Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission
Charlottesville/Albemarle MPO

401 E. Water St, Charlottesville, VA 22902 www.tjpdc.org
(434) 979-7310 ● info@tjpdc.org email

AGENDA
Charlottesville-Albemarle Regional Transit Authority
Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, November 12, 2026 @ 5:00 p.m. – Water Street Center, 407 E. Water Street, Charlottesville, VA

Time	Item
5:00-5:10	1. General Administration (Natalie Oschrin, Chair) a. Call to Order b. Introductions and Announcements c. Acceptance of the agenda* d. Approve draft CARTA Board meeting minutes* • September 24, 2026 e. Nominating Committee appointment* CARTA Bylaws: *At a regular meeting preceding the annual election of officers, the Chair will appoint a nominating committee, subject to the approval of the Authority Board. At the annual organizational meeting, the nominating committee will submit the name or names of one or more persons for the offices of Chair and Vice Chair. Additional nominations may be made by any Director at the annual meeting.*
5:10-5:15	2. Matters from the Public: limit of 3 minutes per speaker *Members of the Public are welcome to provide comments on any public-interest, transit-related topic, including the items listed on this agenda, with a limit of three minutes per speaker.*
5:15-5:25	3. Williamsburg Area Transit Authority Overview (Matthew Scalia, Executive Director, WATA) • Presentation
5:25-5:40	4. Transit Prioritization Study Update (Taylor Lowery, TJPDC)
5:40-6:55	5. Transit Provider Updates • Charlottesville Area Transit (Garland Williams, CAT) • Jaunt (Mike Murphy, Jaunt) • UVA Transit (Scott Silsdorf, UVA)
6:55 p.m.	6. Adjourn* (Natalie Oschrin, Chair)

* *A vote is expected for this item*

Next Regular CARTA Board meeting — January 28, 2027 (Annual Organizational Meeting)

Guests can join in person or by using the link below.
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84792694958?pwd=wEE8sUYnZwxnc4BWrD8SrlAh064dCv.1
Meeting ID: 847 9269 4958 Passcode: Carta@2026 Phone: 646-558-8656 US

If a committee member needs to participate remotely, please contact Lucinda Shannon at lshannon@tjpdc.org, at least two days before the meeting to receive a personal meeting link.

TJPDC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in all programs and activities. TJPDC provides reasonable accommodations for persons who require special assistance to participate in public involvement opportunities. For more information, to request language translation or other accommodations, or to obtain a Discrimination Complaint Form, please contact Lucinda Shannon at (434) 979-7310 or lshannon@tjpdc.org, or visit the website at www.tjpdc.org.

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CARTA Board Members

VOTING MEMBERS
Natalie Oschrin, Charlottesville, Chair
Michael Pruitt, Albemarle, Vice Chair
Jen Fleisher, Charlottesville
Sally Duncan, Albemarle
NON-VOTING MEMBERS
Grant Sparks, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

CARTA Board Meeting Dates 2026		
January 22	June 5 at 2 pm (Special DRPT Meeting)	September 24
March 25 at 9 am (New meeting time)	July 23	November 12
May 28	August 24 (Special online meeting)	

The CARTA Board meets on the 4th Thursday of every odd month from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission

Regional Vision ▪ Collaborative Leadership ▪ Professional Service

Charlottesville Albemarle Regional Transit Authority (CARTA) Meeting

Draft Minutes, September 24, 2026

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWPoJIZJ3sM

VOTING MEMBERS & ALTERNATES		STAFF	
Jen Fleisher, Charlottesville	x	Christine Jacobs, TJPDC	x
Natalie Oschrin, Charlottesville	x	Lucinda Shannon, PATH and TJPDC	x
Sally Duncan, Albemarle		Taylor Lowery, TJPDC	x
Mike Pruitt, Albemarle	x	Gretchen Thomas, TJPDC	x
NON-VOTING MEMBERS		**GUESTS/PUBLIC**	
Grant Sparks, DRPT	x	Katy Miller, DRPT *	x
		James Freas, City of Charlottesville	x
		Garland Williams, CAT	x
		Scott Silsdorf, UTS	x
		Mike Murphy, Jaunt	x
		Zoë Macomber, CAT *	x
		Tonya Swartzendruber, Albemarle	x
		Ben Chambers, Charlottesville	x
		Ann Wall, Albemarle	x
		Sean Tubbs *	x
		Monica Backmon, NVTA *	x
		Peter Krebs, PEC	x
		Amila Tola, NVTA *	x

** Attended virtually*

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Natalie Oschrin called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. Lucinda Shannon called roll. Jen Fleisher noted that Loop de Ville is happening this Sunday, September 28. Natalie Oschrin noted that this weekend is Pride Weekend and the Saturday bike ride will be pride themed. Go to BikeCville.com for more information.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA (MINUTE 3:20)

Motion/Action: Jen Fleisher made a motion to approve the agenda. Mike Pruitt seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

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Telephone (434) 979-7310 ▪ **Fax** (434) 979 1597 ▪ **Virginia Relay Users:** 711 (TDD) ▪ **email:** info@tjpdc.org ▪ **web:** www.tjpdc.org

3. MEETING MINUTES (MINUTE 3:42)

Motion/Action: Mike Pruitt made a motion to approve the August 24, 2026, meeting minutes. Jen Fleisher seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

4. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC (MINUTE 3:58)

Peter Krebs, Piedmont Environmental Commission, says he lives right next to a City school, and while he was a big proponent of expanding the student responsibility zones, he said there are many unintended consequences that the City needs to face. He noticed that there are many single vehicles in the morning for drop-offs and it creates a lot of congestion on the streets. He asked the elected officials to consider what can be done to get more buses to the students. He said while CARTA is considering what transit can do, he asked that the board consider what we used to take for granted and that current parents don't really get to take for granted anymore. He understands there are current challenges in the transit world, he asked that the Board not forget the smallest among us.

