



# Fast Forward: Bronx Bus Network Redesign

March 2019

# Workshops Findings



# Summary

- **6 held at various locations in September and October 2018**
- **Origins, destinations, and transfers customers make on a regular basis**
- **Common issues and travel challenges**
- **Top priorities customers have for improving bus service**
- **Trade-offs customers are willing to make to enhance bus service**



# Common Issues

## Passenger Environment

- Unclean bus seats
- Lack of lighting at bus stops

## Reliability

- Congestion
- Bus bunching
- Slow bus speed
- Overcrowding

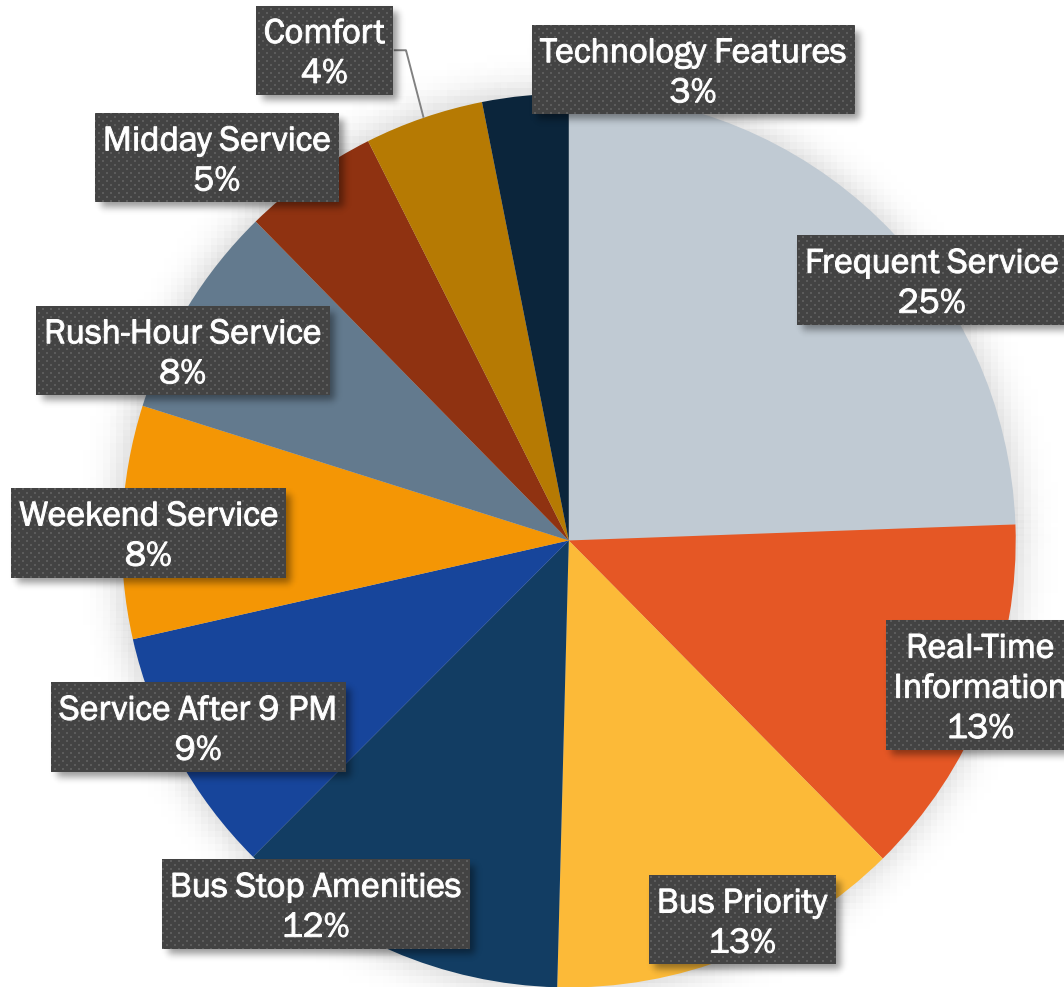
## Enforcement

- Fare evasion
- Bus lane obstruction

## Travel Challenges

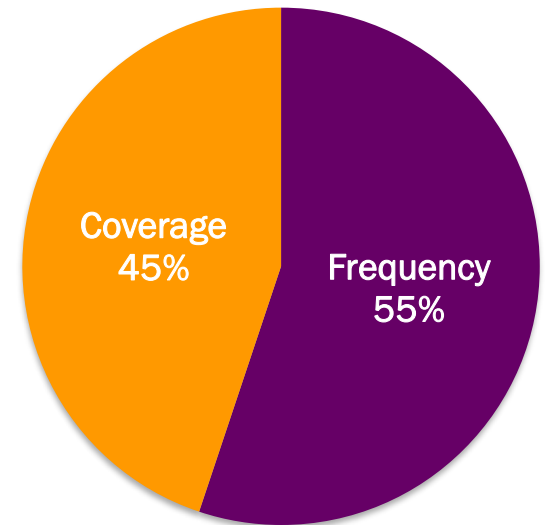
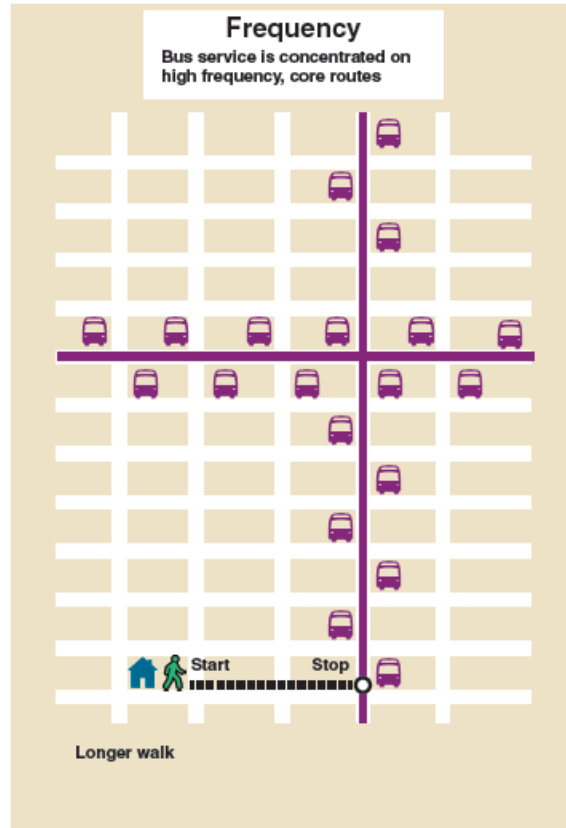
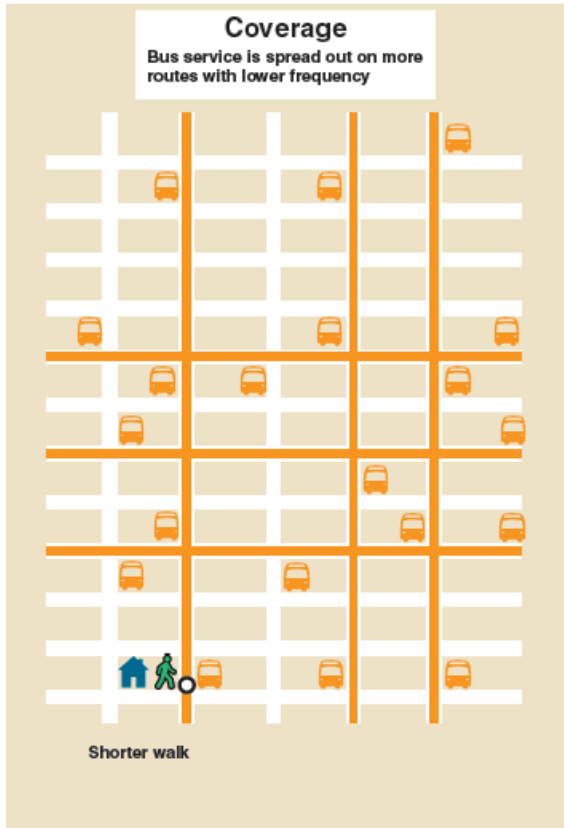
- East-west service
- Ferry service
- Allow 3-legged transfers

# Priorities



# Trade-Offs

Imagine you have a fleet of 20 buses.  
How would you plan service for your bus network?



