

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission

Sixty-Fifth
Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2025
July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025



**Washington Metropolitan Area
Transit Commission
1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 1240
Silver Spring, MD 20910-5624**

November 7, 2025

To: The Honorable Glenn Youngkin
Governor of Virginia

The Honorable Wes Moore
Governor of Maryland

The Honorable Muriel Bowser
Mayor of the District of Columbia

This report has been prepared in accordance with Title II, Article XIV, Section 5, of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Regulation Compact, Pub. L. No. 101-505, § 1, 104 Stat. 1300 (1990), *amended by* Pub. L. No. 111-160, 124 Stat. 1124 (2010) (amending tit. I, art. III), (codified at VA. CODE ANN. § 33.2-3000 (2025); MD. CODE ANN. TRANSP. § 10-203 (2025); D.C. CODE § 9-1103.01 (2025)), which provides:

The Commission shall make an annual report for each fiscal year ending June 30, to the Governor of Virginia and the Governor of Maryland, and to the Mayor of the District of Columbia as soon as practicable after June 30, but no later than the first day of January of each year, which may contain, in addition to a report of the work performed under this Act, other information and recommendations concerning passenger transportation within the Metropolitan District as the Commission considers advisable.



Jeffrey M. Lehmann
Executive Director

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**Washington Metropolitan Area
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as of June 30, 2025

Commissioners

Honorable Gerald F. Lackey Chairman
Honorable Michael T. Richard Commissioner
Honorable Jonathan M. Rogers Commissioner

Staff

J. Lehmann Executive Director/General Counsel
W. Aluocho Assistant General Counsel
J. Brown Office Manager
C. Aquino Motor Carrier Safety Specialist
S. Hayes Compliance Specialist
S. Muhammad IT Specialist
T. Crowe Receptionist

ABOUT THE COMMISSION

The Transit Commission has been licensing and regulating private-sector passenger carriers on a regional basis in the Washington Metropolitan Area since 1960 pursuant to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Regulation Compact, Pub. L.



Capital Transit Company Trolley - 1961

No. 86-794, § 1, 74 Stat. 1031 (1960), *as amended by* Pub. L. No. 87-767, 76 Stat. 764 (1962), Pub. L. No. 101-505, § 1, 104 Stat. 1300 (1990), *and* Pub. L. No. 111-160, 124 Stat. 1124 (2010)—an interstate agreement among the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of Maryland, and the District of Columbia. Early in its history, the Commission primarily regulated mass transit bus and trolley operators.

That changed in 1973 when the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) acquired the four mass transit bus companies operating in the area at that time. Today, carriers licensed by the Transit Commission include sightseeing, tour and charter bus operators; airport shuttle companies; wheelchair van operators (including those operating under the District of Columbia’s Medicaid program); and some sedan and limousine operators. The Commission also prescribes interstate taxicab rates for the Metropolitan Area.

In 1990, the signatories embraced economic deregulation in the Washington Metropolitan Area by amending the Compact to lower market entry barriers for carriers licensed by the Commission “while maintaining a regional approach to transportation and keeping those controls necessary for the security of the public.” This was accomplished chiefly by eliminating the need for hearings on applications for operating authority while preserving the Commission’s power to prescribe insurance and safety requirements.



Taxicab Queue at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport

The 1990 amendments have succeeded in opening the Metropolitan District to competition as intended. Over 3,800 applicants have been conditionally granted WMATC operating authority since 1990. By comparison, only 176 carriers were granted WMATC operating authority in the Commission's first 30 years. While the Commission's mandate has evolved over the years, the Commission has remained a steadfast guardian of the public interest and is poised to carry out its mission well into the twenty-first century.

THE COMMISSIONERS

The Compact provides for the appointment of three Commissioners, one from each signatory. The Virginia member is appointed by the Governor of Virginia from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, the Maryland member is appointed by the Governor of Maryland from the Maryland Public Service Commission, and the District of Columbia member is appointed by the Mayor of the District of Columbia from an agency with oversight of matters relating to the Commission. The following WMATC Commissioners held office during FY 2025 and/or at the time of this report.



Honorable Gerald F. Lackey, Chairman

Dr. Gerald F. Lackey was appointed as the WMATC member from the Commonwealth of Virginia on June 29, 2023, by Governor Glenn Youngkin. He was elected Chairman of WMATC on September 29, 2023.

Chairman Lackey is the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. He has more than 15 years of experience in collaborating with government agencies, customer groups, and Fortune 500 companies to develop winning strategies, optimize business processes, and deliver on strategic growth initiatives.

In his most recent role as VP of Business Optimization at GAF, the world's largest roofing manufacturer, Chairman Lackey led strategic growth projects and productivity efficiencies across the company. During his time at GAF, he built broad networks within the building materials manufacturing, distribution, and installation industry.

