



# Proposed New Service FY 24

## Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (BRTA)

*Proposed to be effective February 05, 2024*

# Accessibility Notice

For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation and/or language services, please email [info@berkshirerta.com](mailto:info@berkshirerta.com)

Para más información o para pedir arreglos razonables y/o servicios lingüísticos, por favor envíe un e-mail [info@berkshirerta.com](mailto:info@berkshirerta.com)

# Title VI and Non-Discrimination Notice

The Berkshire Regional Transit Authority ensures that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participating in or denied benefits of or be subjected to discrimination as it relates to the provision of public transportation services provided by the Authority.

BRTA complies with the Massachusetts Public Accommodation Law, MGL c272 §§92a, 98, 98a, prohibiting making any distinction, discrimination, or restriction in admission to or treatment in a place of public accommodation based on race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or ancestry. BRTA also complies with the Governors' Executive Order 526, section 4, requiring all programs, activities, and services provided, performed, licensed, chartered, funded, regulated, or contracted for by the state shall be conducted without unlawful discrimination based on race, color, age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, creed, ancestry, national origin, disability, veteran's status (including Vietnam-era veterans), or background.



## **What is BRTA?**

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (BRTA) is one of 15 regional transit authorities in Massachusetts. Each regional transit system helps people get to work, to school, to doctors' appointments, to the grocery store, to visit family, and so much more. Collectively, we believe that public transit is the most efficient way to move people as they go about their daily lives. BRTA currently serves 30 communities within Berkshire County and uses federal, state, and local funding to provide accessible fixed route and paratransit public transportation services.

## **Why plan service changes?**

BRTA continually evaluates the performance of its bus routes and other services to ensure that we are providing our community with the best transportation options possible. Successful services may be improved, while other services may need to be revised. Often, service changes may be necessitated due to other factors such as changes in ridership patterns, vehicles, staffing, or funding allocations.

## **Why ask for public comment?**

While BRTA continually accepts and encourages customer feedback, presentations such as this provide our stakeholders with information concerning specific proposals and afford every interested person with an opportunity to be heard. Public comment periods provide an opportunity for BRTA to receive information which could be valuable to consider during its decision-making process.

It's important that stakeholders focus their comments to the specific proposals contained within this document in the form that they are presented. By doing so, all comments can be properly received, documented, and reviewed. All submissions are reviewed before proposals are finalized.



# Timeline

**Proposal Publication Date:** 11/01/2023 (online, posters on vehicles, press releases)

**Public Meeting Sessions:** 11/13/2023 -11/17/2023

**Meeting #1 :** Monday 11/13/2023 , 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm  
UNO Community Center, 157 River St, North Adams, MA

**Meeting #2:** Wednesday, 11/15/2023 , 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm  
Pittsfield ITC, 1 Columbus Ave, Pittsfield, MA

**Meeting #3:** Friday, 11/17/2023, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm  
Great Barrington Fire Department, 37 State Rd, Great Barrington, MA

**Comment Deadline:** 11/30/2023 before 11:59 pm

**Proposals Finalized:** 12/1/2023

**Finalized Plans Published:** 01/01/2024

**Service Effective:** 02/05/2024 (Monday)



# How to Submit Comments

BRTA actively encourages community feedback regarding its services and any proposed service changes. All submissions are reviewed before proposals are finalized.

- **Online:** “Contact Us” form at [www.berkshirerta.com/contact/](http://www.berkshirerta.com/contact/)
- **In-person:** Participating in any hosted public information session
- **By Email:** [info@berkshirerta.com](mailto:info@berkshirerta.com)
- **By Mail:** Berkshire Regional Transit Authority  
Attn: Proposed New Service  
1 Columbus Ave, Suite 201  
Pittsfield, MA, 01201
- **By Phone:** Toll-Free 1 (800) 292-2782 ext. 2895

*This is an unattended voicemail box; all messages will be recorded for documentation. Messages may be up to three (3) minutes in length. There is no limit to the number of submissions per person.*

