

COAST



OVER 35 YEARS ON THE ROAD

Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation

Forum Agenda

- Introductions
- COA Overview and Service Concept Goals
- Proposed System Redesign Concept
- Timeline and Calendar Moving Forward
- Questions and Answers



How does COAST best meet the changing public transit needs of the region with decreased funds?

- Initiated a full review of our services based on the coming end to a large project resulting in a significant reduction in overall operating funds for COAST.
- Gathered public input about the importance of public transit to the region last fall and winter.
- The feedback has resulted in a more dramatic and creative pivot for the system than originally anticipated.

Goals, Part 1

- Separate local routes from routes making regional connections
- Maintain a minimum of hourly frequencies throughout the day
- Operate weekdays and Saturdays, and maximize the consistency between weekday and Saturday service
- Operate most services until at least 8pm, and later when possible
- Prioritize hourly frequencies evenly spread across the day

Goals, Part 2

- Only add additional commuter-focused service if/when the hourly frequency goal is met
- Use all funding that can pay for operations to maximize the amount of services operated vs. adding conveniences (e.g., shelters)
- Prioritize fixed route service throughout the system vs. advance reservation services
- Operate within limited available revenues

Route Names

- Routes that remain much as they are today remain named similarly (e.g., Route 1 or Route 40)
- Routes that are new or represent only portions of a current route are identified using geographic descriptions (e.g., Rochester/Dover local or Junkins line)
- The names we are using now are temporary. When we move to implementation all routes will be named using a route # just like today

Proposed System Benefits

Customer Service

- Significantly reduces travel times for the longest trips (by more than 55%)
- Improves timely connections between routes makes regional travel easier
- Hourly frequencies on most routes
- Clockface scheduling on most routes
- Extends service coverage to identified areas
- Maintains current daily span of service

Cost Efficiencies

- Overall cost reduction
- Greater flexibility to operate routes only when sufficient demand exists
- Makes better use of downtime and bus movements to maximize revenue services
- Eliminates service to some of the lowest ridership areas
- Reduces peak vehicle requirement and associated costs

A More Efficient Network

Timeline/Calendar

Late May/Early June

2nd round of Public Forums to solicit broad public input on conceptual plan for system

Summer

Staff planning based on 2nd round of public input and feedback. Initiate fare review.

September

Public Forums on Fare Considerations and Proposed System redrafts (*contingent on funding decisions*)

Timeline/Calendar

Mid-Fall/Early Winter	Public Hearings on Proposed Service Plan and Fare Considerations
Spring 2020	Design and implement marketing plan
July 2020	Transition to new redesigned system
January 2021	Report out on the first six months of operations

Questions?



42 Sumner Drive
Dover, NH 03820
603.743.5777

COAST

We champion and provide customer-focused public transportation with a commitment to excellence in safety and service.