

SEPTA Forward:

SEPTA Bus Revolution

Virtual Community Conversation:

Northwest Philadelphia

Agenda

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Intro to SEPTA's Bus Revolution
- 3 Draft Bus Network
- 4 Q&A
- 5 Next Steps



Your ride is about
to get easier.

See how SEPTA's bus network is changing!



Welcome



1

Ice Breaker time!

Share in the chat:

Your name and neighborhood

Registration Question:

What bus route(s) do you take most frequently?

- 27 – Broad & Carpenter to Plymouth Meeting Mall
- 9 – 4th & Walnut to Andorra
- 32 – Broad & Carpenter to Ridge & Lyceum
- 23 – Center City to Chestnut Hill
- 65 – Germantown & Cheltenham to 69th St. TC
- XH – Broad & Erie to Cheltenham & Ogontz (via Washington Ln)
- H – Broad & Erie to Cheltenham & Ogontz (via Mt Pleasant Ave)

Route	Count
27	157
9	129
32	27
23	22
65	15
XH	15
H	15
53	8
61	7

SEPTA bus routes cited most among 226 registrants, as of 11/22/22

Purpose of our Conversation Today

We're here together to:

- Catch you up on the Bus Revolution
- Discuss how Draft Network would affect travel in Northwest Philly
 - Presentation & Interactive Map
 - Polling questions
 - Q&A – Ask us about your route! (Q&A box)

Ground rules:

- Please remain muted to avoid accidental interruptions.
- Comment any time in the Chat box.
- Post your questions in the Q&A box.
- When posting questions, try to keep them concise, so we can get to as many as possible.

SEPTA's Bus Revolution



2

What is Bus Revolution

A stylized diagram of a bus network. It features several colored lines (purple, red, yellow, teal, grey) connecting various nodes (circles and stars) in a networked pattern. The nodes are scattered across the diagram, with some lines being straight and others slightly curved or angled.

**“Blank Slate”
redesign of
SEPTA’s fixed-
route bus
network**



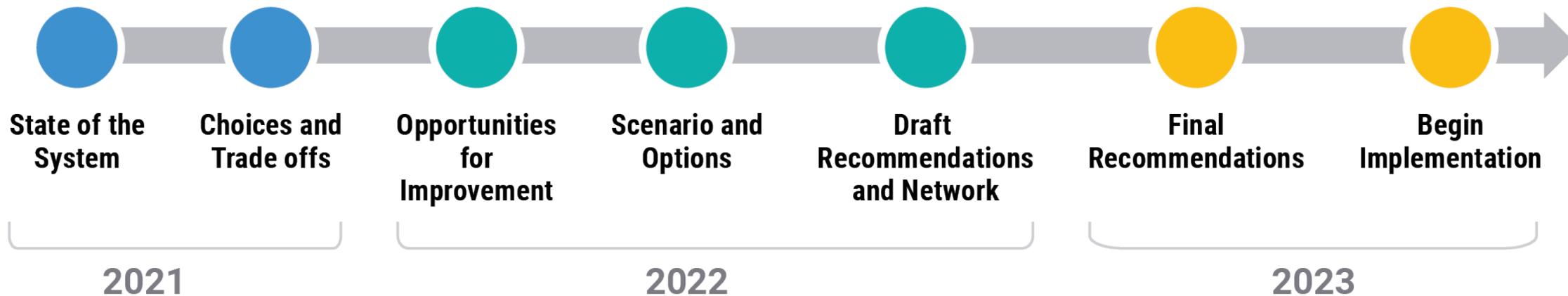
Why Now?

- SEPTA Forward all working together towards a more fully integrated network serving a wide variety of trips
- SEPTA has never looked at its network comprehensively before
- Between 2013 & 2019 – ridership dropped 13% but operating costs went up 10%
- Elimination of transfer penalty in 2020 offers opportunity to rethink how people can use the system
- Bus ridership is 30-40% below pre-COVID levels

