



OmniNews

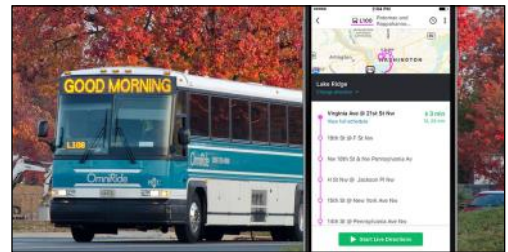
Passenger Newsletter

Get real-time PRTC bus info with Moovit

Imagine being able to sit at the kitchen table in the morning or at the office in the afternoon and check an app before heading out to catch a bus, knowing you won't waste time by being too early or miss your ride. That's a reality now that PRTC bus arrival information is available on Moovit, the world's #1 transit app that's free on iOS, Android and the Web.

Moovit combines information from public transit entities along with live information from users, offering travelers a real-time picture, including the best route.

"Some people hesitate to use transit



because of the uncertainty about when their bus will arrive. By providing real-time information, we'll make our transit services more attractive and help to put riders' minds at ease," said PRTC Chairman Frank J. Principi.

In addition to providing real-time data, the Moovit app offers alerts to

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New Executive Director takes the wheel



PRTC has a new driver at the wheel. Dr. Robert "Bob" Schneider took over as PRTC's Executive Director on April 3.

Schneider was appointed to the leadership position after spending more than five years as Executive Director at Central Midlands Transit (The COMET) in Columbia, South Carolina.

The PRTC Board of Commissioners selected Schneider to replace former

Interim Executive Director Eric Marx, who retired after 24 years at PRTC and more than 30 years in the transportation industry.

Schneider spent his first week at PRTC meeting department directors, meeting some operators and talking with customers.

While his family finishes out the school year in South Carolina, he plans to take advantage of the spring weather to explore the area by motorcycle—one of his passions.

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MyLink Teen Pass

The MyLink teen summer pass program is returning for 2017!



Once again, teens ages 13-19 will get unlimited local bus rides for three months for just \$30!

Passes go on sale at PRTC on Tuesday, May 30 and will good from that date through Saturday, September 2.

Teens who want to travel on PRTC commuter buses this summer can use their MyLink pass and then pay the difference between the local and commuter fare. Learn more at PRTCtransit.org.

Moovit

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notify passengers that their stop is nearby. It also features step-by-step itineraries and listings of other departure times for routes.

Moovit was named Top Local App of 2016 by Google. Moovit users can send reports about their travel experience, such as bus congestion levels and cleanliness, to inform others. Download the app at <https://moovitapp.com>

PRTC is making its data available free of charge to all other in-



PRTC Spotlight

Quality Assurance

Behind the scenes, PRTC staff members are dedicated to improving the lives of area citizens by providing and promoting safe and reliable mobility services. Here's a quick look at our Quality Assurance team, which is part of the Department of Operations and Operations Planning.



PRTC doesn't rely on complaints or compliments to determine if our services are operating well. Instead, our Quality Assurance team is out riding buses and monitoring bus stops daily to ensure that passengers have the best service possible.

The team verifies that operators are in uniform, know the route, and drive safely. They also check on-time performance, which helps PRTC determine which routes need to be re-timed at the next service change.

The cleanliness of buses is a priority, as is making sure that bus stops have the correct information for passengers.

When they find a problem, it's immediately reported so the situation—whether it's an operator who needs additional training or

a bus shelter that needs repairing—can be addressed.

The team also ensures that buses are being properly maintained, working with independent auditors to verify that the maintenance is being done on-time and according to the manufacturer's requirements.

On days when PRTC operates its Emergency Service Plan, the QA team is mission-essential! Regardless of the inclement weather, they spend hours at the Franconia-Springfield and Tysons Corner Metro Stations directing passengers to the correct buses.

These are just a few examples of the work being done daily by PRTC's Quality Assurance team to ensure that riders have a safe and pleasant trip.

terested transit apps. Real time PRTC data is already available in Google Transit. PRTC provides the raw data to app developers but has no input into app



design or responsibility for the accuracy of the information.