Coverage

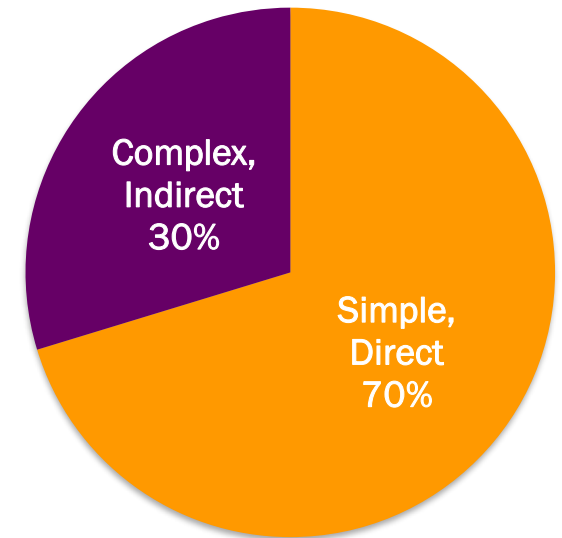
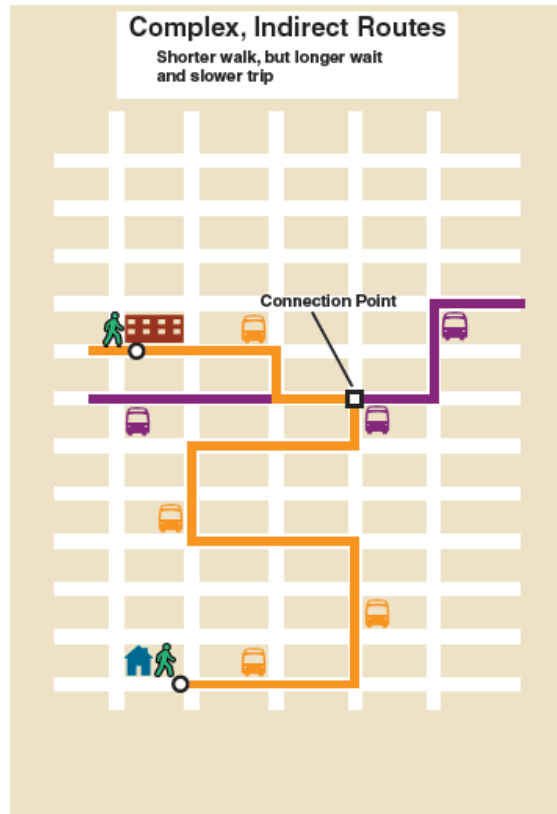
OR

Frequency

# Trade-Offs



## Simple, Direct Routes vs. Complex, Indirect Routes



Simple, Direct Routes

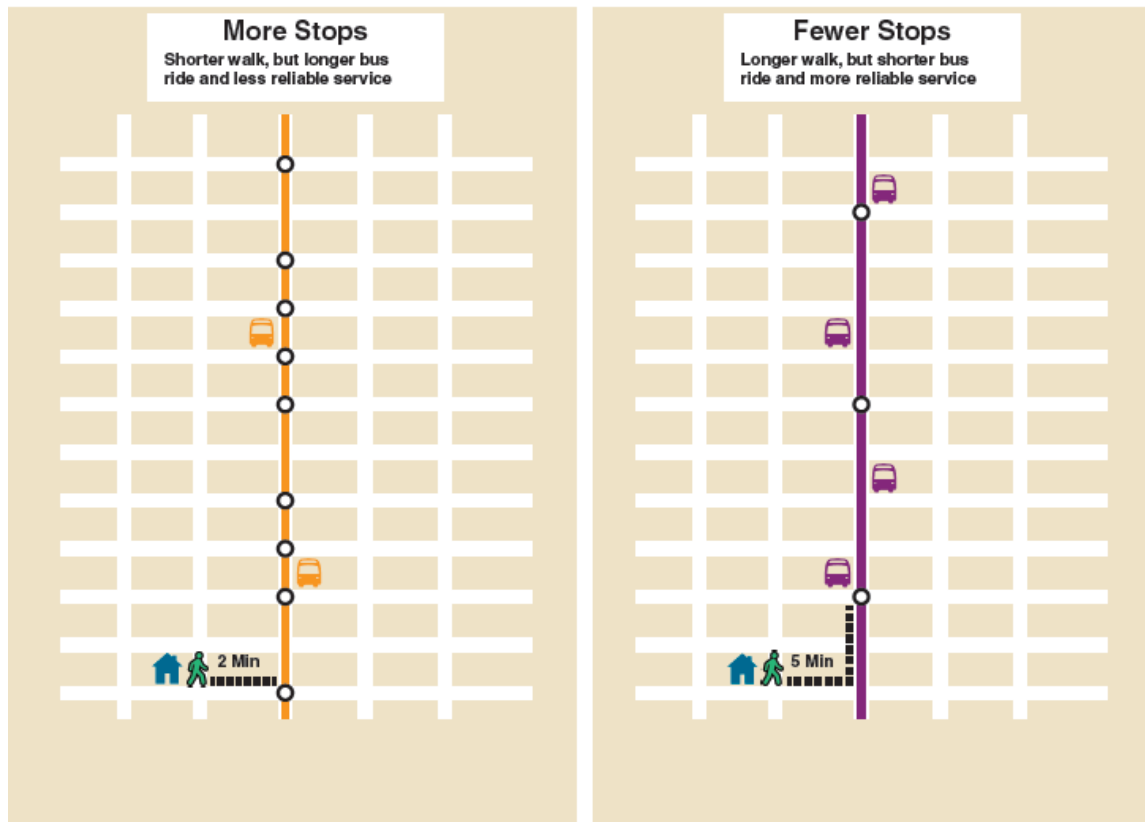
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Complex, Indirect Routes