Prior to GAF, Chairman Lackey had deep relationships with manufacturing companies and energy-related public sector agencies as an Associate Partner at

McKinsey & Company. His business acumen and transformation skills shine through his ability to identify winning strategies and mobilize people to turn them into value for customers and citizens. Some of these include launching a new paper and packaging company post an acquisition of equals, making significant and sustainable cost reductions in an international packaging company, establishing a lean operation program for a North American oil company, and driving an organizational transformation at a multi-state public utility.

Chairman Lackey's experience driving agile product development teams, designing lean shared service organizations, and leading strategic growth initiatives have made him a force multiplier in several organizations. He leads with a clear vision, strong passion, and inquisitive approach that brings out the best in those around him. He is deeply experienced in designing, planning, and executing complex value creation work streams with the input and oversight of boards, C-suits, and external partners.

Chairman Lackey received his bachelor's degree in Sociology and Spanish from Duke University and acquired his Ph.D. in Social Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Honorable Jonathan M. Rogers

Jonathan M. Rogers was appointed as the District of Columbia member to WMATC on December 4, 2024, by Mayor Muriel Bowser.

Commissioner Rogers is the Director of the DC Department of For-Hire Vehicles (DFHV). With twelve consecutive years of DC Government service, he is an expert in transportation and a trusted senior administrator.

Commissioner Rogers previously served at the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Operations and Infrastructure as the Senior Policy Advisor and then Chief of Staff. He began his DC Government career as a Capital City Fellow in the budget office of Mayor Vincent Gray, and later held policy positions at the District Department of Transportation, and the transition office of Mayor-elect Muriel Bowser. He was the District's first project manager for Mayor Bowser's Vision Zero initiative for transportation safety.

Commissioner Rogers is a Certified Public Manager, a lean six-sigma green-belt, and an AmeriCorps alumnus. Prior to his work in District Government, he was an

associate at the National League of Cities and earned his Master of Public Policy degree from The George Washington University.

Commissioner Rogers is a District of Columbia Ward 2 resident and a DC Public Schools Parent.



Honorable Odogwu Obi Linton

Odogwu Obi Linton is the current WMATC member from the State of Maryland. Commissioner Linton was appointed to WMATC effective July 1, 2025, by Governor Wes Moore.

Commissioner Linton was appointed to the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) in 2017, reappointed in 2022, and again in 2025 by Governor Moore. He brings over two decades of leadership experience in energy policy, utility regulation, consumer protection, and regulatory law, with a strong focus on ensuring reliable, affordable, and equitable utility service for Maryland residents.

Commissioner Linton has served in multiple capacities at the Maryland PSC, including Director of the Consumer Affairs Division, where he led the development of comprehensive consumer protection regulations for Maryland's competitive energy markets and managed the state's Supplier Diversity Program to expand participation in utility supply chains. He previously served as Deputy Staff Counsel for the Maryland PSC, handling complex regulatory matters involving rate design, market oversight, and service quality standards.

Nationally, Commissioner Linton has held leadership roles with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), including Chair of the Consumers and the Public Interest Committee, member of the Emergency Preparedness Task Force, and founding Chair of the Supplier and Workforce Diversity Staff Subcommittee. Throughout his career, he has moderated or participated in more than one hundred national and regional panel discussions, addressing a broad range of topics including ratepayer protections, energy affordability, climate policy, and small business market access.

Prior to his public service roles, Commissioner Linton practiced regulatory and energy law representing consumers, small businesses, and competitive suppliers. Earlier in his career, he served as regulatory counsel for Baltimore Gas and Electric Company

and as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Evelyn Omega Cannon of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City.

Commissioner Linton holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, where he served as Founding Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Health Care Law and Policy. He earned dual bachelor's degrees in Administration of Justice and Africana Studies from Rutgers University.

Commissioner Linton resides with his family in Catonsville, Maryland.



Honorable Michael T. Richard
(Term May 2, 2016 to June 30, 2025)

Michael T. Richard was first appointed as the Maryland member to WMATC on May 2, 2016, by Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., and was reappointed on June 15, 2021. His term ended June 30, 2025.

Commissioner Richard served as a member of the Maryland Public Service Commission from 2016-2025. Prior to that, he served as Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Hogan, advising the Governor on a portfolio of issues and helping to manage cabinet agencies that included Agriculture, Energy, Environment, Lottery and Gaming, Natural Resources and Transportation.

Commissioner Richard worked for more than 10 years at the Nuclear Energy Institute as Legislative Programs Director and Congressional Information Program Director. He then served in Governor Robert Ehrlich's administration as Deputy Secretary of Appointments and as Director of the Maryland Energy Administration.

In 2005, he was appointed to a post at the U.S. Department of Energy—first serving as Executive Director of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board and later as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs where his issues included nuclear energy, radioactive waste management, and legacy environmental remediation. In 2008, Commissioner Richard was hired by Westinghouse Electric Company as Director of Government and International Affairs. He rejoined Maryland state government in 2015.