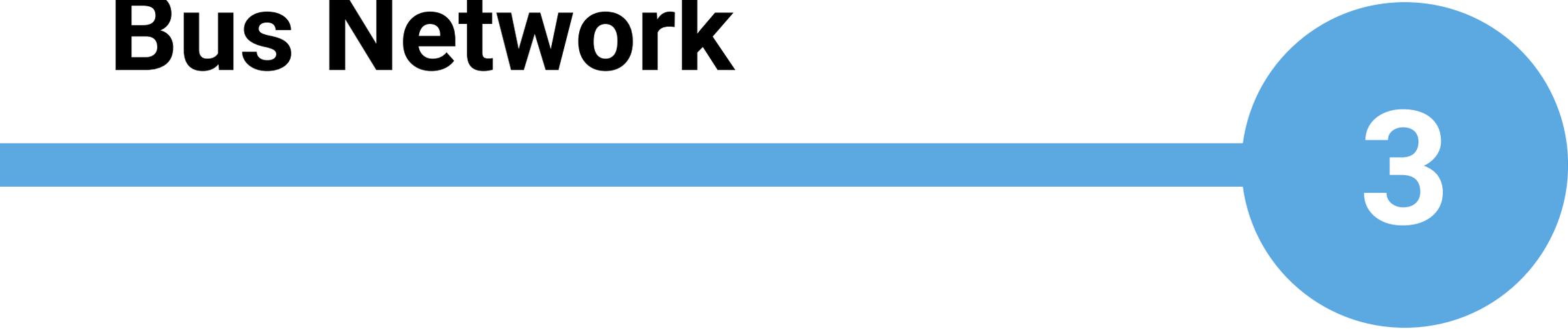


Project Approach

We are here

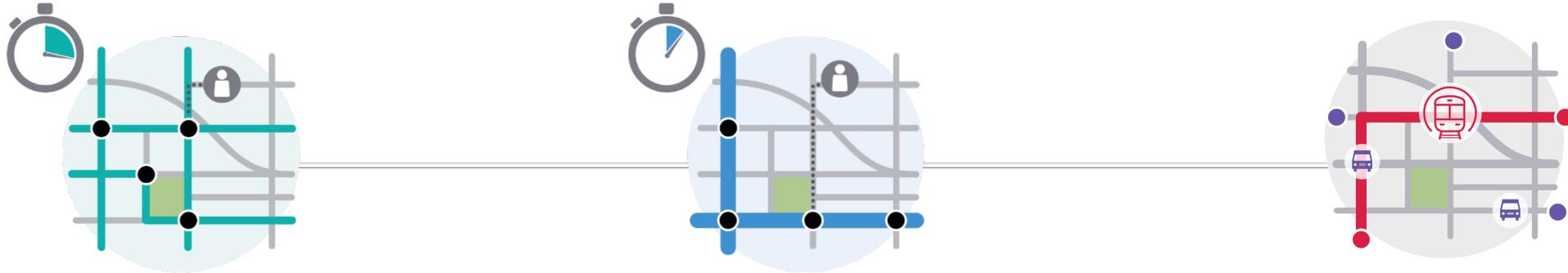


Introducing the Draft Bus Network

A thick blue horizontal line extends from the left edge of the slide to a blue circle on the right. Inside the circle is the white number 3.

3

SEPTA's Draft Bus Network: Strategic Approach



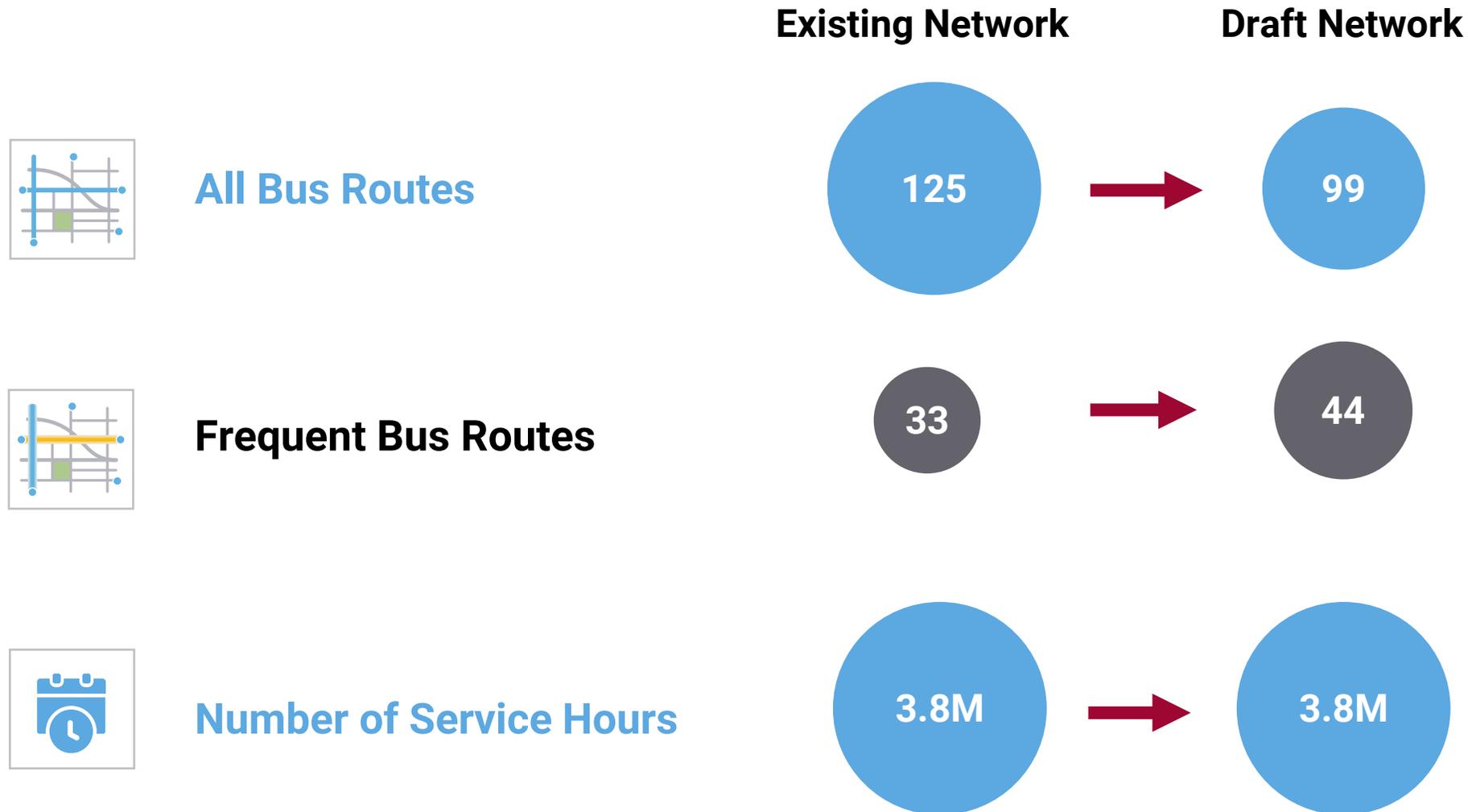
- **More frequent bus service** - all day, every day