# Trade-Offs



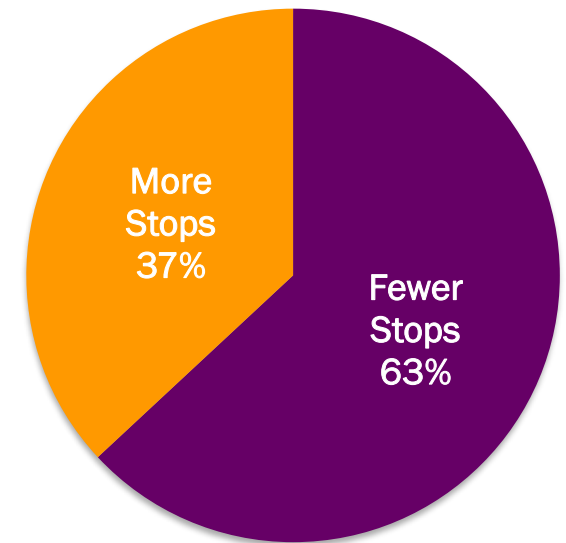
## More Stops vs. Fewer Stops



More Stops

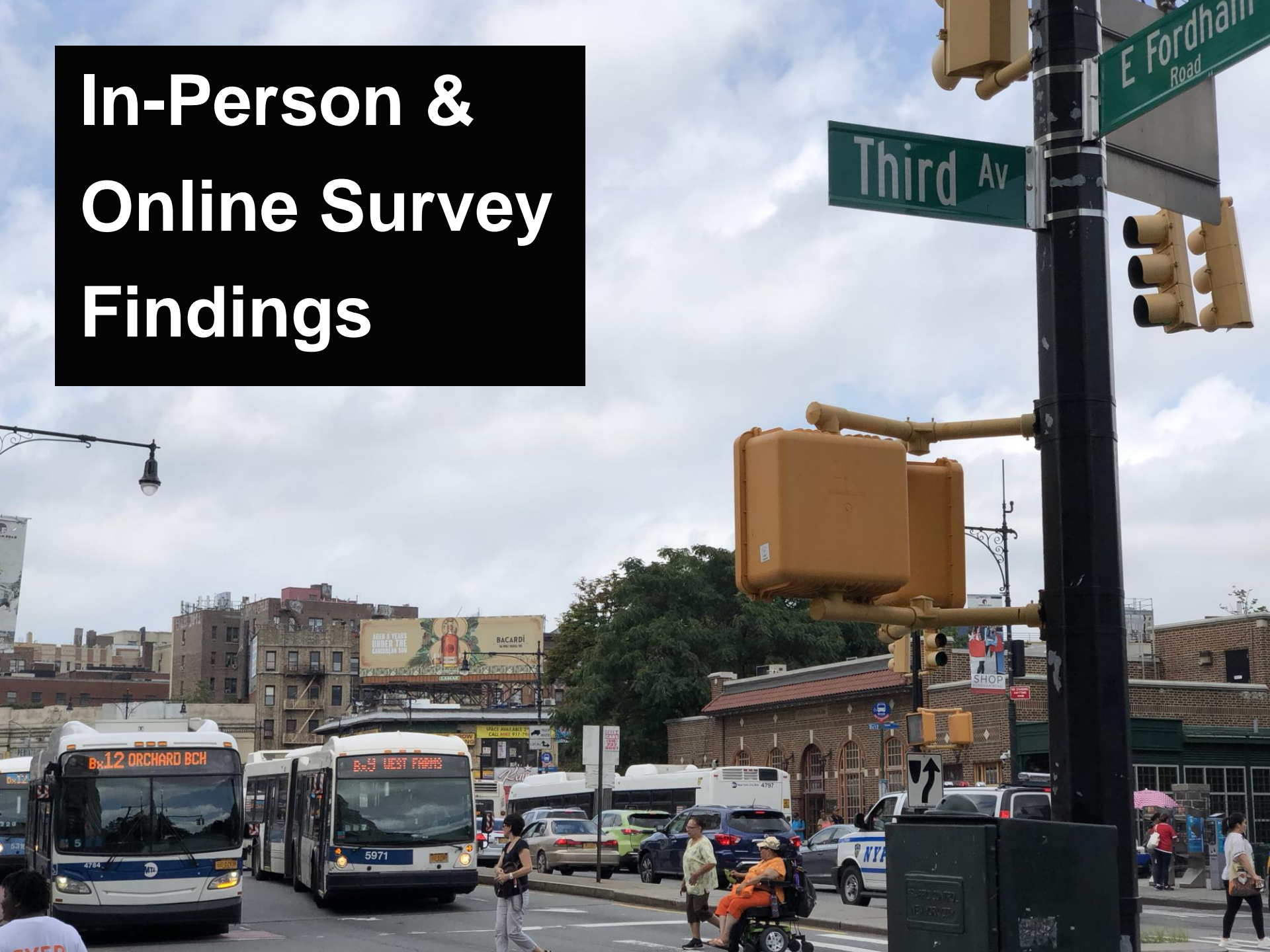
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Fewer Stops





