

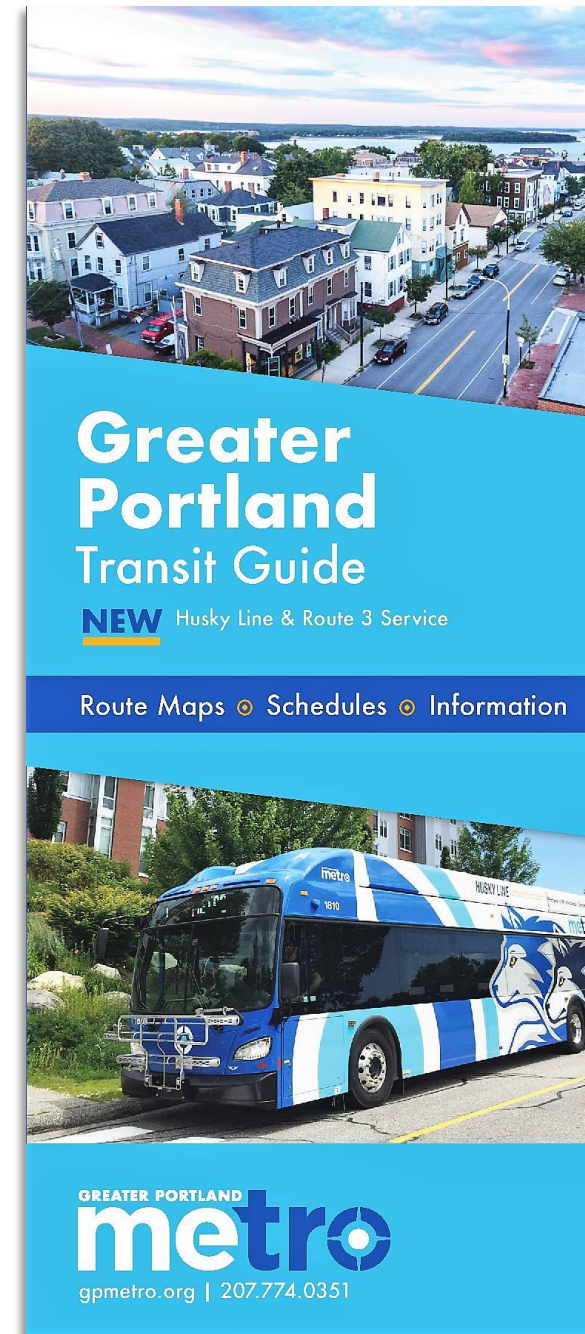


**Falmouth Town Council Meeting**  
November 9, 2020



# METRO OVERVIEW

- Formed in 1966
- Largest of seven (7) regional public transportation agencies.
- Ten (10) bus routes serving eight (8) municipalities: Brunswick, Falmouth, Freeport, Gorham, Portland, South Portland, Westbrook and Yarmouth.
- Board of Directors includes: Brunswick, Falmouth, Freeport, Portland, Westbrook and Yarmouth.
- 44 CNG and Diesel powered buses.
- Over 100 employees.
- 2.1 million annual boardings in CY 2019



# Transit Service in Falmouth

## LOCAL BUS ROUTE 7 (Falmouth and Portland)

- **Service Levels:**
  - Mon-Sat: Every 60 minutes from 6:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
  - Sun: Every 60 minutes from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Major Destinations:**
  - Falmouth Village (primary northern terminus)
  - Downtown Portland (southern terminus)
  - Martin's Point Healthcare
  - Ocean View Community
  - Town Landing and Falmouth Foreside
- **Connections:**
  - Direct connections with all Metro routes in downtown Portland
  - Connections to South Portland Bus Service and Shuttlebus-Zoom.



