

Bus Rapid Transit

“BRT is a flexible, rubber-tired rapid-transit mode that combines stations, vehicles, services, running ways, and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) elements into an integrated system with a strong positive identity that evokes a unique image.”

Features of BRT Include:

- Dedicated or mixed running ways
- Attractive stations and bus stops
- Distinctive easy-to-board vehicles
- Off-vehicle fare collection
- Use of ITS technologies (Passenger info, traffic signal equipment)
- Frequent all-day service

Benefits of BRT:

- ✓ Implemented quickly and incrementally
- ✓ Flexible
- ✓ Operates on arterial streets
- ✓ Enhanced travel times and passenger experience
- ✓ Express & Local service on a single facility
- ✓ Less costly than rail
- ✓ Integrated into surrounding environment



Stations/Stops



Off-vehicle Fare Collection



Distinctive Easy-to-board Vehicles



Operates on Arterial Streets



Integrated into Surrounding Environment



BRT System Elements

- Simple route layout
- Frequent service
- Less frequent stops
- Level boarding and alighting
- Branded vehicles and stations
- Amenities at stops
- Signal prioritization
- Larger vehicles
- Multiple-door on and off
- Fare prepayment
- Feeder network
- Coordinated land use planning



Branded Buses

Off-Board Fare Collection



Passenger Information Systems

AT&T 6:42 PM

NEXTbus

Agency: MBTA
Route: 64
Direction: University Park via Putnam St. & Central Square
Massachusetts Ave @ Sidney St
Stop: #00073
Destination: Franklin St @ Sidney St

Tracked vehicle in:
23 minutes
83 minutes

For other routes serving same stop:
11 min (70 University Park via Arsenal St. & Central Square)
15 min (70A University Park via Lincoln St. & Tobin Pond Rd.)
27 min (70 University Park via Arsenal St. & Central Square)

Enhanced Boarding Platforms

Service Plan



Monday-Friday Lunes-Viernes	
5 AM	10-15 Minutes
6 AM	12 Minutos
9 AM	20
12 PM	20
3 PM	12-15
6 PM	10-20
8 PM	

BRT Variations / BRT Examples

BRT Variations

1. On-Street in Mixed Traffic (Reno, NV)
2. On-Street in Dedicated Lanes (Eugene, OR)
3. Off-Street in Exclusive Lanes or Reserved Lanes on Freeways (Pittsburg, PA)

Possible BRT Operating Characteristics

- Less Time between buses
 - 10 minutes in peak periods
 - 15 minutes in off-peak
- 6 am to 8 pm Service Hours
- Low Floor, CNG Fueled Buses
- Signal Priority for Buses
- Branded Stops and Vehicles
- Stops Spaced 3 Blocks to 1/2-mile
- Passenger Shelters and Benches
- Next Bus Arrival Signs
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Amenities
- Transit Centers and Park-n-Rides



BRT Variations



#1 On-Street in Mixed Traffic

#2 On-Street in Dedicated Lanes

#3 Off-Street in Exclusive Lanes or Reserved Lanes on Freeways

BRT Examples



Oakland, CA: San Pablo Rapid



Eugene, OR: EmX Green Line



Albuquerque, NM: Rapid Ride



Fort Worth, TX: Spur Route



Washington, DC: Metro Circulator



Baltimore, MD: Charm City Circulator