- **More consistent schedules**

- Straighter, more **direct bus routes**

- **Better connections** to other SEPTA services

Bus Revolution Draft Network



Draft Bus Network

Includes:

Overall fewer routes

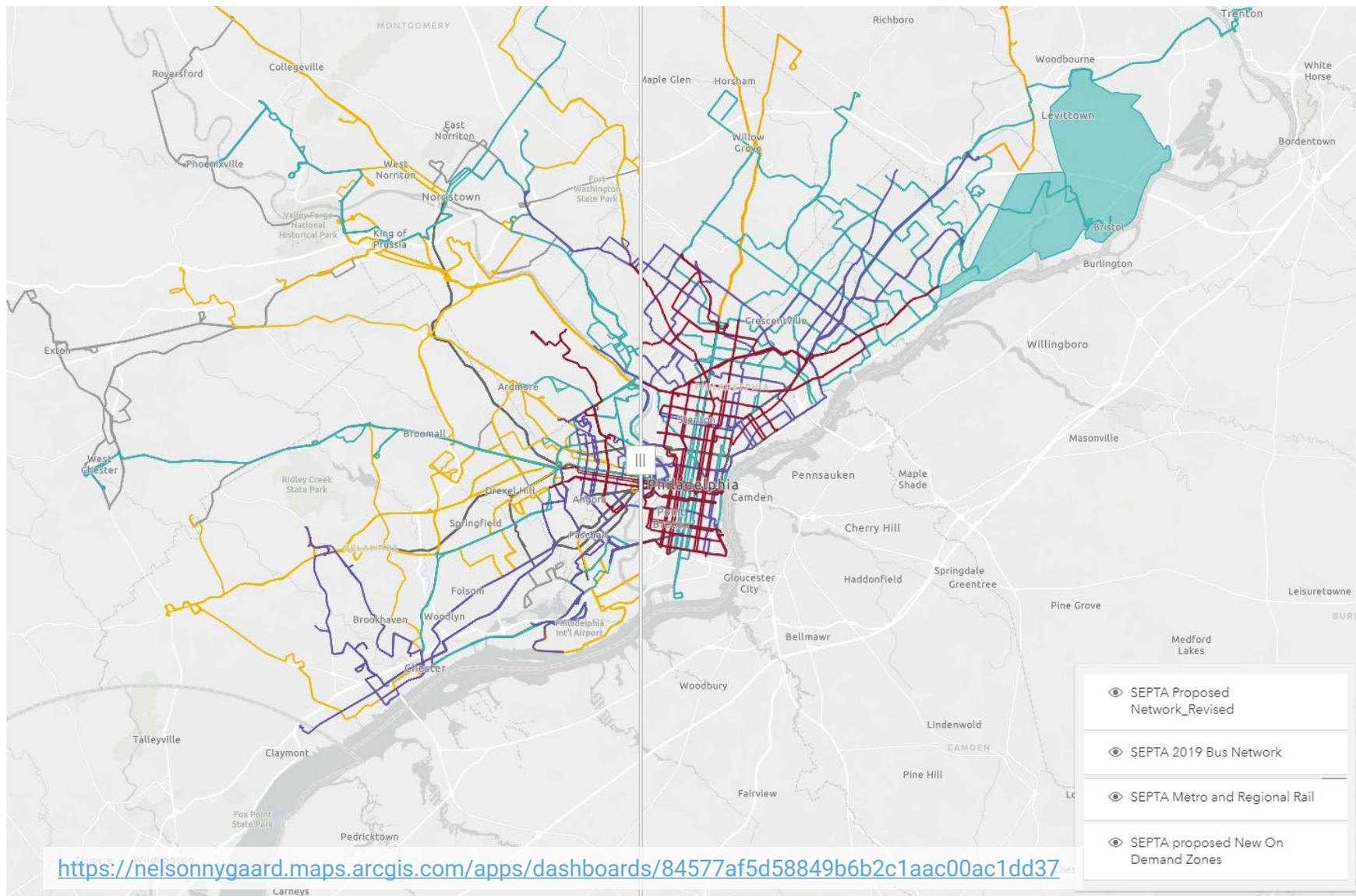
Straighter lines

More red & green routes

Fewer gold routes

Looks more like a grid

On-demand transit zones



Understanding the MAX Series

- The Bus Revolution uses the “MAX series” to talk about bus routes.
- MAX means the maximum time between buses. For example, a 10 MAX route will arrive at least every 10 minutes.
- All bus routes are described as:
 - 10 MAX
 - 15 MAX
 - 30 MAX
 - 60 MAX

} **Frequent Bus Service**

 10 MAX	 Metro
 15 MAX	 Trolley
 30 MAX	 Regional Rail
 60 MAX	 Microtransit Zone

Bus Revolution defines a “frequent” bus route as one that **operates every 15 minutes or better.**



Upper Northwest Philadelphia



4

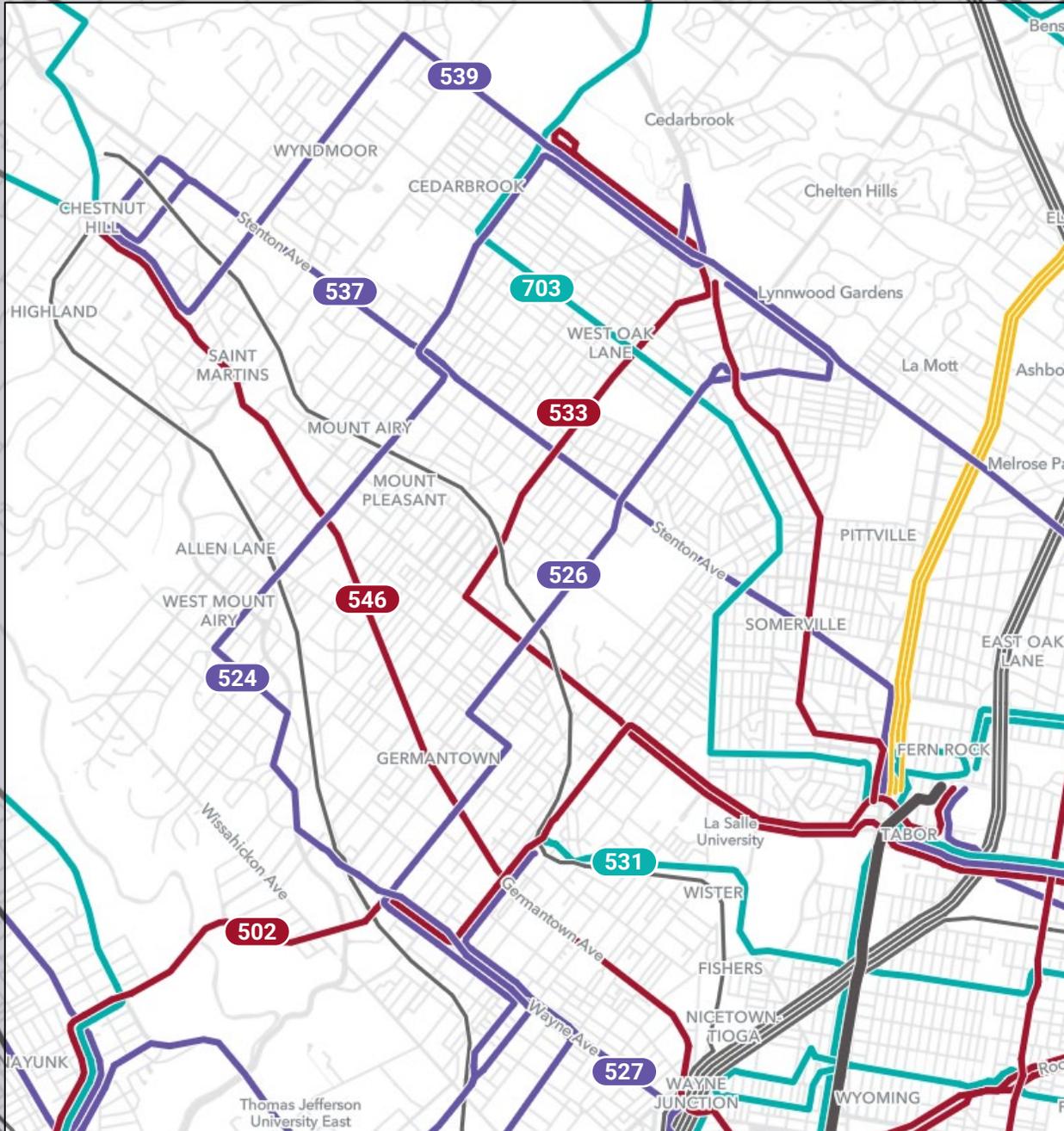
Upper Northwest

Highlights

- Most routes have all-day frequent service, 7 days/week
- Consistent schedules throughout the day
- More regional connections to WTC, FTC, and 69th Street
- Simplified and straighter alignments
- Consolidated service on some streets

