Project and Performance Updates

Kevin Quinn, Administrator May 23, 2019



MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

North Avenue Rising



- Project moving from design to construction
 - BCDOT work on Penn-North to start in early June
 - Construction on corridor and station sub-projects to start late summer/early fall
 - Repaving, bus lanes, streetscaping, and enhanced bus stops
 - Elevator repairs, lighting
 - All traffic signal controllers along North Avenue have been replaced for TSP
- Planning underway for community outreach this summer



CharmPass Mobile Ticketing

- Over 97,000 app downloads
- Over \$4.3 million in revenue in 8 months
- Used over 565,000 times since launch on 9/27
- Implementation of SmartBenefits
- 90-minute free transfer window





Dedicated Bus Lanes

- Released report in February
 - Up to 31% time savings; average of 9% per corridor
- MTA Police continues active enforcement efforts
 - Over 5 times as many citations issued in 2019 compared to same time last year
 - Warnings down by over 80 percent
 - Jan Dec 2018: 973 citations
 - Jan Apr 2019: 659 citations
 - On pace to double citation total this year
- 7 additional miles of bus lanes with North Avenue Rising

MTA Police Bus Lane Details, Citations, Warnings, and Arrests



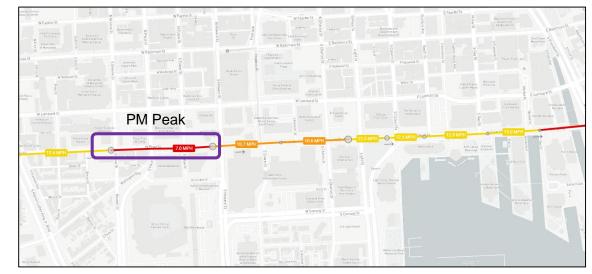
CityLink Navy EB from 2/10-3/9

Dedicated Bus Lane Enforcement

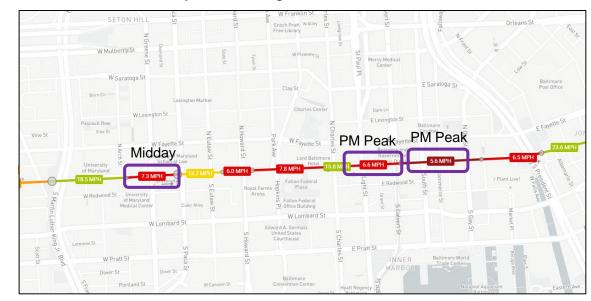
 Targeted enforcement efforts through bus speed measurement

Bus Sneed Analysis for Focused Enforcement

Bus Speed Analysis for Focused Enforcement				
Monday 3/18	Tuesday 3/19	Wednesday 3/20	Thursday 3/21	Friday 3/22
5.48	5.19	5.07	5.28	4.98
5.85	6.52	6.02	7.09	7.16
5.1	7.88	5.9	5.73	8.32
9.56	8.22	7.03	9.37	10.6
6.55	6.27	5.53	6.51	6.71
	Monday 3/18 5.48 5.85 5.1 9.56	Monday 3/18 Tuesday 3/19 5.48 5.19 5.85 6.52 5.1 7.88 9.56 8.22	Monday 3/18 Tuesday 3/19 Wednesday 3/20 5.48 5.19 5.07 5.85 6.52 6.02 5.1 7.88 5.9 9.56 8.22 7.03	Monday 3/18 Tuesday 3/19 Wednesday 3/20 Thursday 3/21 5.48 5.19 5.07 5.28 5.85 6.52 6.02 7.09 5.1 7.88 5.9 5.73 9.56 8.22 7.03 9.37

