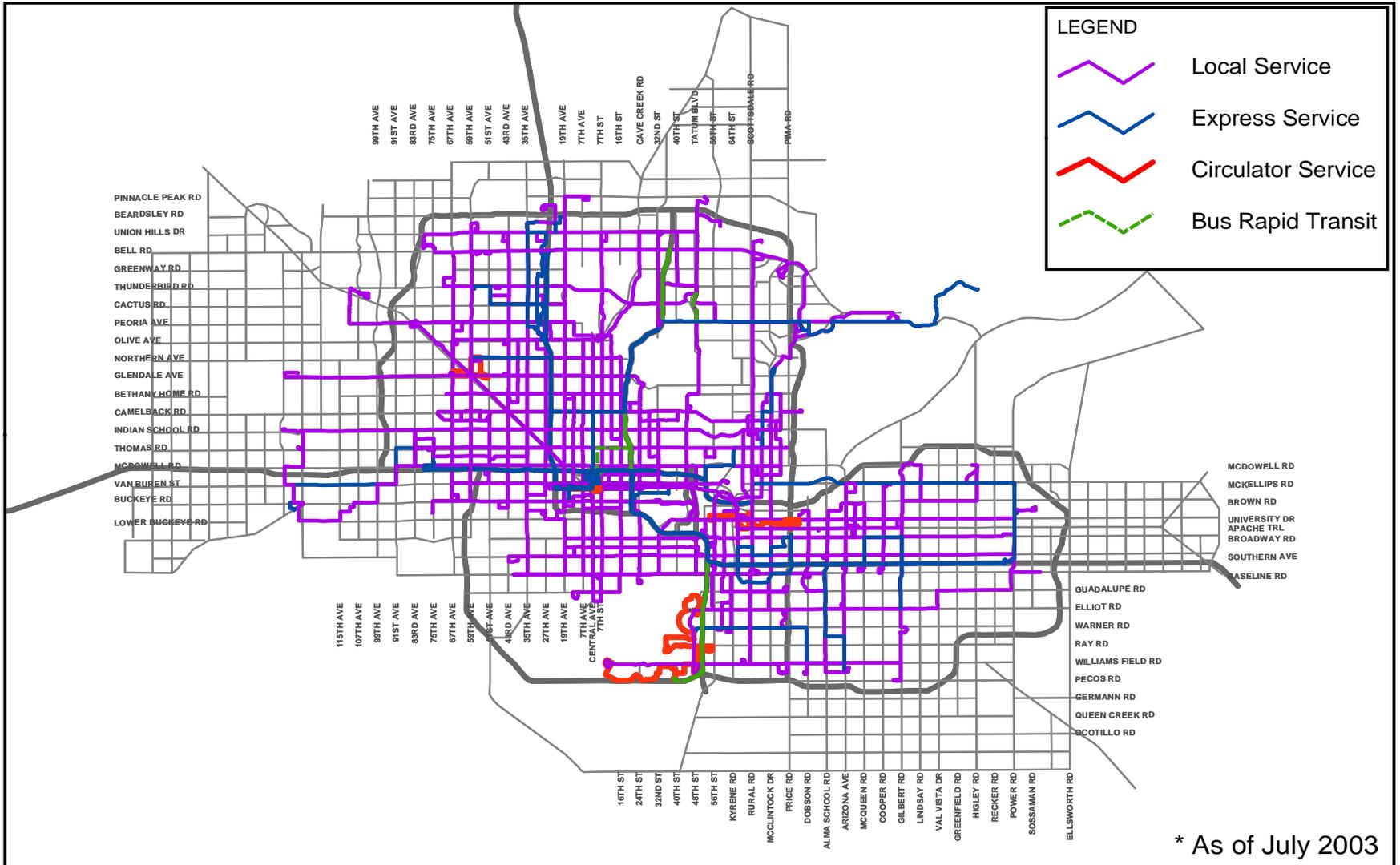


Challenges Present Opportunities

- Phoenix area is the top one-third worst for commutes
- Average one-way commute is 14.4 miles and takes 27.8 minutes (avg 30mph)
- Gas prices edge higher and higher
- 51% of commuters change driving habits due to gas prices
- Poll says 52% of Arizonans would pay more taxes to relieve congestion (NAU)

Bus Service- July 2003

Current Local, Express, and Circulator Bus Service*



* As of July 2003



Local Fixed Route Bus

- **Backbone of the region's public transportation system**
- **Local transit service consists of two categories of fixed route**
 - Local fixed routes
 - Circulator/shuttle routes
- **Many trip purposes**



Regional Bus

- **Regional transit services include both arterial grid and express type services providing regional**
- **Routes are designed to connect activity centers, or residential areas across jurisdictional boundaries**
- **Regional bus service consists of three categories of service:**
 - Supergrid Routes
 - Arterial Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)
 - Routes: Freeway Express/BRT Routes



Other Services

- **Rural/Flexible Routes:** This service type addresses the need to provide connections between the urban and rural communities of the county serving a range of trip needs:
 - Work
 - Shopping
 - Medical Appointments
 - Access to various community services

- **Commuter Vanpools:** Commuter vanpools allow groups of employees to self-organize and lease a vehicle from RPTA. This provides a carpool service, providing a flexible transit solution for those trips not well served by more conventional fixed route service.



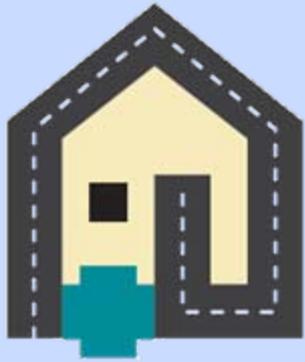
New Technology Coming in 2008





Bus Adds New Role in 2008

- Bus = backbone of the transit
- Complimentary to rail
- Easy Connections due to street grid pattern
- Bus routes deviate up to 1.5 miles to access stations
- Rail will run every 10 minutes seven days per week



Cost to Ride

- **NEW FARE PRICING**
- **Fare Type Cost**
- **Local/Rail Full Fare** 1 ride \$1.25
 - All day pass \$2.50
 - 3 day pass \$7.50
 - 7 day pass \$17.50
 - 31 day pass \$45
- **Reduced Local/Rail Fare** 1 ride \$.60
 - All day pass \$1.25
 - 3 day pass \$3.75
 - 7 day pass \$8.75
 - 31 day pass \$22.50
- **Express Bus/RAPID** 1 ride \$1.75
 - All day pass \$3.50
 - 3 1day pass \$68
- **Bus Card Plus**
 - Local up to \$45/mo
 - Express up to \$68/mo



Pros

- All buses are wheelchair equipped
- More consistent
- More services being added
- Enunciators on buses



Cons

- Have to go to a bus stop
- Not all areas have service
- Routes overcrowded
- Need to cross the street to make a connection. Streets too wide, cannot see or can not cross in time



Tips for Riding

- Decide where you want to go and when you want to be there
- Keep in mind that schedules may be different on weekends and holidays
- Times are approximate
- Have your fare ready (exact change)
- Signal the operator that you want the bus



Tips for Riding (cont)

- When boarding the bus place your fare in the fare box or swipe you pass. Ask if you are not sure how it works.
- Find the nearest seat.
- When you are near your stop, signal the bus operator by pulling the cord or pushing the strip by the window
- Exit the bus through the back door.
- Remember to take all of your belongings.



Information

- Contact customer service by calling 602-253-5300
- Visit Valley Metro website at www.valleymetro.org



Comments and Questions

Where do we go from here... Next Steps?



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