5. NEXT STEPS: KEY POLICY QUESTIONS (MINUTE 7:30)

Taylor Lowery said after listening to the Board at the special meeting last month, she said there were a few questions that needed more information. She said there were two prominent themes that emerged from the special meeting: 1) What is CARTA's role in regional transit governance going forward, and 2) what is the legislative and funding proposal and how do we get there? She said the memo covers how staff would possibly be handling that between now and May or June of 2027. (See memo from agenda packet.) Jen Fleisher said the themes outlined are correct. Ms. Lowery said that since those are affirmed, staff has an idea on how to plan out what to expect at future meetings. It was noted that there is still a staff working group with the City and the County. Mr. Pruitt noted that when there is going to be a substantive policy discussion and decisions, the CARTA board needs to be involved and cannot be done/made solely by staff. He said the board needs staff to provide guardrails and experts to help lead decision-making.

6. NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OVERVIEW (MINUTE 13:)

Monica Backmon, NVTA, gave background on the NVTA and the funding streams dedicated to investing in transportation projects that reduce congestion. She covered the NVTA's planning and funding programs including TransAction and their six-year program. She reported that they have nearly $6 billion programmed in 400+ multimodal projects. She continued by giving a general overview of the investments made with that funding. Ms. Blackmon shared all of the collaborative partners which include numerous government entities, including several elected officials.

There was a brief question-and-answer session after the presentation. For additional information, you can find them online at www.TheNoVAAuthority.org. or Northern Virginia Transportation Authority on LinkedIn.

7. AFTON EXPRESS ANNUAL UPDATE (MINUTE 47:30)

Danielle Gannon, Transit Planner with the CSPDC, shared the background on the Afton Express and showed a general service route. She noted that the Afton Express has been running for 5 years. She reported that UVA subsidizes the fares for its employees. She shared the schedule revision project from last year and noted that they created changes that allowed for better alignment with employer

start times, created more even intervals, high demand coverage, express routes, and added a morning trip.

Ms. Gannon shared the FY26 marketing grant milestones. She shared the ridership growth they are seeing now. February and June showed the largest gains.

There was a brief question-and-answer session after the presentation.

8. TRANSIT PROVIDER UPDATES (MINUTE 58:47)

CAT

Garland Williams said their Battery Electric charging infrastructure project is moving along well. They applied for a discretionary grant on the No-Lo Emissions grant program for 4 buses for a total of $5.26 million. He said $4.2 million of that is from federal funding and the rest would be from the City. He said he is hopeful that they will be awarded the funds.

He continued by giving an update on service improvements with numerous routes. He said there will be an updated route schedule for the buses in the next several months.

Mr. Williams said on September 8, he participated in a peer-to-peer session on no-fare transit. He is going to participate in the Governor's Transportation Conference in October. He also said their fuel costs are becoming a major concern for them.

Regarding the parent responsibility zones, CAT is always looking to hire drivers. There are currently five openings, with offers out to four people. Unfortunately, CAT does not have benefits available to part-time drivers and many applicants are looking for a job with benefits.

Jaunt

Mike Murphy said for Jaunt, fuel is also an issue. There is an issue with the DMV deciding that the taxes they are paying need to be rebated instead of being exempt up-front. He may be looking for help from DRPT on that issue.

Jaunt has met a collaboration agreement, they will be interviewing software companies in October and November and he feels sure that there will be a contract for the scheduling software organization sometime in April.

He shared that they have three demo grants currently ongoing.

He said there has been ongoing planning on the Greene County Connect route.

He also said Jaunt is planning a Board retreat in February.

Lastly, he said Jaunt is looking to hire a planner on their staff.

UVA Transit

Scott Silsdorf reported on the service changes for UTS. He said the changes seem to be working well so far. He reported that UVA FlexRide, the on-demand service, is also doing well. Mr. Silsdorf said they got a new delivery of four Carson eJests and noted that the existing eJests are now wrapped. He said these buses are made in Turkey and Jaunt and CAT have a clause that says they must buy American, so that may be a loophole for them to purchase these buses. It was noted by Grant Sparks that there is a waiver for that clause.

Lastly, he said the new parking garage will be open in the next couple of months. He said the Gold and Silver lines will loop through the garage. He said there will be a dedicated bus lane and there is also their first-ever multi-modal "Wahoo Wheels" bicycle garage. He is not certain when that will be open.

Mr. Williams noted that UNC Chapel Hill transit will be visiting and have requested to see CAT and UTS.

Ms. Oschrin said that October 1-8 is "Week without Driving" week. It is about learning about how 1/3 of Americans live without access to driving.