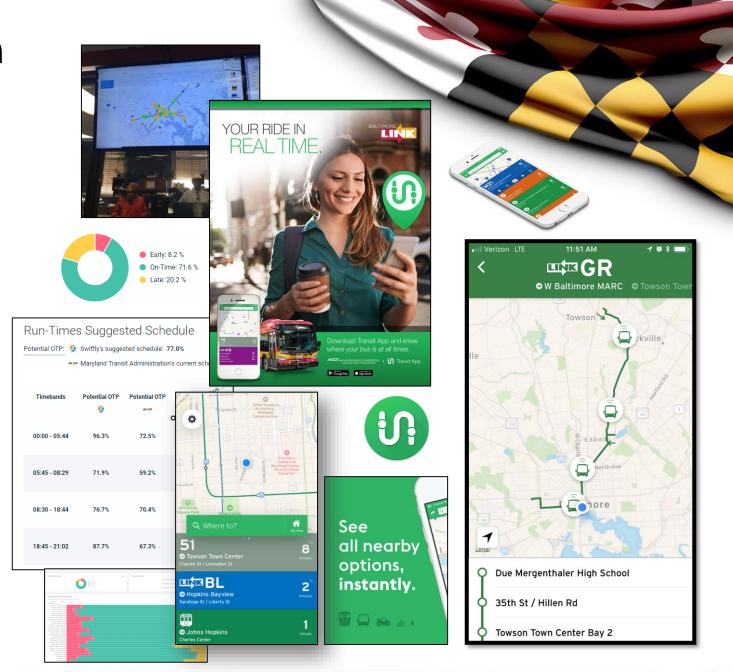


CityLink Orange EB from 2/10-3/9



Real-Time Bus Information

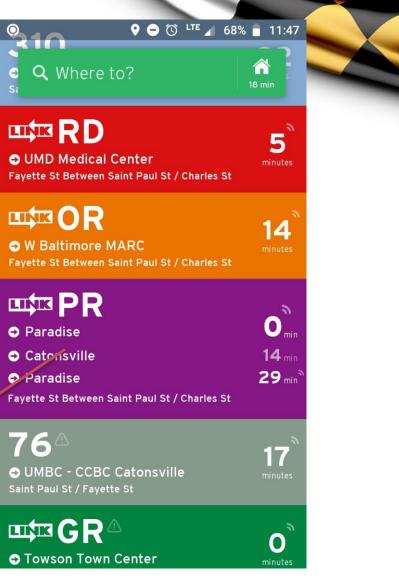
- Partnership with Transit app
 - Provides real-time transit information, simple trip planning, and step-by-step navigation
 - Nearly 175,000 downloads since launching on 6/18/18
- As of April 2019:
 - 30% of riders use Transit app on a given weekday
 - Monthly active users increased by 41% yearover-year
- Most popular routes for Transit app are CityLink Blue, CityLink Pink, and CityLink Orange
 - Over 130,000 taps each month
- Used real-time data for February 2019 Service Change (first time in MDOT MTA history)



Improving Real-Time Communications

- Schedule based arrivals are now greyed out in the Transit App
 - This occurs when:
 - Block has not been assigned on time
 - Cut has not been entered on time
 - Bus is not providing a location (non-pinging)
 - Allows riders to know when their ride is tracking in real-time





Accurate GPS Trackers

- Minimizing "non-pinging" buses in service
- Ensuring GPS tracking software can receive the location of these buses
- Requires coordination with Bus Maintenance team
- Without a signal, there are no real-time predictions in the Transit app