Commissioner Richard is a past President of the Organization of PJM States, Inc. (OPSI) and currently serves as its Treasurer, and is a member of the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment and the Committee on Critical Infrastructure for the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC).

Commissioner Richard earned his B.A. from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, and an M.B.A. from the University of Maryland, College Park. He attended a French language program at L'Université Laval in Québec City, Canada. Commissioner Richard lives in Fort Washington, Maryland.



**Honorable Sharon Kershbaum, Vice Chairman
(Term April 8, 2024 to December 4, 2024)**

Sharon Kershbaum was the WMATC member from the District of Columbia at the beginning of FY 2025. She was appointed to WMATC on April 8, 2024, by Mayor Muriel Bowser. Her term ended December 4, 2024, with the appointment of Commissioner Rogers.

Commissioner Kershbaum is the Director of the District Department of Transportation (DDOT). She is an experienced transformational leader and has held executive roles within local, state, and federal governments as well as the private and not-for-profit sectors. Prior to joining DDOT, Commissioner Kershbaum served as Chief Operating Officer in the DC Department of Human Services and as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget at the United States Department of the Treasury.

Early in her career, Commissioner Kershbaum held leadership roles in the Office of the City Administrator where she helped establish the “CapStat” agency performance management program to support more informed decision making. In senior leadership roles at Fannie Mae and the City of Philadelphia’s Office of Budget and Program Evaluation, she led strategic planning, audit and remediation plans, and oversaw special projects to reduce costs and improve organization performance. In one of her earliest roles, she served as Executive Director of Operation Understanding, a cross cultural leadership development program for Jewish and African-American high-school students, a position that built the foundation of her career in service-oriented executive leadership.

Commissioner Kershbaum was recently named the Cities Today Institute President, North America (Mobility). She has served as a Fellow with the National Academy of Public Administration since 2016. She received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Business Administration from the University of Pennsylvania.

DEVELOPMENTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FORMAL PROCEEDINGS

The Commission accepted 281 applications to obtain, transfer, amend, or terminate WMATC operating authority in FY 2025, an increase from the 260 accepted in FY 2024. The Commission also initiated 143 formal investigations of carrier compliance with WMATC rules and regulations in FY 2025, an increase from 123 in FY 2024.

In total, 424 new formal proceedings were commenced in FY 2025, up from 383 formal proceedings in FY 2024. The Commission issued 589 orders in formal proceedings in FY 2025, as compared to 548 orders in FY 2024.

INFORMAL PROCEEDINGS

Commission staff received 10 informal complaints against carriers in FY 2025. This compares to eight such complaints received in FY 2024. Commission staff processed seven taxicab complaints in FY 2025, compared to six such complaints in FY 2024.

Commission staff also initiated eight informal investigations in FY 2025, which typically involve minor violations committed by WMATC carriers.

CARRIER CERTIFICATES & VEHICLES

The Commission issued 101 certificates of authority in FY 2025, including 2 by reason of transfer and 2 by reason of amendment. This compares to 104 issued in FY 2024. The Commission revoked 61 certificates of authority in FY 2025. Most were revoked for willful failure to comply with the Commission's insurance requirements. The Commission terminated another 22 certificates of authority in FY 2025 upon request by the carriers.

The Commission reinstated seven certificates of authority in FY 2025. The number of carriers holding a certificate of authority at the close of FY 2025 stood at 481, up from 460 at the close of FY 2024, and almost 5 times the 97 that held authority at the end of FY 1990, before the barriers to entry were lowered beginning in 1991.

The number of carrier vehicles in service reported to WMATC stood at 4,598 as of June 30, 2025. This compares to 4,600 vehicles operated under WMATC authority as of June 30, 2024.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

BUDGET

The Commission receives appropriations from the three Compact signatories: Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. The Commission allocates its expenses among the signatories in the proportion that the population of each signatory within the Metropolitan District bears to the total population of the Metropolitan District, based on the most recent census data available at the time the budget is proposed. Comparative budget numbers for FY 2024 and FY 2025 are as follows.

	Total Budget	
	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>
Salaries	\$675,000	\$722,000
Benefits	170,000	\$171,000
Rent	127,000	\$129,000
Other	104,000	\$104,000
Total	<u>\$1,076,000</u>	<u>\$1,126,000</u>

	Allocated Budget	
	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>
DC	\$169,787	\$178,468
MD	\$509,357	\$531,176
VA	\$396,856	\$416,356
Total	<u>\$1,076,000</u>	<u>\$1,126,000</u>

REVENUE

The Commission does not retain any of the fees, forfeitures, and other non-appropriations revenue that it collects. All such revenue is returned to the signatories according to the proportions used for allocating expenses.