6. ADJOURN

Ms. Oschrin adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

CARTA

November 12, 2026

www.gowata.org

WATA
Williamsburg Area Transit Authority

AGENDA

WATA by the Numbers

Service Details

History of WATA

State Charter

Organizational Structure

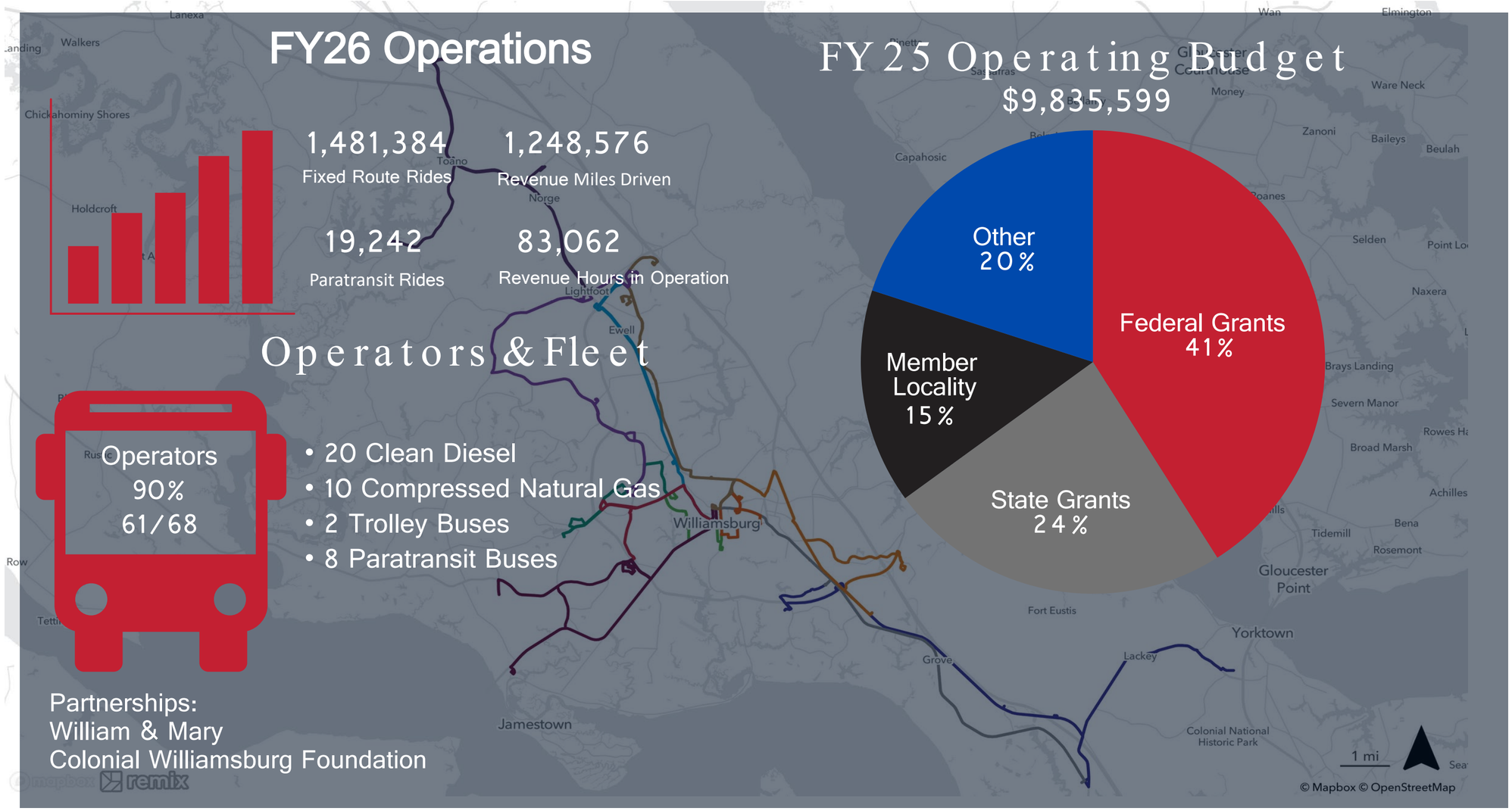
Budget & Funding Structure

Separate Service Agreements

Service Expansion Considerations

Friction Points / Lessons Learned

WATA by the Numbers

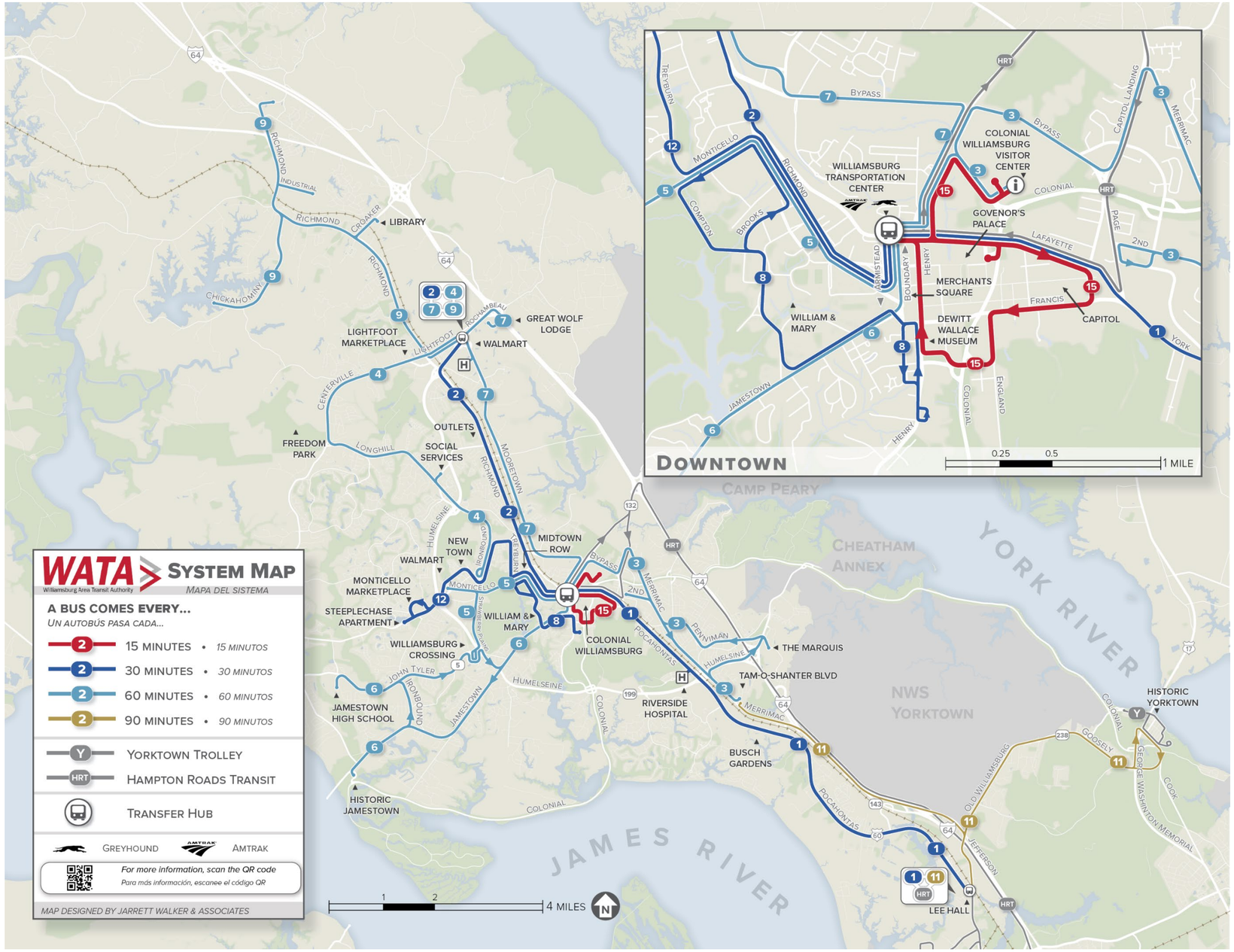


Who We Serve	Population Supported	Jobs Reached	Square Miles Covered	Routes	Bus Stops
James City County Williamsburg York County	>110.000	37,000	75	12	288

SERVICE

WATA provides service to residents and visitors of James City County, the City of Williamsburg, and north York County.

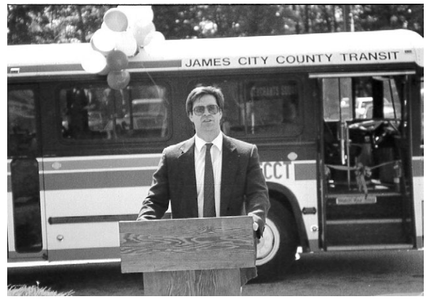
- 12 routes total
  - 10 core routes
  - 2 specialty routes
- Paratransit Service (PTS)
  - Within ¾ of a mile bus routes
- Hours of Operation
  - Mon – Sat: 6:00am – 9:00pm
  - Sun: 8:00am – 6:00pm
  - Route 8 (W&M): Mon - Fri, 7am-9pm)
- Fare:
  - $1.50 per ride ($3 PTS)
  - $3 all day
  - Student Liberty Fare
  - Reduced weekly & monthly rates



History of WATA: JCCT and WAT

1977

James City County Transit (JCCT) established





1996

JCCT renamed Williamsburg Area Transport (WAT); incorporates Williamsburg and York County





2002

Contracted services with W&M begins

2006

General Assembly creates WATA as a political subdivision of the Commonwealth

Member Organizations:

- James City County
- York County
- City of Williamsburg

2008

WATA begins operations

Contracted Services:

- Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
- William & Mary



WATA
Williamsburg Area Transit Authority

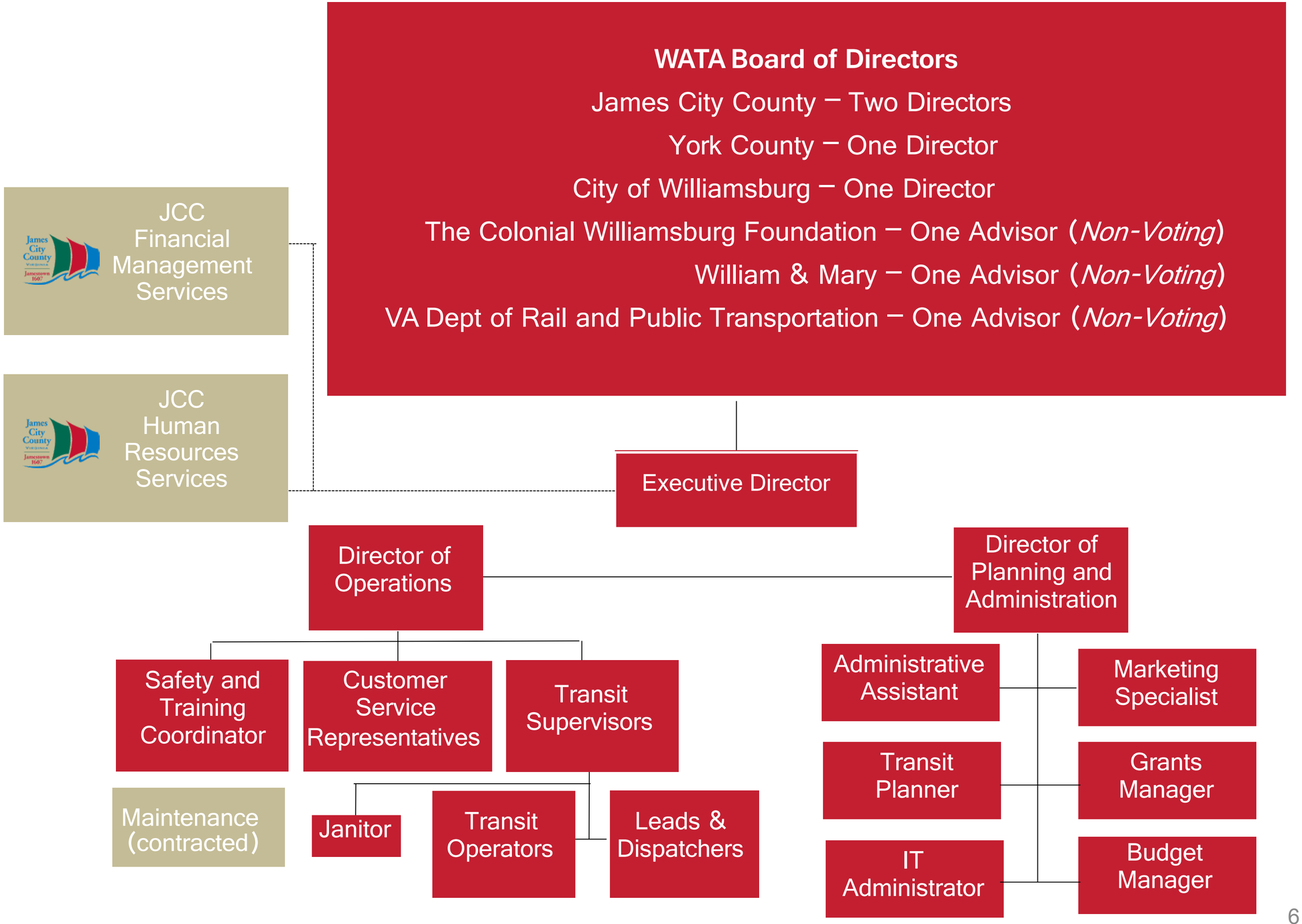
State Charter &
Cooperative Service Agreement

Code of Virginia, Title 33.2. Subtitle IV

Chapter 33 Williamsburg Area Transit Authority

- There is hereby created a political subdivision of the Commonwealth known as the Williamsburg Area Transit Authority, hereinafter known as "the Authority.“
- The Authority shall prepare a regional transit plan for all or a portion of the areas located within the jurisdictional boundaries of each member locality. The regional transit plan may include all or portions of those areas within the City of Williamsburg, the County of James City and such portions of York County as its governing body desires to have covered, and the areas owned or operated by the College of William and Mary in Virginia and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, including transit improvements of regional significance, and those improvements necessary or incidental thereto, and the Authority shall from time to time revise and amend the plan.
- Two members representing James City County; One member representing York County; and One member representing the City of Williamsburg.
- In addition, the county and municipal corporation members may elect up to three additional members to represent the interests of higher-education facilities and private, nonprofit tourist-driven agencies in the Williamsburg area, provided that such member facilities and organizations contribute significant financial resources to the Authority.