# In-Person & Online Survey Findings



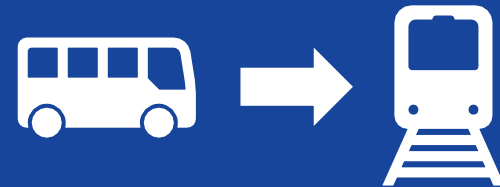
# Summary

- **In-person survey:**
  - Canvassed 12 key locations
  - Nearly 2,000 completed surveys across the 12 locations
- **Online survey:**
  - Open to participants at the workshops
  - Promoted via community outreach and coordination with elected officials
  - Accessible to all via [mta.info](http://mta.info)
  - Nearly 750 completed surveys



# Findings

- **Travel within The Bronx – local bus service is most used**
- **Travel outside The Bronx – subway and local bus service are the most used**
- **Small number of respondents never use bus service but would if improvements were made**



# Findings

- **Trip purpose:**
  - Travel to/from work
  - Shopping or dining
  - Personal or business errands
- **Most important elements of bus travel:**
  - Arriving on time
  - Getting to destination quickly
  - Knowing when the bus is coming
- **Trip planning tools:**
  - Google Maps
  - MYmta app
  - MTA Bus Time
- **Why certain trips by bus are considered difficult:**
  - Takes too much time, or too slow
  - Service is unreliable
  - Too many transfers
  - Not enough service