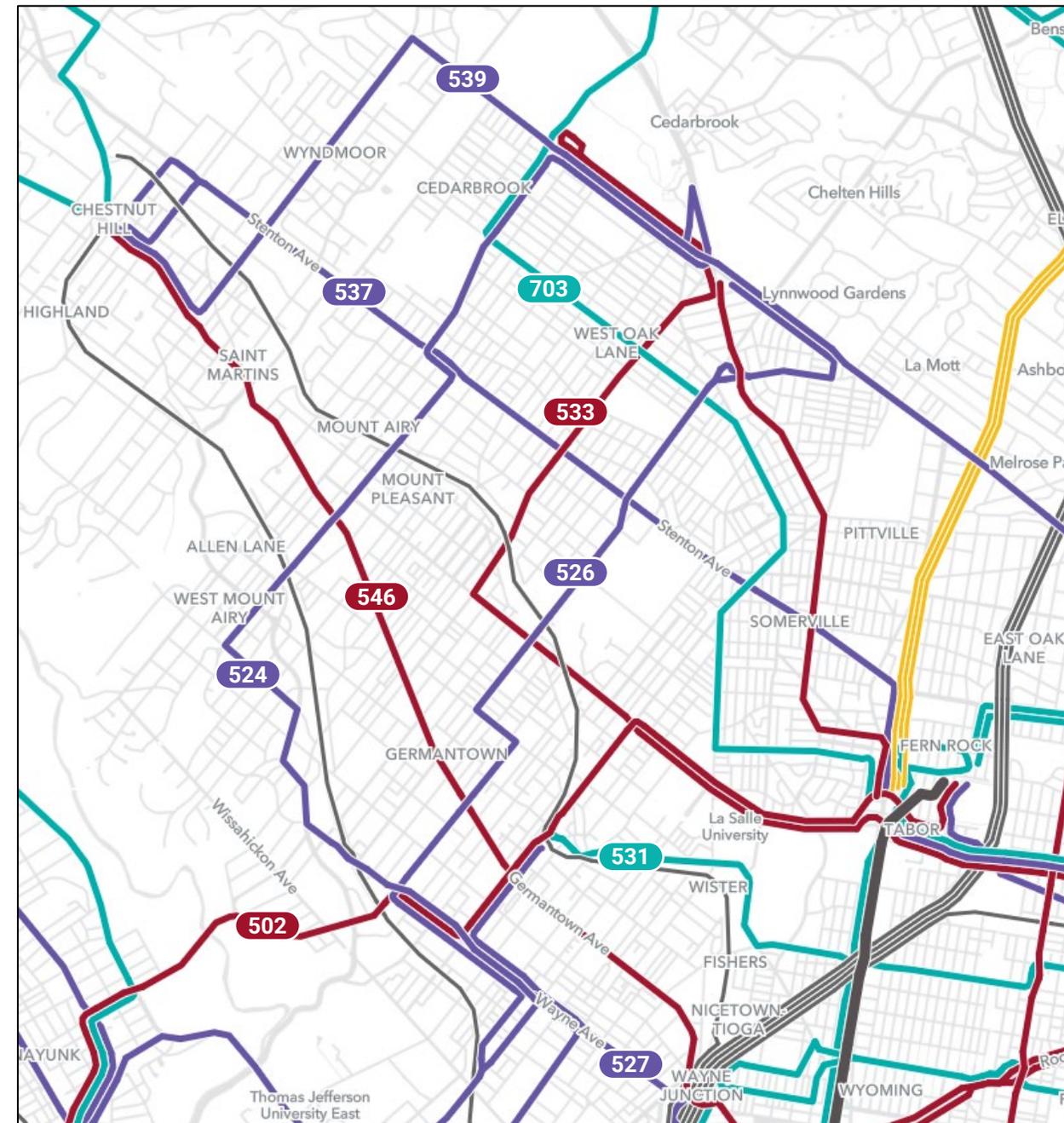
Bus Routes Serving the Upper Northwest

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| • 502 (65) | • 537 (L) |
| • 524 (H) | • 539 (New) |
| • 526 (K & XH) | • 546 (23) |
| • 527 (53) | • 548 (6) |
| • 531 (J) | • 703 (New) |
| • 533 (8 & 18) | |



Major Changes

- **10 MAX 546**
 - Same as existing Route 23 with simpler, more consistent schedule with similar frequencies
- **15 MAX 526**
 - New route with frequent connection from Cheltenham to Wissahickon
- **15 MAX 524**
 - Similar as Route H but operates on Wayne Avenue instead of Greene Street
 - Simpler, more consistent scheduling and more frequency
- **15 MAX 537**
 - Similar as Route L but ends at Germantown



