

More GRTC bus stops to have shelters and seating by 2027

RICHMOND, VA (September 28, 2022) — At least half of all GRTC bus stops in the City of Richmond, Chesterfield County, and Henrico County will soon have a more comfortable, accessible, and dignified place to wait for your ride.

Only five percent of GRTC's 1,609 active local stops have a shelter and 21 percent have seating. Less than half of those stops predate the Americans with Disabilities Act and are not compliant. And most stops lacking adequate infrastructure are in low-income areas throughout Central Virginia.

Under a plan approved by the transit system's board of directors, GRTC will install 160 shelters and 225 benches over five years. Work is expected to begin in the summer of 2023. GRTC also will coordinate with jurisdictions to improve ADA compliance at stops to further the agency's push to be more inclusive.

"This is one of several GRTC strategic initiatives planned that aim to address the various impediments to transit access and ultimately inequities," said Director of Planning and Scheduling Sam Sink. "GRTC champions social and economic mobility by prioritizing connecting people to essential human services and needs. With proper operational and capital investment, transit is a factor that can improve overall quality of life."

<u>The Essential Transit Infrastructure (ETI) plan</u> will cost between \$11 million and \$28.6 million, and be funded through a combination of local, state, and federal grants.

GRTC will use a scoring system that considers usage and equity to determine which stops qualify for improvements. Anyone may request a bench or shelter via email at planningcomment@ridegrtc.com, through the GRTC website, or by calling 804-358-4782.

high resolution image (credit GRTC Transit System)

CONTACT

Mike Frontiero
Director of Communications & Marketing
mike.frontiero@ridegrtc.com