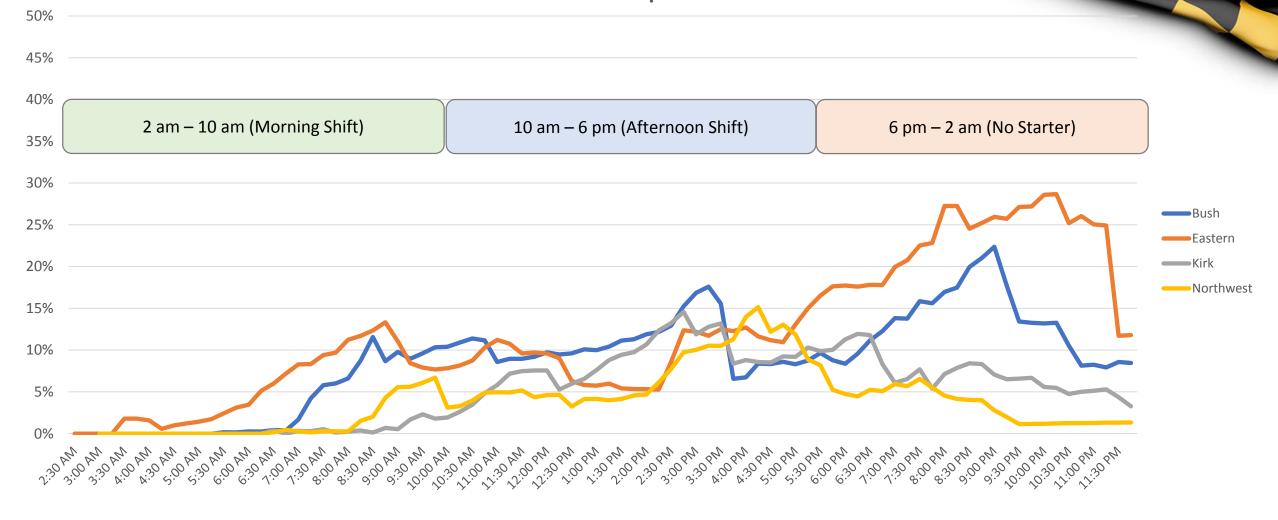
Bus Assignment

- Ensuring each bus is linked to a scheduled block (collection of trips)
- Lets our GPS tracking software know which bus is working on which trip
- Timely bus assignment is key to accurate real-time information in Transit app
- Requires coordination with starters and dispatchers at our bus divisions
 - Staff initially unaware that assignment updates needed to occur quickly
 - There were no starters in the evening shift (6PM-2AM) which meant dispatchers were responsible for assigning buses and operators at the same time

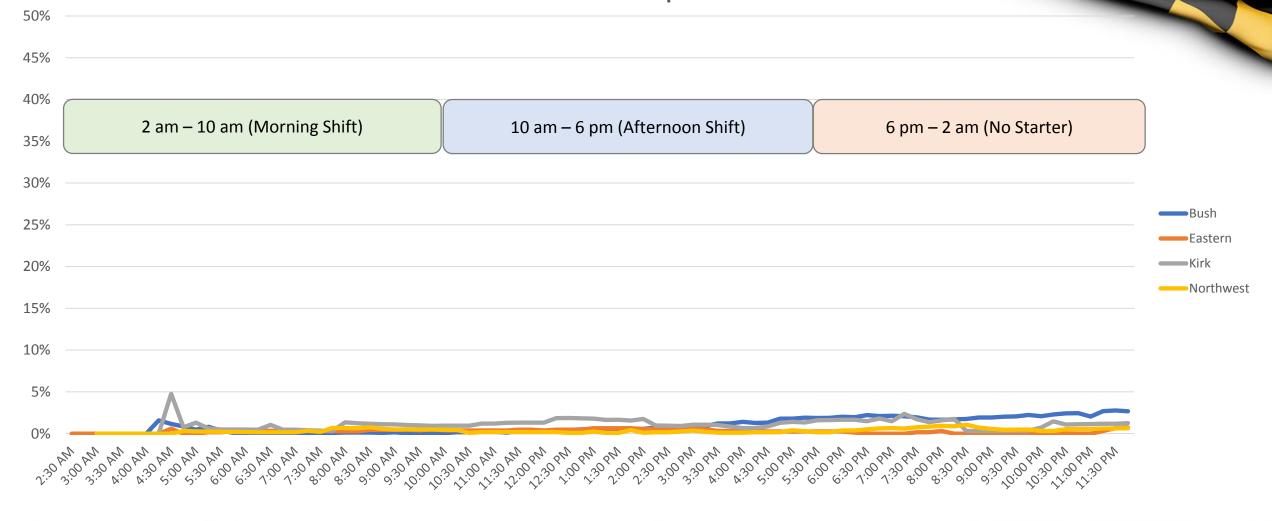
Non-Pinging Buses in Service



Average Percentage of Unassigned Active Blocks by Hour and Division First Week of September 2018



Average Percentage of Unassigned Active Blocks by Hour and Division Last Week of April 2019



Winter 2019 Service Change – Recap

- Focused on reliability improvements
 - Schedule adjustments, layover requirements, and other operational changes
- Used real-time data for first time in agency's history
 - Runtime changes by service day: 43 weekday, 26 Saturday, and 24 Sunday
 - Runtime changes by service type: 11 CityLink, 32 LocalLink, and 9 Express BusLink
- Trip additions
 - 10 routes with additional trips
 - BR, NV, OR, PK, PR, RD, 54, 80, 85, and 87
 - 8 school trips added
 - PR, 21, 22, 29, 31, 91, 94, 95