## ***Copies of this presentation are available:***

- Online:** [www.berkshirerta.com/announcements/](http://www.berkshirerta.com/announcements/)
- In-person:** ITC customer service 8am-4pm (Mon-Fri) or at informational sessions
- By Mail:** Contact BRTA Operations at (413) 499-2782 option 1
- By Email:** [info@berkshirerta.com](mailto:info@berkshirerta.com)



# Goals of Proposed Service Changes

**BRTA is proposing these service changes for multiple reasons:**

- Phased implementation as increased labor and funding resources become available.
- Continuing to enhance BRTA services after 6:00pm throughout the service area.
- Providing new or revised services to more areas within member communities, but especially during the evening hours and on Saturdays.
- Enticing new customers into the system, including choice riders.
- Attracting customers working non-traditional shift hours by providing opportunities to regularly take BRTA to and from their employment.
- Maximizing customer use of existing or new services based on existing routes and route patterns; a priority identified in recent customer surveys.
- Setting a foundation for new express and regional services, labeled in the 900-series of route numbers to increase customer understanding.



# Phased Service Change Implementation

## Phase 1 proposals:

### Weekdays from the ITC

- **Route 2:** two new roundtrips: 6:30pm, 7:30pm
- **Route 11:** four new roundtrips, 6:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:00p,
- **Route 15:** two new roundtrips, 7:30pm, 8:30pm
- **Route 21x:** replace with Route 921
- **Route 21:** remove Glendale timepoint, add Main Street Great Barrington timepoint
- **Route 34:** (all days) revert Ocean State Job lots to Demand Service only
- **Route 921:** new route -- four daily round trips, 5:30am, 7:30am, 5:30pm, 7:30pm

### Saturdays from the ITC

- **Route 3: From Williamstown Rotary**  
one new roundtrip: 6:45pm
- **Route 4:** one new roundtrips, 7:30pm
- **Route 5:** three new round trips, 6:30pm 7:30pm, 8:30pm
- **Route 11:** four new roundtrips, 6:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:00p,
- **Route 12:** four new roundtrips, 5:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 8:30pm.
- **Route 15:** two new roundtrips, 7:30pm, 8:30pm
- **Route 21x:** replace with Route 921
- **Route 921:** new route – two new round trips, 5:30pm, 7:30pm



# Phased Service Change Implementation

**Phase 2 proposals** - All Phase 1 service proposals, plus:

## Weekdays from ITC

- **Route 3: From Williamstown Rotary**  
two new roundtrips: 7:45pm, 8:45pm
- **Route 4:** one new roundtrip, 7:30pm
- **Route 5:** three new round trips, 6:30pm  
7:30pm, 8:30pm

## Saturdays from ITC

- **Route 1:** two new roundtrips: 6:30pm, 7:30pm
- **Route 2:** two new roundtrips: 6:30pm, 7:30pm
- **Route 34: From NA Walmart**  
two new roundtrips: 7:30pm, 8:30pm (returns  
to ITC as Route 1 at 9:30pm)





# Route 1 Pittsfield – North Adams

BRTA is proposing **specific changes** to this bus route, including:

## Phase 1

- No changes

## Phase 2

- **Saturdays:**
  - add two (2) new roundtrips :
    - Depart Pittsfield ITC at 6:30pm and 7:30pm.
    - Depart Walmart North Adams at 7:30pm, 8:30pm, and 9:30pm (ends at ITC to return to garage)



# Route 2 Pittsfield – Lee

BRTA is proposing **specific changes** to this bus route, including:

## Phase 1

- **Weekdays:**
  - add two (2) new roundtrips :
    - Depart ITC at 6:30pm and 7:30pm.
    - Depart Lee Premium Outlets at 7:30pm, 8:30pm

## Phase 2

- **Saturdays:**
  - add two (2) new roundtrips :
    - Depart ITC at 6:30pm and 7:30pm.
    - Depart Lee Premium Outlets at 7:30pm, 8:30pm



# Route 3 Williamstown – North Adams

BRTA is proposing **specific changes** to this bus route, including:

## Phase 1

- **Saturdays:**
  - add one (1) new roundtrips :
    - Depart Williamstown Rotary at 6:45pm
    - Depart Main St North Adams at 7:15pm

