



DOT PARATRANSIT- NEWS

BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2017 DOT PARATRANSIT RIDERS CAN RIDE DASH BUS FOR FREE

FOLLOWING IS THE DASH NEWS RELEASE:

DOT/METROACCESS RIDE FREE PROGRAM!

The DOT/MetroAccess Ride Free Program is a partnership between DASH and the City of Alexandria to provide DOT (paratransit riders) and MetroAccess cardholders with **FREE** rides on all DASH buses! The program will provide additional mobility and transportation options for eligible residents to travel within the City of Alexandria for any trip purpose. The program will reduce the City's overall subsidy costs for DOT/MetroAccess rides, and will provide program participants with **a free ride that requires no advance booking.**

“Our partnership with the City of Alexandria will provide increased mobility options for DOT Paratransit and MetroAccess riders as a convenient and hassle-free way to ride DASH, while also reducing the City's overall subsidy cost for paratransit service,” said Martin Barna, ATC's Director of Planning and Scheduling. “We strive to offer exceptional transit service to all city residents, and this program will go a long ways in helping us move towards that goal.”

To participate in the MetroAccess Program, eligible riders will still need to swipe their SmarTrip Card when boarding DASH, but will no longer be charged a fare. DOT participants just need to show their DOT card to the DASH Bus Operator and hop aboard!

-This is a same day option for DOT Paratransit riders who at times might be able to make use of the DASH Bus service.

-DOT riders who have a DOT Card showing a **Personal Care Attendant Authorized** can have a PCA also ride for free.

-DOT riders who have a DOT Card showing **No Personal Care Attendant Authorized** can have a guest ride with them but the guest must pay for their DASH Bus fare.

If you have any questions you can contact Robert Fulk at 703-746-4079 or by email at robert.fulk@alexandriava.gov.