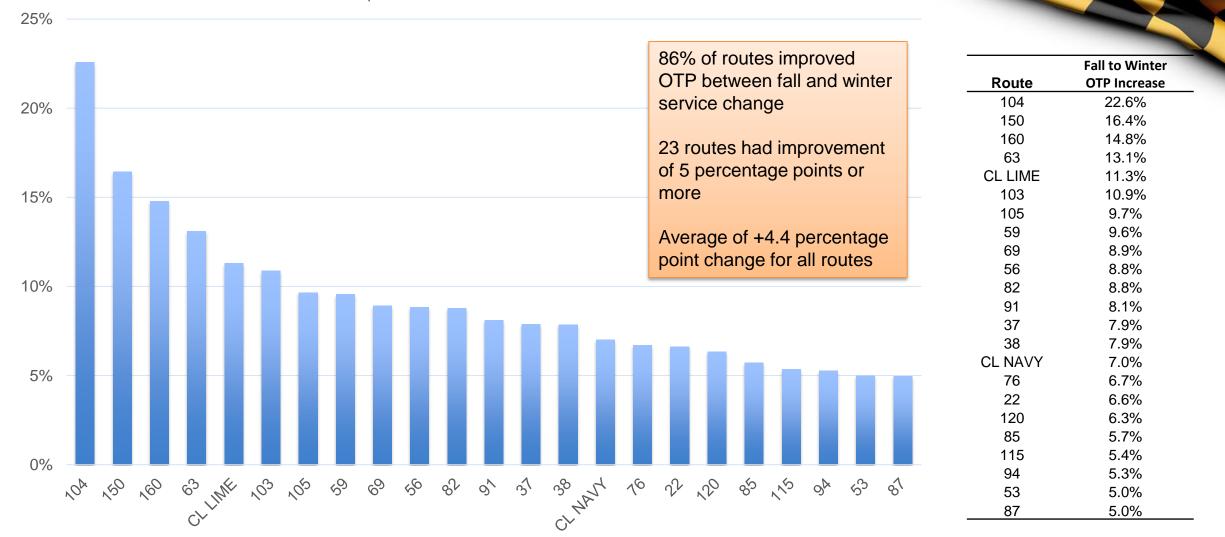


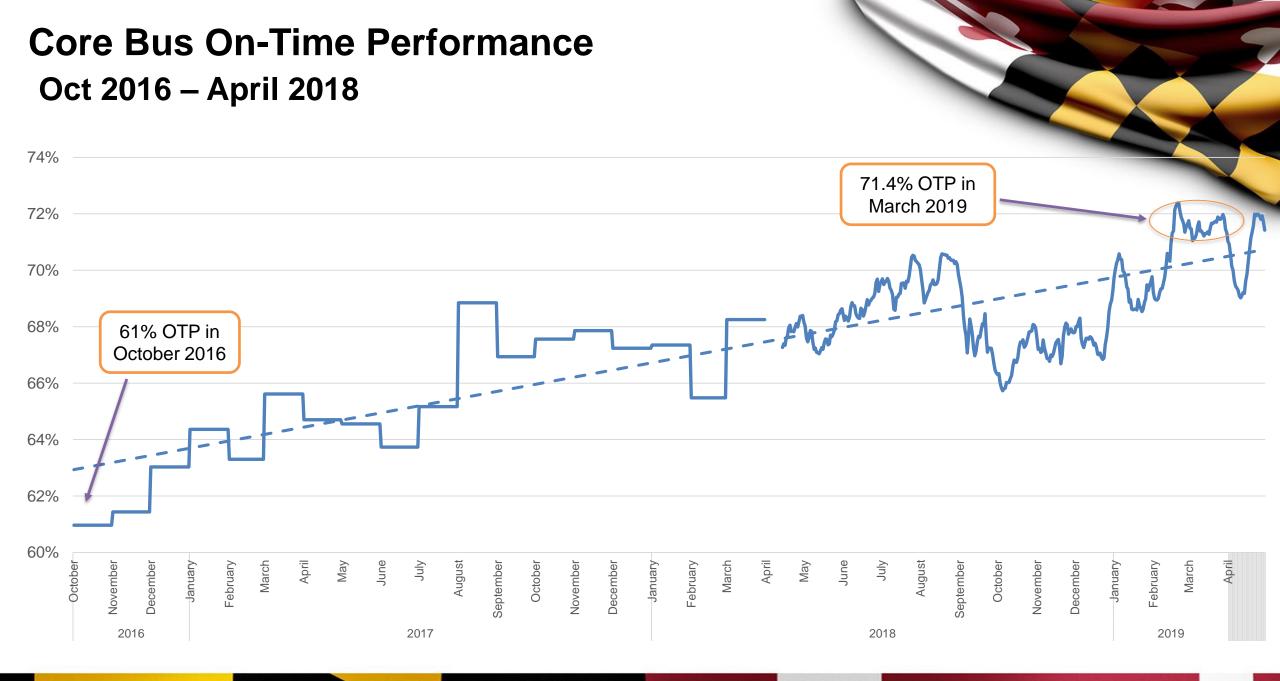




Most Improved Routes

Routes with Most Improved On-Time Performance – Fall to Winter Pick



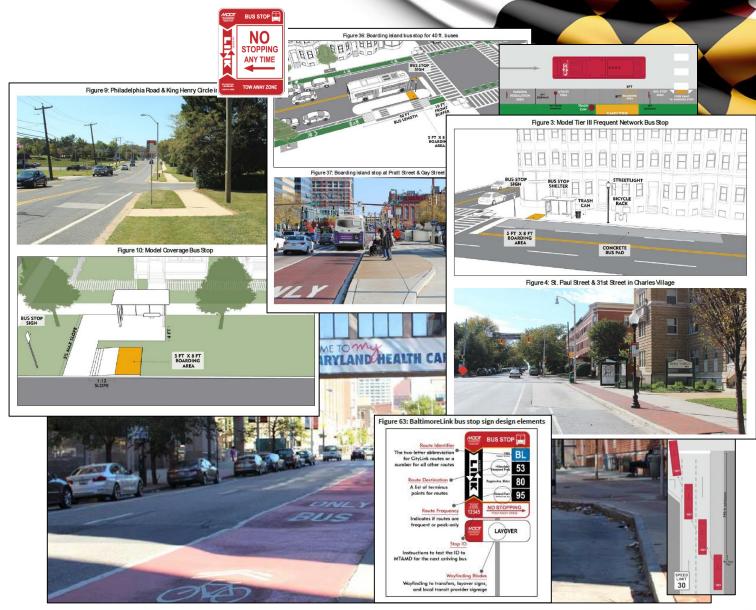


2019 Summer Service Change

- Every route analyzed and will be modified in some way
 - Time periods, direction, day of service
 - 479 instances of runtime modifications
 - Up from 307 for Winter service change
- Focus on routes:
 - Below 70% on-time
 - Known impediment issue (construction zone, road diet)
- Using data from current pick (February-March)
 - Minimal difference between current data and runtimes from Summer 2018
