

# Questions and Answers

## When will the National Mall route begin operating?

The National Mall route is anticipated to begin service in March 2015.

## Will the new route offer interpretive services like a sightseeing tour?

No, the Circulator's role is strictly providing a mobility option. Sightseeing tours offer a different product, and there is ample evidence that both can be successful.

## How will this service be different from the previous Circulator route that served the Mall?

The previous Circulator route served areas around the Mall, but did not travel on the Mall itself. It also had infrequent service, limited hours of operation, and did not serve key nearby attractions such as Union Station. The new Mall service will offer highly visible and frequent service along a prominent route that is fully integrated into the larger local and regional transit network.

## Will future extensions to the route be considered?

DDOT is currently working on an update to the DC Circulator Transit Development Plan (TDP), which will recommend specific routes to receive new or enhanced service. Suggestions from the public regarding future routes will be fully considered as part of the TDP planning process.

## What will the buses look like?

The buses will be consistent with the vehicles used on other Circulator routes. DDOT will be procuring new buses for expanded Circulator service that will maintain the same branding as the existing fleet.

## How much will it cost to ride?

The fare has not been determined yet, but will be similar to other local transit services.

## How will passengers pay their fare?

Both cash and SmarTrip will be accepted. Existing passes that can be loaded onto a SmarTrip card, such as WMATA's 7-day pass, will also be available for use. Additional pass options are being investigated.

# National Mall Circulator

Transit on the National Mall is viewed as a "missing link". A Circulator route around the National Mall previously operated between 2006 and 2011, but it suffered from sub-optimal routing and a limited level of service. The new service slated to begin in March 2015 emerged from a planning process led by DC Surface Transit and addresses previous shortcomings.



## Filling a Significant Transit Void

The proposed National Mall route builds upon the growing Circulator network by connecting District residents, employees, and visitors to attractions on and around the Mall. Visitors, residents and employees in the District currently have no public transit options for quickly and easily circulating among destinations in this area.

Consistent with other Circulator routes, frequent service (every ten minutes) will be provided to emphasize a high level of access to destinations along the route. This service will operate using with transit buses that are consistent with buses used on other Circulator routes, and will complement bus-based sightseeing options by providing frequent, affordable, non-interpretive transit service between attractions for which there are currently limited travel options.

# Proposed Service Characteristics

## Proposed hours of operation

Winter (Nov-Feb):  
 Mon-Fri: 7AM – 7PM  
 Sat-Sun : 9AM – 7PM  
 Summer (Mar-Oct):  
 Mon-Fri: 7AM – 8PM  
 Sat-Sun : 9AM – 8PM

## Proposed service frequency

Every 10 minutes at all times

## Round trip travel time

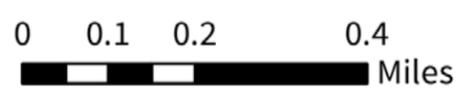
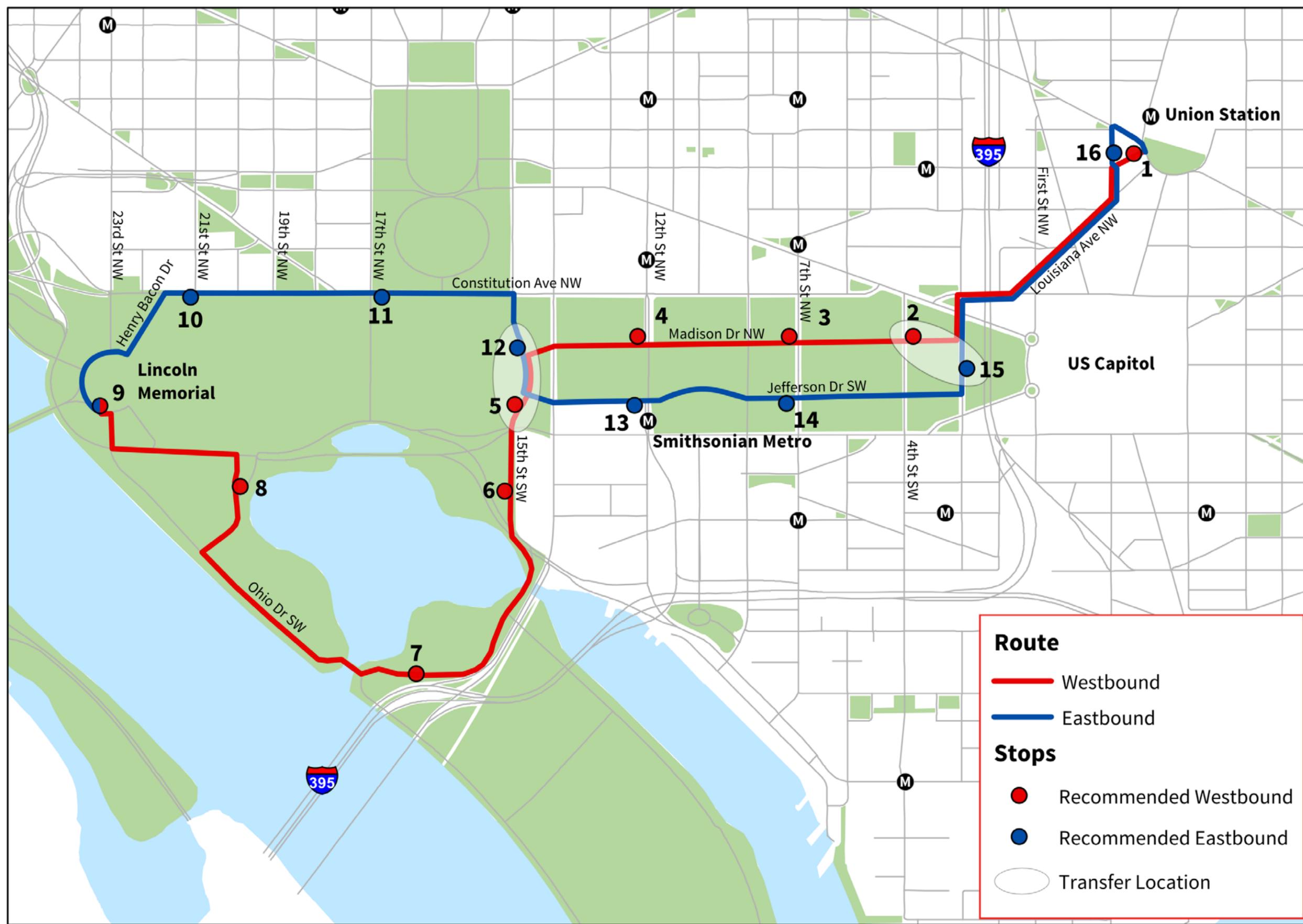
Approx. 60 minutes (low season)  
 Approx. 100 minutes (high season)  
*(includes layover time and time at stops)*

## Transit service integration

- Local connections to current and future Circulator and WMATA services traversing north-south across the Mall
- Regional connections to WMATA rail and bus at Union Station and Smithsonian Metro
- Intercity connections to rail and bus at Union Station
- Common fare policy and payment options with other Circulator services and WMATA

## Fare Structure

- To be determined, but will include single-trip fares and multi-use passes
- Cash and SmarTrip accepted



## National Mall Route & Stop Recommendations