## Phase 2

- **Weekdays**
  - add two (2) new roundtrips :
    - Depart Williamstown Rotary at 7:45pm, 8:45pm
    - Depart Main St North Adams at 8:15pm, 9:15pm



# Route 4 Pittsfield – Dalton – Hinsdale

BRTA is proposing **specific changes** to this bus route, including:

## Phase 1

- **Saturdays:**
  - add one (1) new roundtrip :
    - Depart Pittsfield ITC at 7:30pm
    - Depart Hinsdale Center at 8:25pm

## Phase 2

- **Weekdays**
  - add one (1) new roundtrip :
    - Depart Pittsfield ITC at 7:30pm
    - Depart Hinsdale Center at 8:25pm



# Route 5 Pittsfield – Lanesborough Ctr

BRTA is proposing **specific changes** to this bus route, including:

## Phase 1

- **Saturdays:**
  - add three (3) new roundtrips :
    - Depart Pittsfield ITC at 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 8:30pm
    - Depart Village at Greylock at 6:55pm, 7:55pm, 8:55pm

## Phase 2

- **Weekdays**
  - add three (3) new roundtrips :
    - Depart Pittsfield ITC at 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 8:30pm
    - Depart Village at Greylock at 6:55pm, 7:55pm, 8:55pm



# Route 11 West St - BCC

BRTA is proposing **specific changes** to this bus route, including:

## Phase 1

- **All Days:**
  - add four (4) new roundtrips :
    - Depart Pittsfield ITC at 6:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:00pm
    - Depart BCC at 6:15pm, 7:15pm, 8:15pm, 9:15pm

## Phase 2

- none



# Route 12 Pittsfield Southeast Loop (Elm, Merrill, East)

BRTA is proposing **specific changes** to this bus route, including:

## Phase 1

- **Saturdays:**
  - add four (4) new roundtrips :
    - Depart Downing Parkway at 4:50pm (arrive to ITC at 5:30pm)
    - Depart Pittsfield ITC at 5:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 8:30pm

## Phase 2

- none



# Route 15 West Pittsfield – W Housatonic St

BRTA is proposing **specific changes** to this bus route, including:

## Phase 1

- **All Days:**
  - add two (2) new roundtrips :
    - Depart Pittsfield ITC at 7:30pm, 8:30pm
    - Depart Callahan Drive at 7:45pm, 8:45pm

## Phase 2

- none





# Route 21 Lee - Great Barrington via Stockbridge

BRTA is proposing **specific changes** to this bus route, including:

## Phase 1

- **All Days:**
  - Remove the timepoint required stop from Glendale Center (service continues)
  - Add timepoint required stop for Main Street -- Great Barrington Center
    - inbound and outbound.

## Phase 2

- none



# Route 34 North Adams Loop

BRTA is proposing **specific changes** to this bus route, including:

## Phase 1

- **All Days:**
  - Convert Ocean State Job Lot timepoint stop into a Demand Service location

## Phase 2

- **Saturdays**
  - add two (2) new roundtrips :
    - Depart Walmart North Adams at 7:30pm, 8:30pm
      - Bus returns to Pittsfield ITC as Route 1 from 9:30pm to 10:30pm



# Route 921 Pittsfield – Great Barrington Express

BRTA is proposing **specific changes** to this bus route, including:

**New route!** Replaces current Route 21x

Establishes BRTA's new 900-series of bus routes designating express or regional services.

## **Route 921 will service:**

Pittsfield ITC, Lenox Center, Lee Center, Stockbridge Center, Great Barrington Center in both inbound and outbound directions. This route will primarily use US 7/20 and MA 23.

### **Phase 1**

- **Weekdays**

- Add four (4) roundtrips:
  - Depart Pittsfield ITC at 5:30am, 7:30am, 5:30pm, 7:30pm
  - Depart Big Y Great Barrington at 6:30am, 8:30am, 6:30pm, 8:30pm

- **Saturdays**

- Add two (2) new roundtrips:
  - Depart Pittsfield ITC at 5:30pm, 7:30pm
  - Depart Big Y Great Barrington at 6:30pm, 8:30pm

### **Phase 2**

- none



Thank you!