 - Current roadway conditions have greater effect than seasonal travel patterns

Bus Stop Design Guide

- Provides guidance for the planning, placement, and design of BaltimoreLink bus stops
- Bus stop hierarchy and placement
 - Bus stop types and optimal design in diverse street and road contexts
- Bus stop location
 - Spacing of bus stops
 - Processes and procedures for adding, relocating, and removing bus stops
 - Operational considerations
- Amenities and accessibility
- Release anticipated this summer



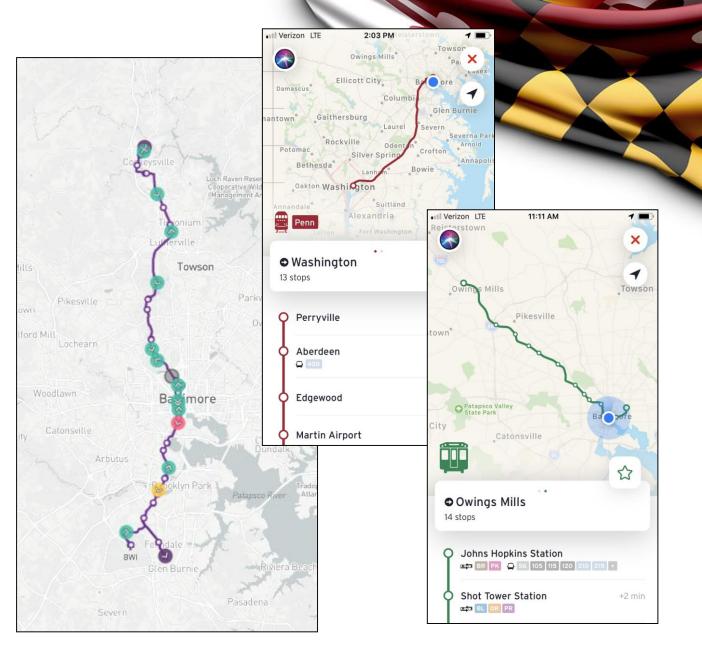
Real-Time on Commuter Bus – Launching 5/23