# Existing Conditions Report

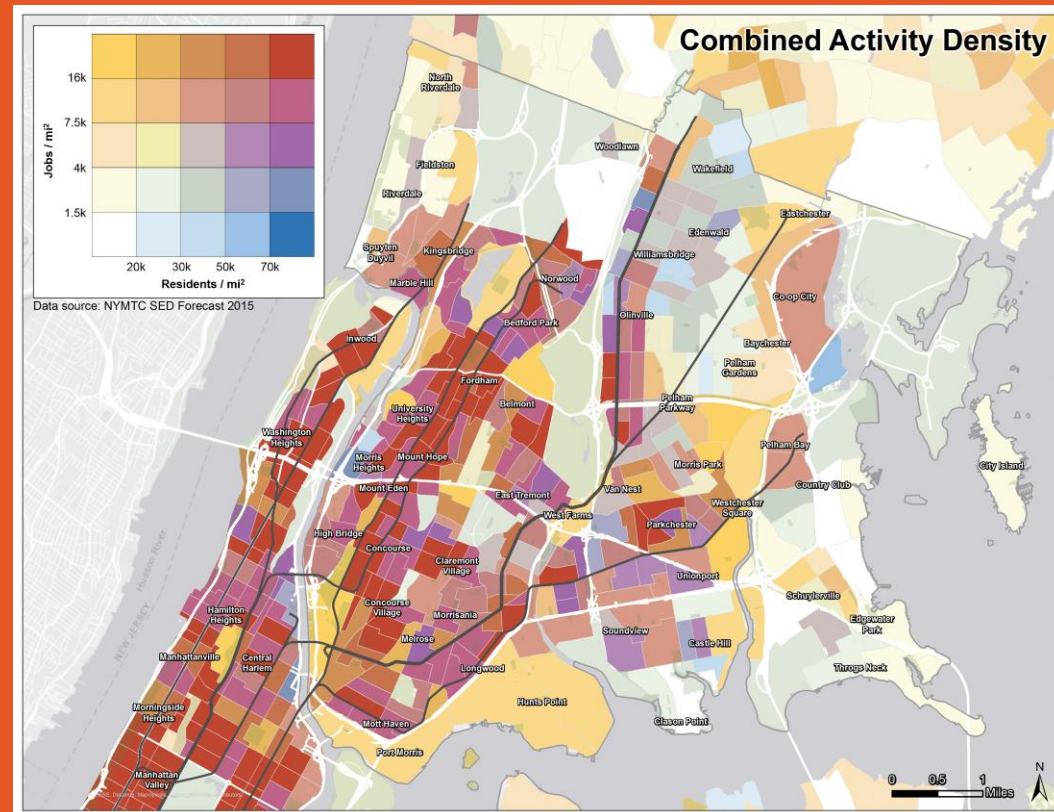


# Summary

- **Market Analysis – looks at existing demographics and characteristics of The Bronx:**
  - Who lives in The Bronx?
  - Where do Bronx residents work?
  - How do Bronx residents commute?
  - Besides work or home, what are other key travel generators?
  - How will population and employment change in the next 15 years?
- **Service Analysis – looks at existing bus service delivered by NYCT & MTA Bus Company:**
  - How does current bus service support Bronx residents, workers, and visitors?
  - How does it perform in various industry-standard metrics?

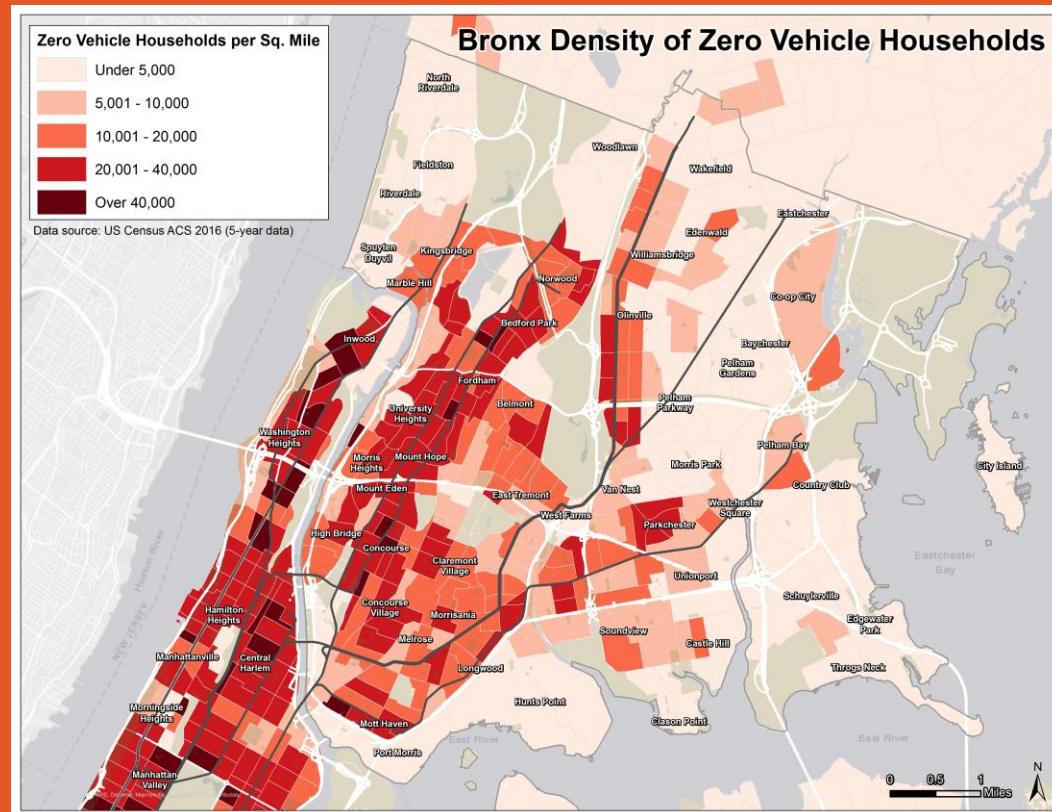
# Key Market Analysis Findings

- Population and employment (combined activity) is most dense along subway lines
- About 60% of Bronx residents commute by transit
- There are a limited number of ADA accessible subway stations in The Bronx