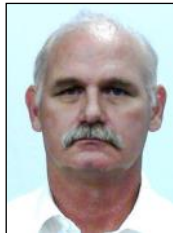
Outstanding Employees

First Transit, PRTC's contract service provider, recognizes one outstanding operator each month and one outstanding technician each quarter. Additionally, an Operator of the Year is named annually. If you have a compliment about First Transit personnel, please tell us!

Operator of the Month

Tyrone Yoakum - February 2017

Mr. Yoakum has been operating buses at PRTC for more than two years and currently is assigned to trips on the Lake Ridge and Manassas OmniRide routes in the mornings, and trips on Dale City and Lake Ridge OmniRide and Prince William Metro Direct routes in the afternoons and evenings.



Originally from Alexandria, Mr. Yoakum now lives in Manassas. He has been married for 38 years, and has four children and five grandchildren. In his spare time, he enjoys gardening and raising koi.

Max Oliva - March 2017

Mr. Oliva, a native of El Salvador who has been in Northern Virginia for 28 years, says the best part about being a bus operator is greeting his passengers and wishing them well.



He has been operating PRTC buses for nearly four years and is currently assigned to trips on the Dale City OmniRide and Dale City OmniLink routes in the mornings, and serves as a standby operator for PM service at the Pentagon.

Mr. Oliva lives in Woodbridge and has one daughter. Asked about his hobbies, he said his only priority is being the best dad he can possibly be.

Two budget public hearings set for April

PRTC's proposed FY18 budget will be the subject of public hearings at 7 p.m.:

- Monday, April 24, at the PRTC Transit Center in Woodbridge; and
- Wednesday, April 26, at Manassas City Hall Manassas

The budget presentation is available at PRTCtransit.org. Comments about the budget will be accepted through May 1, 2017.

Those who require special assistance at the public hearings (such as a sign language or foreign language interpreter, or the presentation in an alternate format, such as Braille) should call 703-580-6122 or email publichearing@OmniRide.com no later than April 7.

Schneider

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His other passion is American history and politics, so Northern Virginia makes it very difficult to choose what great thing to do next, he said.

As a lifelong Orioles fan with family that hails from Baltimore, he's also looking forward to making a trip to Camden Yards this season.

Schneider has received many accolades for his work in the transportation industry. The South Carolina Department of Transportation named him Outstanding Transit Executive in 2014. And in 2013 he received the President's Award from the Transportation Association of South Carolina in recognition of special leadership.

He also was the first—and possibly only—person to be recognized in Mass Transit Magazine's Top 40 Under 40 in consecutive years, 2012 and 2013.



Potomac and Rappahannock
Transportation Commission

PRTC
14700 Potomac Mills Road
Woodbridge, VA 22192
703-730-6664
PRTCtransit.org

Workshop aims to unite vanpool community

Vanpooling is an important part of Northern Virginia's transportation picture, but this alternative doesn't garner the same kind of attention that's given to public transportation.

That's why Vanpool Alliance, along with PRTC's OmniMatch program, hosted a workshop in March for those who currently operate and participate in vanpools, as well as those who are interested in starting one.

The idea was to educate the public about vanpools, create a vanpool community, increase participation in the Vanpool Alliance program and improve the available vanpooling data, said Joe Stainsby, Vanpool Alliance program manager.

Vanpool Alliance is a public-private partnership between the George Washington Regional Commission, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commis-



sion, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation and PRTC. The program is administered by PRTC.

OmniMatch is a free, personalized ridematching service for carpoolers and vanpoolers. Through the use of an extensive regional database, OmniMatch links commuters who have similar work hours as well as similar origination and destination points.

The workshop, which was held at PRTC, attracted eight people who learned about:

- I-66 and I-395 HOV and Express Lanes projects;
- Vanpool incentive programs available during construction of I-66 Express Lanes;
- Park and Ride lots; and
- Overviews of various vanpool incentive programs.

Vanpool Alliance and OmniMatch plans to host two workshops annually to bring the vanpooling community together and work toward their common interests, Stainsby said.