Organizational Structure

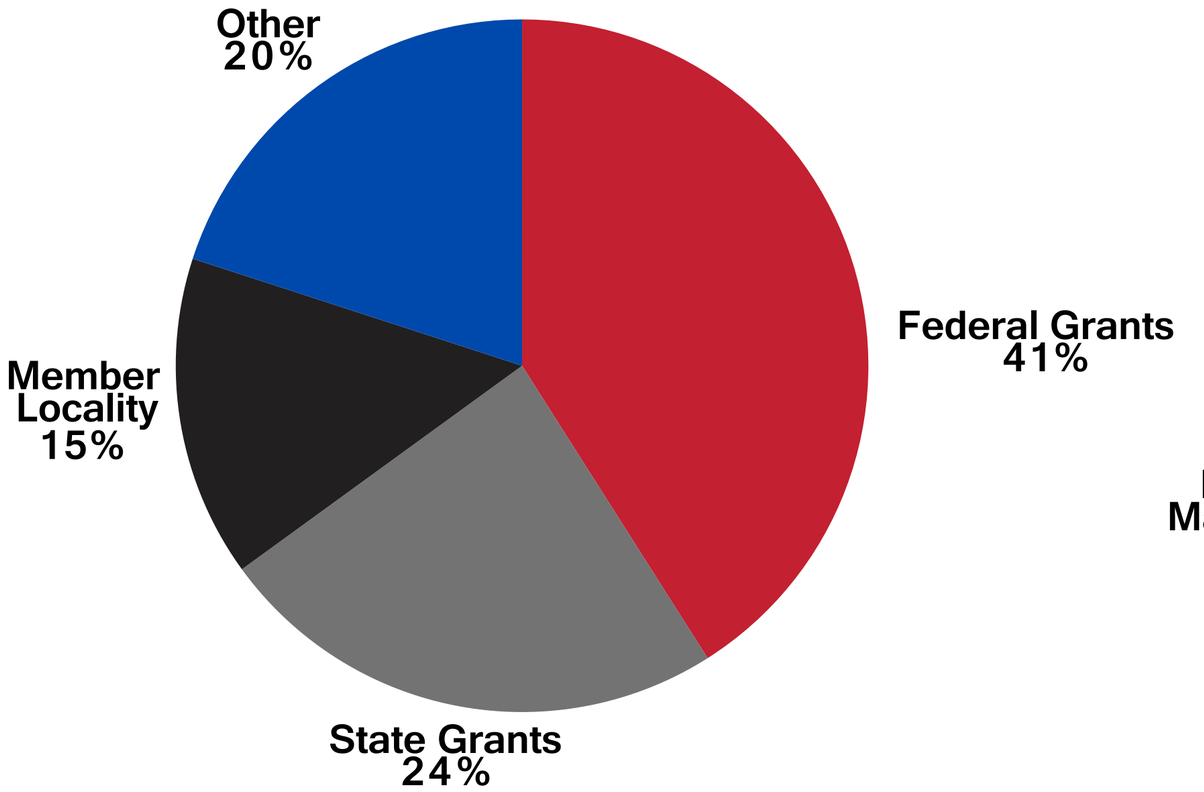

WATA Board of Directors
James City County – Two Directors
York County – One Director
City of Williamsburg – One Director
The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation – One Advisor (*Non-Voting*)
William & Mary – One Advisor (*Non-Voting*)
VA Dept of Rail and Public Transportation – One Advisor (*Non-Voting*)
JCC Financial Management Services
JCC Human Resources Services
Executive Director
Director of Operations
Director of Planning and Administration
Safety and Training Coordinator
Customer Service Representatives
Transit Supervisors
Maintenance (contracted)
Janitor
Transit Operators
Leads & Dispatchers
Administrative Assistant
Marketing Specialist
Transit Planner
Grants Manager
IT Administrator
Budget Manager

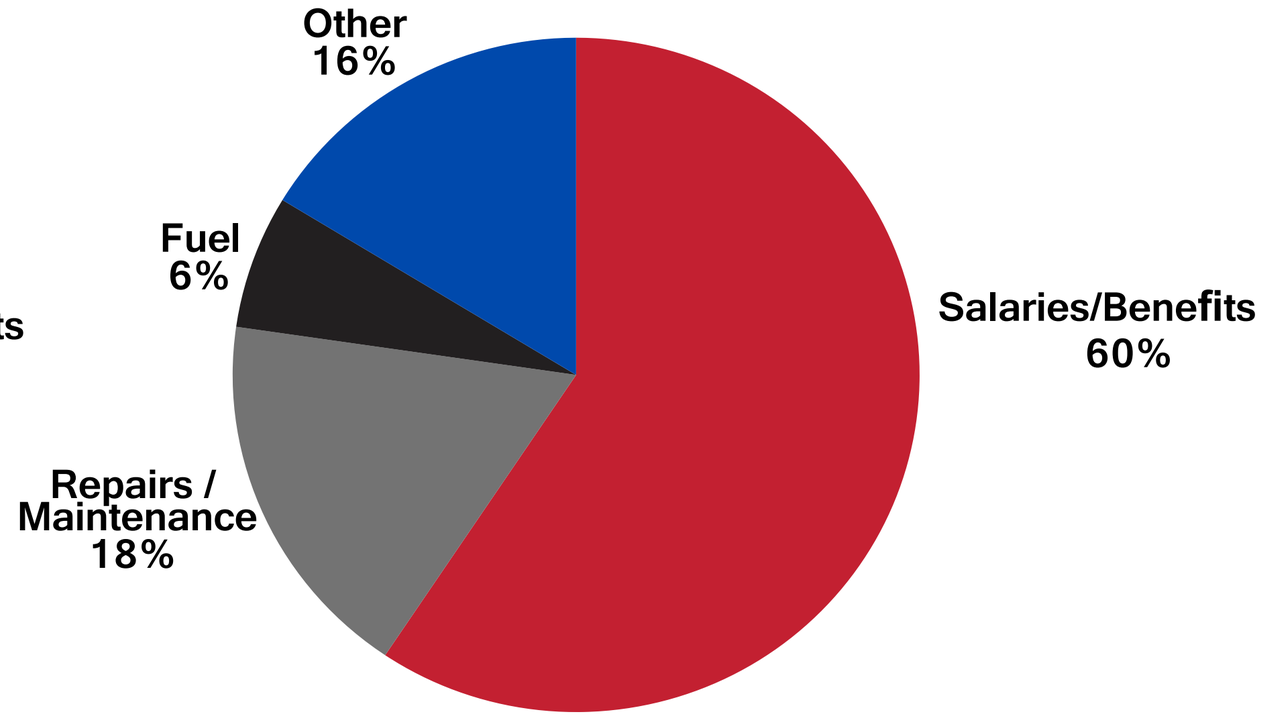
Budget & Funding Structure

- Operating Budget (Revenues & Expenses)
- Cooperative Service Agreement
- Transit Strategic Plan

FY25 Operating Budget

$9,835,599





- Federal/State grants require a local match between 4-50%
- Managing the local match is both a science and an art

Cooperative Service Agreement

By and among WATA, James City County, York County and the City of Williamsburg

- The Authority shall perform once every five (5) years, a comprehensive operation analysis which will be used to determine the percentage of operations that is attributable to each Member Jurisdiction.
- The Operation Analysis shall take into account, but not be limited to the following factors:
  - number of resident riders in each Member Jurisdiction
  - number of visitor riders in each Member Jurisdiction
  - entry and exit points of riders,
  - lane miles in each Member Jurisdiction,
  - hours of service in each Member Jurisdiction,
  - and any other factors the Board deems to be reasonable in determining the composition of ridership and actual service provided to each Member Jurisdiction.
- The Authority shall adjust the allocation of costs among the Member Jurisdictions for any Fiscal Year based on the results of the Operation Analysis.