Lower Northwest Philadelphia



4

Lower Northwest Philadelphia

Highlights

- New regional connections to Norristown, Olney / Fern Rock, and 69th Street
- Consistent schedules throughout the day
- Simplified and straighter alignments
- Consolidated service on some streets

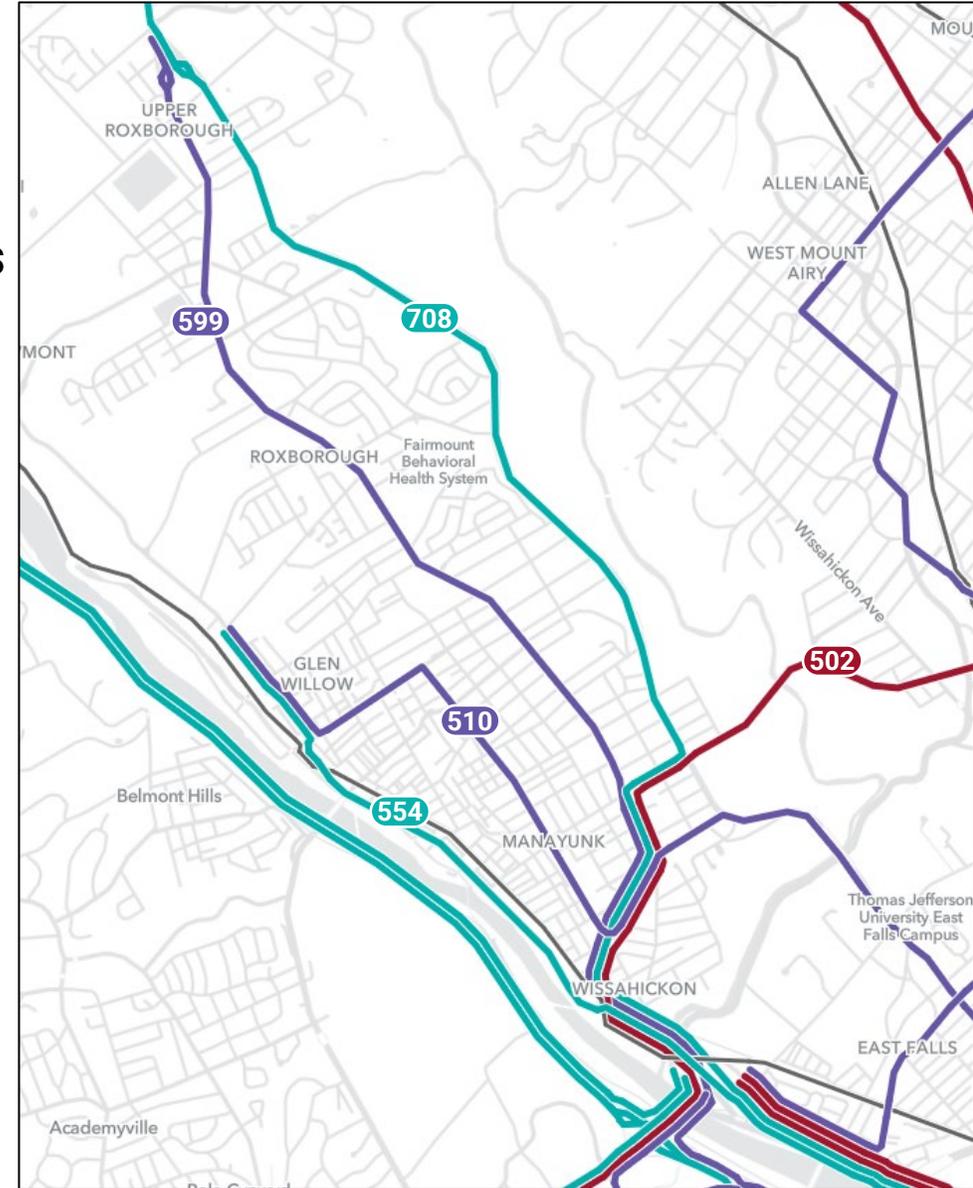
SEPTA Bus Routes Serving Roxborough/Manayunk

- 502 (65)
- 510 (32)
- 554 (61)
- 599 (9)
- 708 (27)



What We've Heard

- Bus Revolution has received over 3,000 comments
- **Nearly 60% of comments are about four SEPTA bus routes**
 - Route 9 - 4th-Walnut to Andorra
 - Route 27 – Broad-Carpenter to Plymouth Meeting Mall
 - Route 32 – Broad-Carpenter to Ridge Lyceum
 - Route 49 – 33rd-Dauphin to 29th-Snyder
- **Key concerns**
 - Reduction in service levels overall
 - Elimination of direct connections to Center City
 - Elimination of direct connections to University City
 - Requiring a transfer at 30th Street Station



Potential Solutions

- Taking another look at the underlying demand and transit markets
 - Transit ridership / existing demand
 - Travel patterns
- Looking at adding back direct connections to Center City and University City
 - **Roxborough-Manayunk to Center City**
 - Frequent route on local streets into Center City
 - Express service into Center City
 - **Direction connection to Upper Roxborough from Norristown**
 - Via Metroplex

Polling Questions

Log in to www.menti.com

2276 4633

<https://www.menti.com/alkodni9znc3>



Learn More



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How to Learn More

1. Talk to us at an open house
2. Participate in a virtual meeting
3. Visit the website
4. Invite the Bus Revolution team to one of your meetings



Tell us what you think.