# Transit Service in Falmouth

## LOCAL BUS ROUTE 9 (Falmouth and Portland)

### • Falmouth Service Levels:

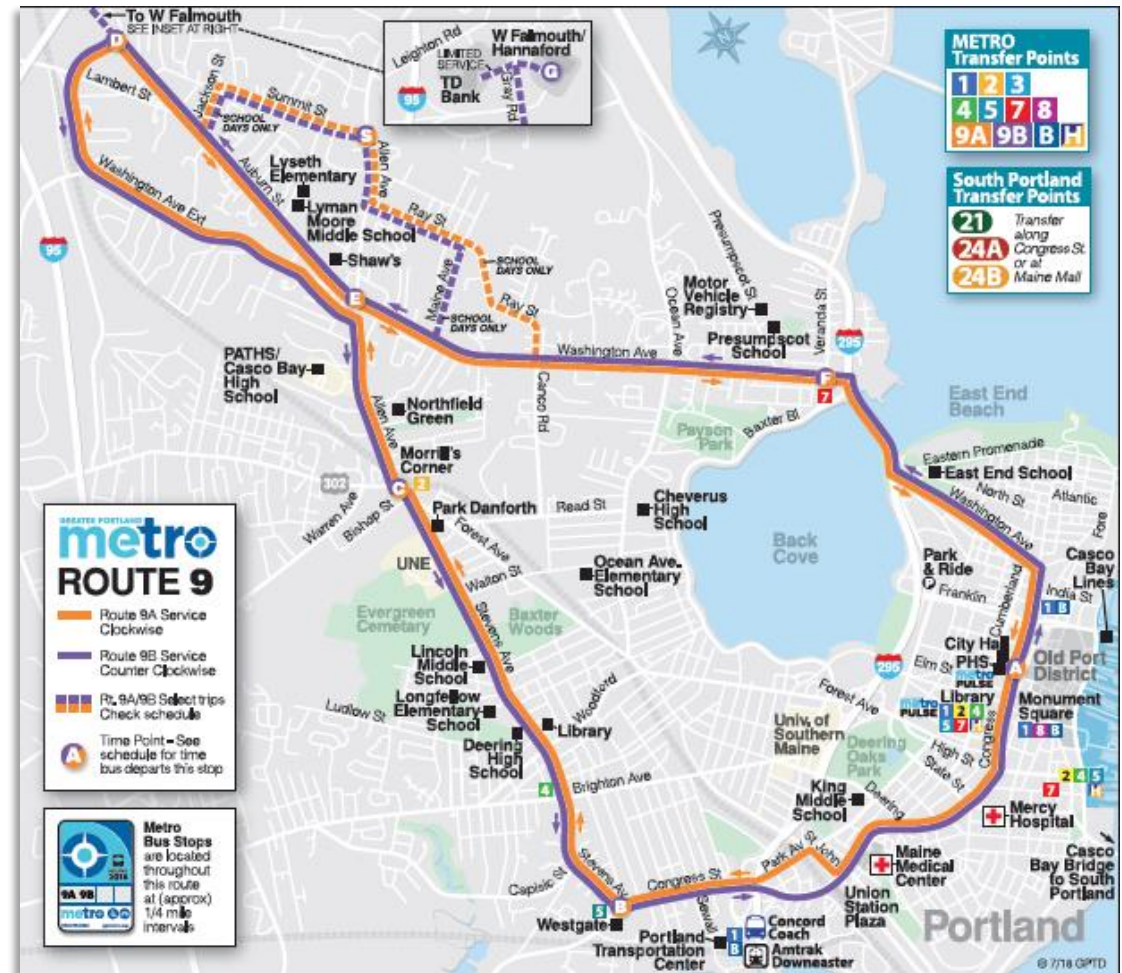
- Mon-Fri: Intermittent from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Sat: Every 60 minutes from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Sun: Every 60 minutes from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Higher service levels in Portland.

### • Major Destinations:

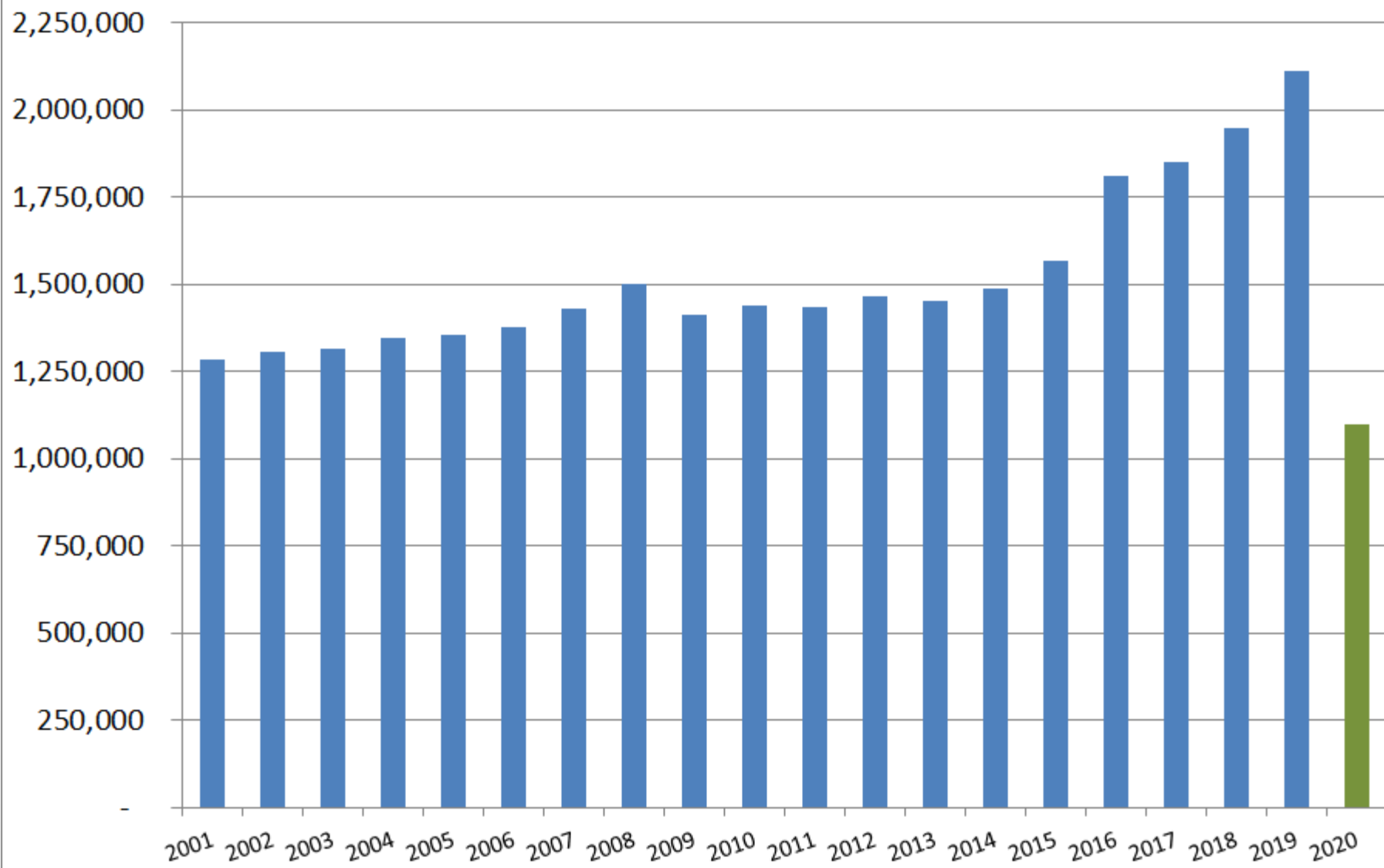
- West Falmouth Hannaford and TD Bank Plazas
- Washington Avenue Corridor
- Stevens Avenue Corridor
- Congress Street Corridor