# Key Market Analysis Findings

- Average of over 12,000 zero vehicle households per square mile
- Average of over 3,000 low-income families per square mile
- Majority of Bronx workers who take public transit to work have a commute 60+ minutes

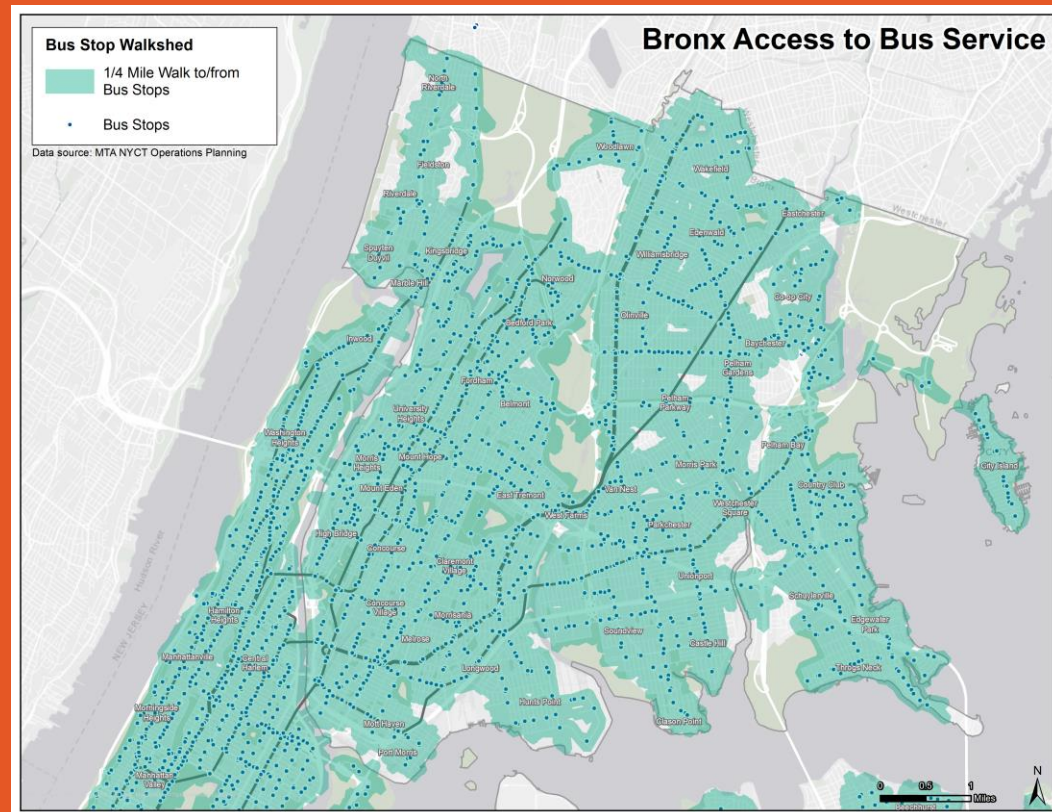






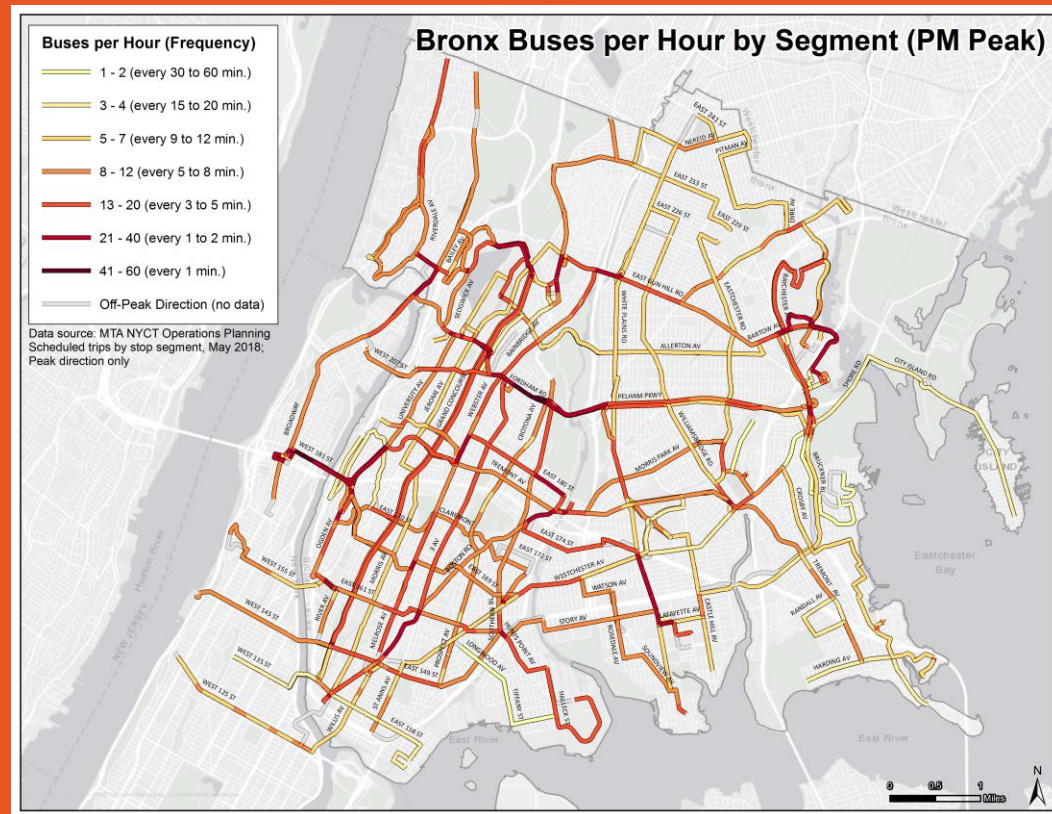
# Key Service Analysis Findings

- Roughly 96% of residents have access to some level of bus service