2024 Transit Strategic Plan

Operational Analysis for Local Funding / Cost Sharing

The TSP process reviewed the old funding formula (based on route miles/jurisdiction) and developed a new cost allocation formula primarily based on **revenue service hours**.

The new formula calculated using the following methodology:

1. The distance that every route runs in each jurisdiction was measured.
2. The percentage of each route in each jurisdiction was calculated.
3. This percentage was applied to the total annual revenue hours of every route to determine how many revenue hours are in each jurisdiction for every route.
4. Revenue hours were added by jurisdiction.
5. The total percentage of revenue hours per jurisdiction was calculated and applied to the local funding needed.

Route 15 (Colonial) is a specialty route with a funding allocation based on route purpose. (50/33/17%)

Service Agreements with W&M and CWF

William & Mary:

- Route paid for by W&M to serve campus
- Requests level of service, reviewed and updated annually
- WATA bills separately for student/faculty/staff use of other routes

Colonial Williamsburg Foundation:

- Seven-year agreement approved in 2023 set service levels and route
- Addition of a stop to connect with other WATA routes
- CWF's financial contribution reduces annually to $0 by final year
- Localities share remaining costs of the service

Service Expansion Considerations

- Proposal initiated by:
  - Public interest
  - Request by Member jurisdiction
- Planning to include:
  - Draft service plan (route, frequency, hours)
  - Public survey and comment of draft plan
  - Resource requirements & costs
- Board Approval
- Acquisition of Resources
  - Operators / staff
  - Funding

Lessons Learned & Friction Points

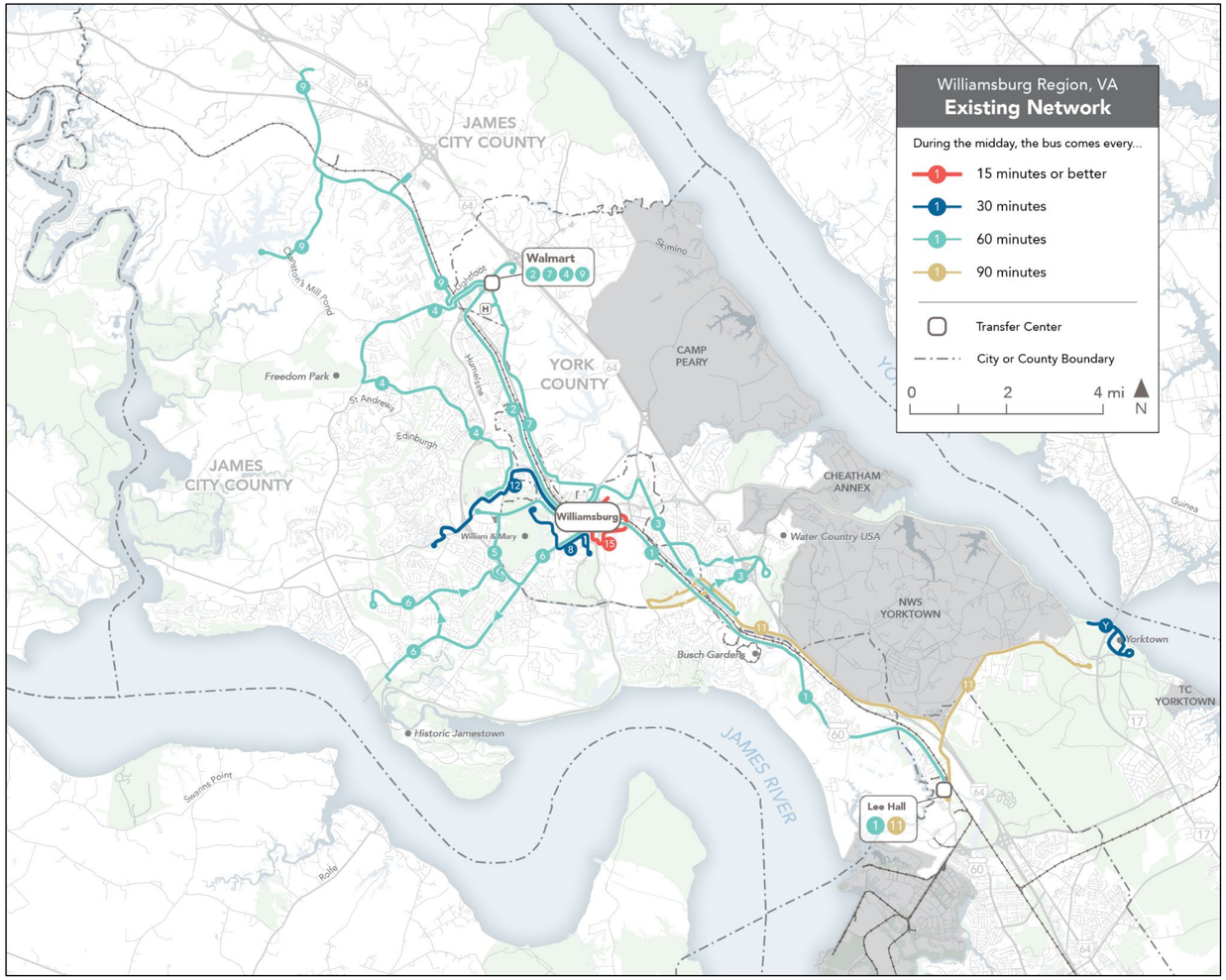
- Four localities, four separate visions/priorities, four budget requests
  - vs. WATA's Transit Strategic Plan
- Urban vs. Rural Service Area
  - Federal 5311 (Rural) < 50,000 population ≤ 5307 (Urban) funding
  - Red vs. Blue
- Lack of dedicated local funding source