### • Connections:

- Direct connections with all Metro routes in downtown Portland.
- Connections to South Portland Bus Service and Shuttlebus-Zoom.
- Connection to Amtrak and Concord Coach Lines.



## Greater Portland Transit District (METRO) System Ridership: 20 Year Ridership Trend



# METRO/REGIONAL PANDEMIC RESPONSE

## Initial Actions

- Regionally coordinated suspension of fares/service reduction in March.
- Metro service back to 100% on August 30.
- Fare reinstated on October 1 with introduction of automated fare payment system.

## Operational Safety Measures

- Mask requirement, driver partitions, enhanced cleaning, passenger load caps, staff health checks, NEW contactless fare payment options, investigating on-board UV light air purification.

## CARES Act Funding - \$53 million apportioned to PACTS region:

- Sustaining Regional Transit Service
- Pandemic Recovery and Resilience
- Transit System Innovation
- Municipal Budget Assistance

# NEW FARE PAYMENT OPTIONS

## Beginning October 1, 2020

METRO riders will return to front door boarding and will be required to **pay fare** using the Dirigo TouchPass Mobile App, Card, or Cash.

### NEW Fare Prices:

Regular Fare (Local): \$2  
BREEZ (Express): \$4

NEW Reduced Fare (Local) \$1  
BREEZ Reduced Fare \$2

Rides paid for using the **Dirigo TouchPass** Card or Mobile App will include a 90-minute Pass. (No transfers for cash payments.)  
Passengers can download the mobile app or use a smartcard.

For Information:  
Visit [DirigoTouchPass.org](http://DirigoTouchPass.org) or call **1-833-272-7270**

### IMPORTANT REMINDER:

**ALL** riders are required to wear a face covering.



# 2021 PROJECTS

- Pandemic Recovery and Strategic Use of CARES Act Funding.
- Portland Peninsula Route Redesign Project.
- Introduction of two (2) Battery Electric Buses in late 2021.
- Advancing Breez South.
- Advancing goals of region's long range transit plan: ***Transit Tomorrow.***
- Falmouth Transit Plan.



## 2020 Budget Summary (Attachment A, page 7)

- 50% ridership decrease due to pandemic – 75% fare revenue drop.
- CARES Act funding allowing transit agencies to absorb fare losses.
- Small year end surplus.
- \$18,539 credit coming to Falmouth in December (due to CARES Act funding).

# 2021 Budget Summary

- **No service changes in Falmouth; reductions in Portland, Westbrook.**
- **\$12.7 million operating budget – 4.9% overall increase over 2020.**
  - Union contract increases in wages-benefits; net gain of 1 FTE.
  - Larger Capital Program: replacement of buses/major assets; bus stop improvements.
  - Decreases in fuel, debt service and utilities.
  - Fare revenue projected down by 30-40% - offset by CARES Act funding.
- **Falmouth Assessment (Attachment A, page 10):**
  - Base Assessment - \$217,340 (7% increase compared to 2020).
  - Adjusted Assessment - \$199,474 (2% decrease compared to 2020) – made possible due to allocation of CARES Act funding to support service.
  - 0% increase anticipated in use/cost to Falmouth of ADA Complementary Paratransit.

# Metro Budget Process

Timeframe	Milestone
October 2020	Metro Board approves preliminary budget/municipal assessments.
November 2020	Federal funding appropriations – contingent on Congress.
January-February 2021	Metro Board approved final budget
February-April 2021	PACTS process for allocating federal funding to transit agencies.
March 2021	Warrants for taxes issued to member municipalities
July 2021	Member municipality assessments due to Metro.
August 2021	2021 credits issued back to municipalities.



**Thank you**

**Greg Jordan**

**Executive Director**

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