**See What Other Updates
We're Proposing**



**Attend a Community
Open House**



**Join an Upcoming
Online Meeting**

Talk to Us at an Open House

Date	Location
10/18 Tue	Montgomery County-Norristown Library
10/19 Wed	Phoenixville Rec Center
10/20 Thu	American Legion #366 (Fox Chase)
10/25 Tue	Vogt Rec Center
10/26 Wed	Cliveden Carriage House
10/28 Fri	Finnegan Rec Center
11/3 Thu	Peak Center - North Penn Commons
11/3 Thu	Chester City Hall
11/5 Sat	East Passyunk Community Center
11/9 Wed	Lucien Blackwell Community Center

Date	Location
11/10 Thu	Bucks County Community College (Bristol)
11/10 Thu	Kingsessing Rec Center
11/12 Sat	Upper Darby Free Library Municipal Branch
11/15 Tue	Lower Merion Administration Building
11/16 Wed	Indian Valley Public Library
11/16 Wed	The Liacouras Center
11/29 Tue	Anderson Hall (6361 Lancaster Ave)
11/30 Wed	Esperanza Arts Center
12/1 Thu	Greater Olney Library
12/6 Tue	Wolcoff Auditorium Roxborough Memorial Hospital (5000 Ridge Avenue)
12/8 Thu	SEPTA, 1234 Market St.

Check for updates at septabusrevolution.com

Virtual Community Conversations

Date and Time	Time	Focus Area
Monday, October 17	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Chester & Delaware Counties
Monday, October 24	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Northeast Philadelphia
Monday, November 7	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Northwest Philadelphia
Monday, November 14	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	South Philadelphia
Monday, November 21	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Bucks & Montgomery Counties
Tuesday, November 22	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Northwest Philadelphia
Monday, November 28	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	West Philadelphia
Monday, December 5	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	North Philadelphia
Monday, December 12	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Center City
Tuesday, December 13	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	River Wards / Kensington

Visit our website



SYSTEM MAP

The SEPTA system map shows all routes color coded by frequency. View the map online or pick up a printed version.



INDIVIDUAL ROUTES

Look up your bus route to see if it's changed. These information sheets show any proposed changes to each specific route, frequency, or schedule.