Questions

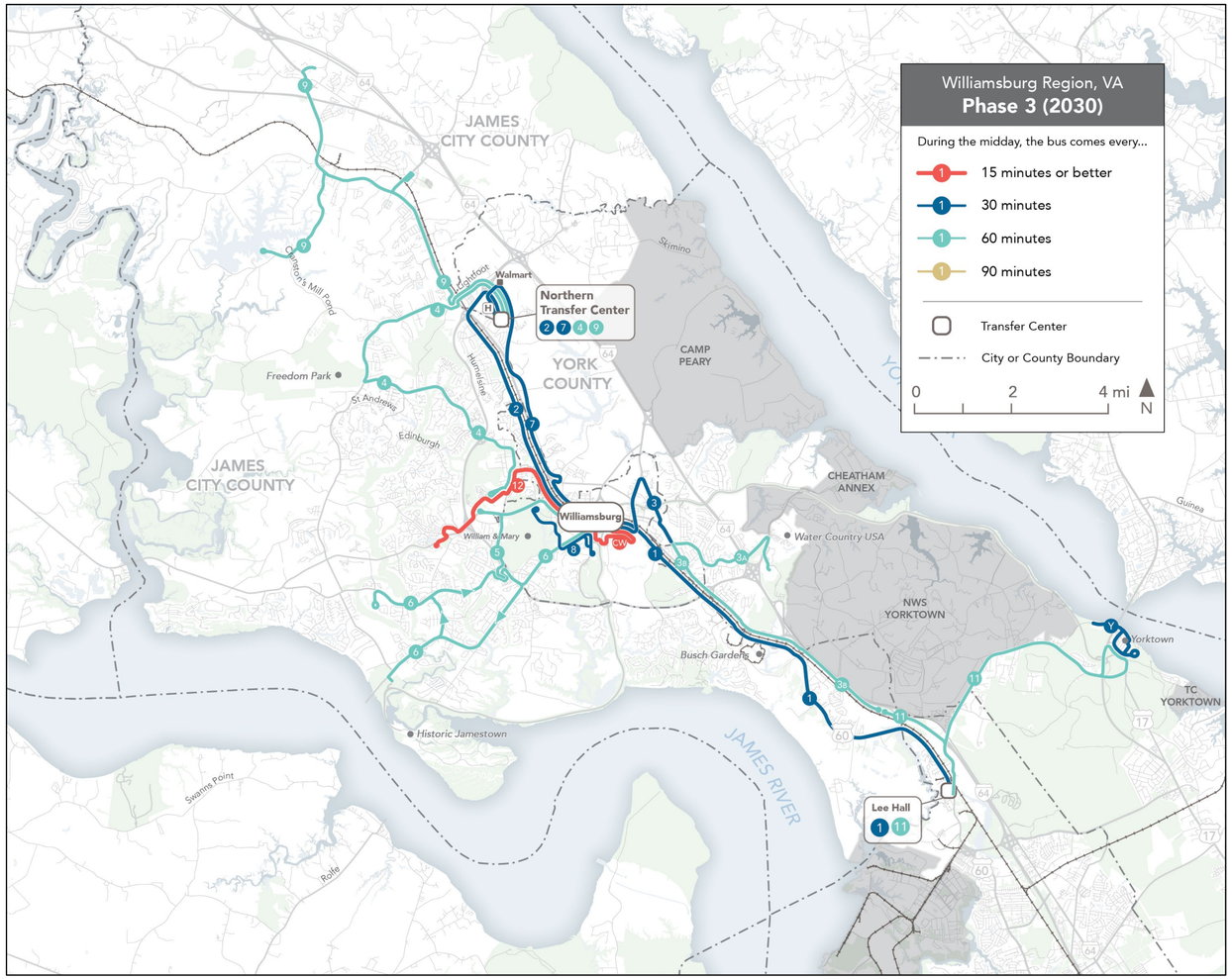
TRANSIT STRATEGIC PLAN

3 Phases, 2027-2030

Previous Network



Future Network



Details:

Increased frequency of 5 routes:

- 2 Routes of 15-min frequency (+1)
- 5 Routes of 30-min frequency (+3)
- 5 Routes of 60-min frequency (+1)

Benefits:

- 97% more jobs reached in 45 minutes
- Frequency → Access → Expanded Opportunities → Ridership → Economic Stimulus