- Involved coordination with 6
 contractors
- Will work across the State of Maryland
- 5th largest commuter bus system in the country
- Customized GTFS feed
- Live feed undergoing testing and QA/QC

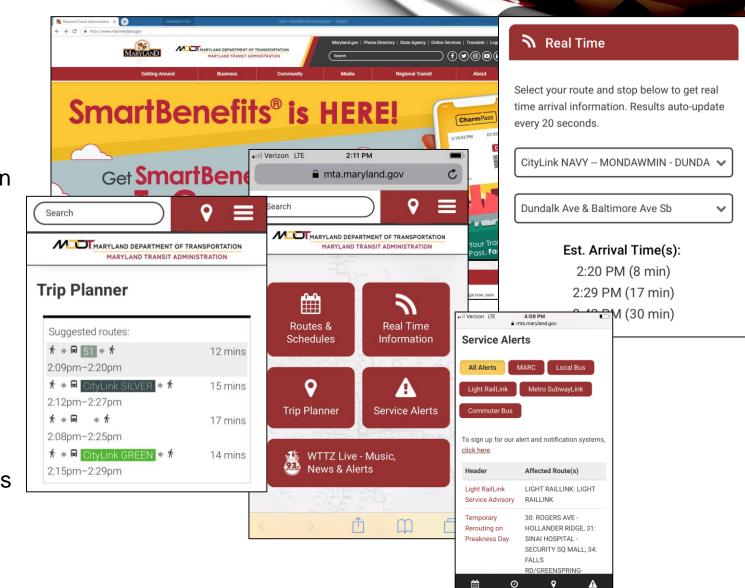
Real-Time Updates

- MARC
 - Testing phase
 - Anticipated launch in July
- Light Rail
 - Testing phase
 - Anticipated launch in July
- Metro
 - Anticipated launch in fall



New Website

- New Website
 - Greatly improved mobile interface
 - Built to better address rider needs
 - Stronger focus on system information Routes and schedules at forefront of desktop and mobile-friendly design
 - Updated Trip Planner
- Service Alert System
 - Improved operational efficiency and quicker communication to riders
 - One click updates to Twitter, email, text messages, and website
 - Populates a GTFS-RT feed used by Transit app, displaying alerts to riders
 - The most effective digital communication system the agency has ever had

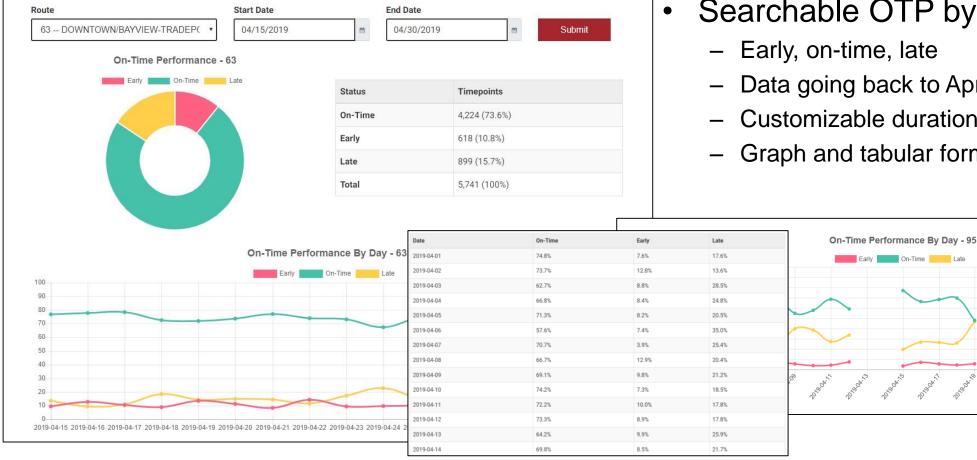


New Performance Improvement Page

MDOT MTA Performance Improvement

℅ On Time Performance by Route

Look up on-time performance by route. Select the route and date range then hit submit for results. Note that large data ranges may result in slow queries.





- Searchable OTP by route by day

 - Data going back to April 1, 2018
 - Customizable durations
 - Graph and tabular format

Performance Website Demo



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