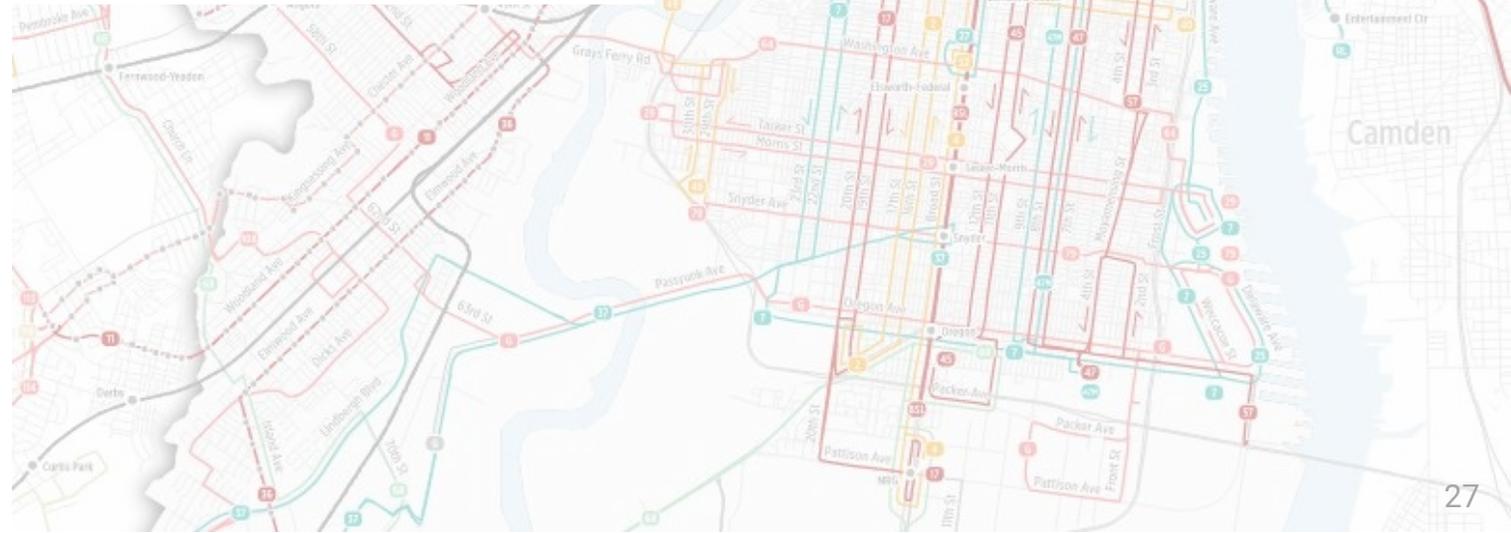
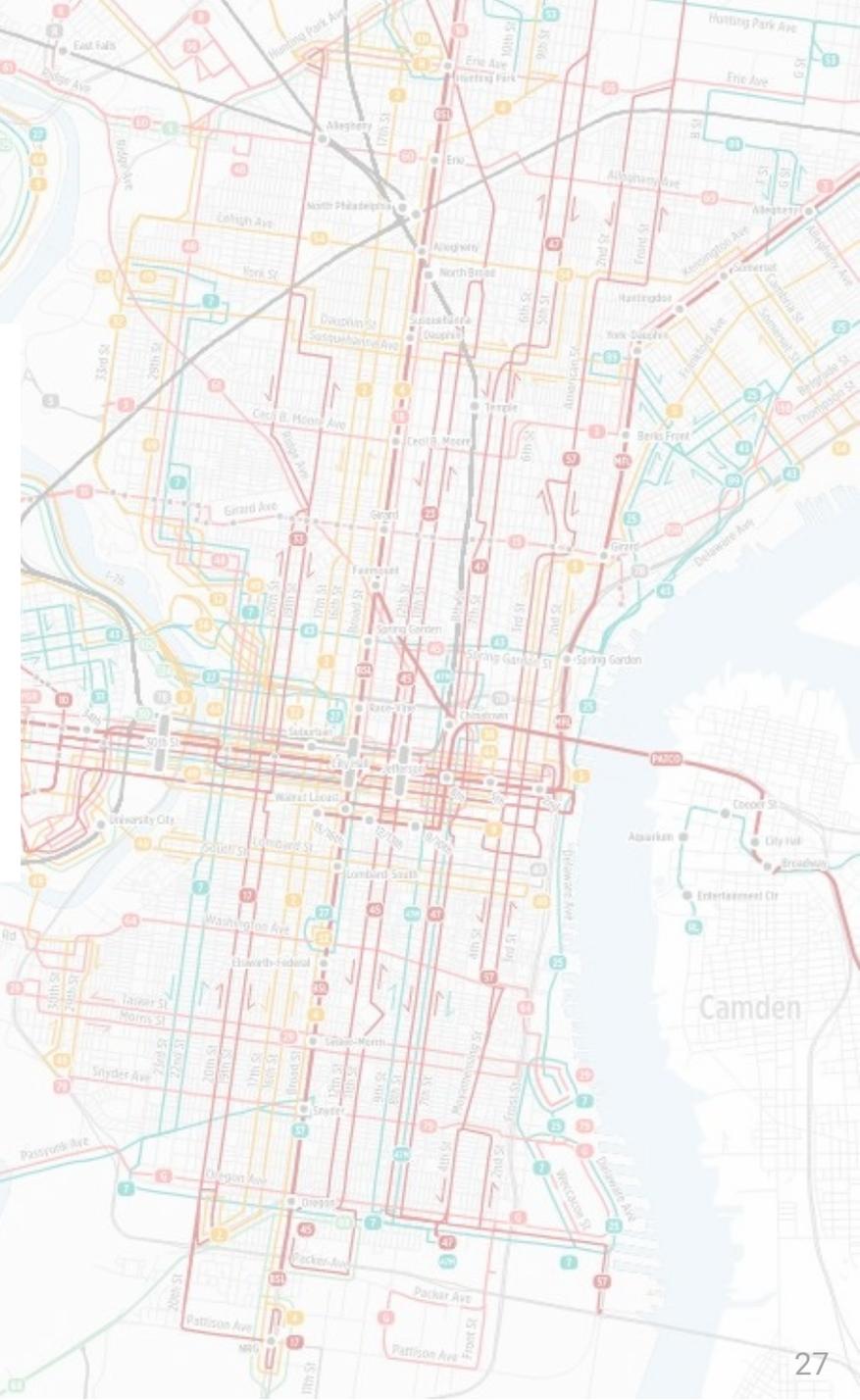
TRANSIT

Compare your current trip with the proposed network in the Transit App.



WEBSITE

Visit **our website** for all this information and more! You'll find more information about the proposed changes and how to give feedback.



**Bus
Revolution**

Your ride is
about to get
more reliable.



Find out what we're proposing.



Other Events

- **Focus groups with specific rider groups**
 - Older adults
 - People with disabilities
 - Spanish and Chinese speakers
 - Parents of school aged children
- **Targeted meetings with specific geographic areas**
 - Places and communities with lots of changes
 - Communities / areas where on-demand (microtransit) service proposed

