



# **Arlington Cemetery Station Metro Closure**

City Council

September 22, 2020

# Background & Purpose

- WMATA's Platform Improvement Program (PIP) launched in May 2019 to address state of good repair needs at 20 outdoor stations, requiring station closures.
  - Phase I in Summer 2019 closed six stations including all stations in Alexandria
  - Phase II in Summer of 2020 addressed four Orange Line stations West of Ballston
- Phase III planned for Spring of 2021 includes Arlington Cemetery Station, which will impact Alexandria travel
- **Council to consider mitigation options for the shutdown and whether to adopt a letter to WMATA concerning mitigation**

# Spring 2021 PIP

## Arlington Cemetery & Addison Rd

Mid-Feb to Mid-May

- No Blue Line service
- Adjusted Yellow Line Service
- No additional bus mitigation proposed at this time

February – May was selected due to lower ridership at these stations than in the summer, along with Arlington Memorial summer events.



Source: WMATA

# Planned Rail Service Mitigation

- Blue Line from Franconia over Yellow Line Bridge
  - ✓ Increased frequency for Yellow and Blue Line traveling south of Arlington Cemetery
  - ✓ No need for Van Dorn riders to transfer twice
  - ✓ **Extra 4 to 12-minute average travel time** for customers traveling to stations between Farragut West and Rosslyn
  - ✓ **Potential travel time improvements** for customers going to Federal Triangle or Metro Center



Source: WMATA

# Potential Bus Mitigation

## *(Not proposed at this time)*

### Options

- Increased service on certain routes
- Pentagon to Rosslyn “bus bridge”
- Alexandria to Rosslyn express



### Considerations

- **Comparable travel times on express bus versus rail; trips for most people will not be competitive with rail**
- Relatively low station to station ridership; anticipated even lower during construction due to COVID
- Traffic variability on buses
- COVID social distancing needs on buses

# Recommendation

- Adopt a letter to WMATA General Manager supporting the proposed mitigation for the Arlington Cemetery shutdown from mid-February to mid-May 2021