- Nearly 82% of residents live within ¼ mile of express bus stops and ½ mile of subway or commuter rail stations



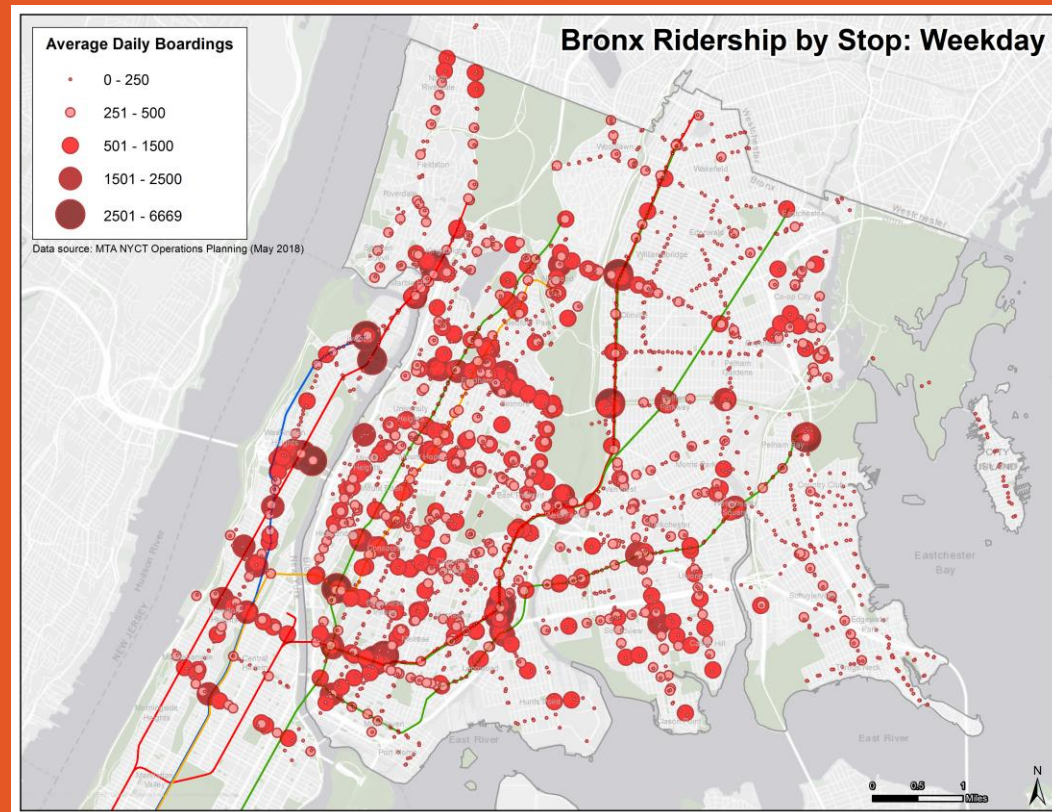
# Key Service Analysis Findings

- Bronx bus service is very frequent for most of the day
- 40% of residents live within ¼ mile of frequent midday bus service
- Buses traverse high-activity corridors every 2 minutes during the PM Peak



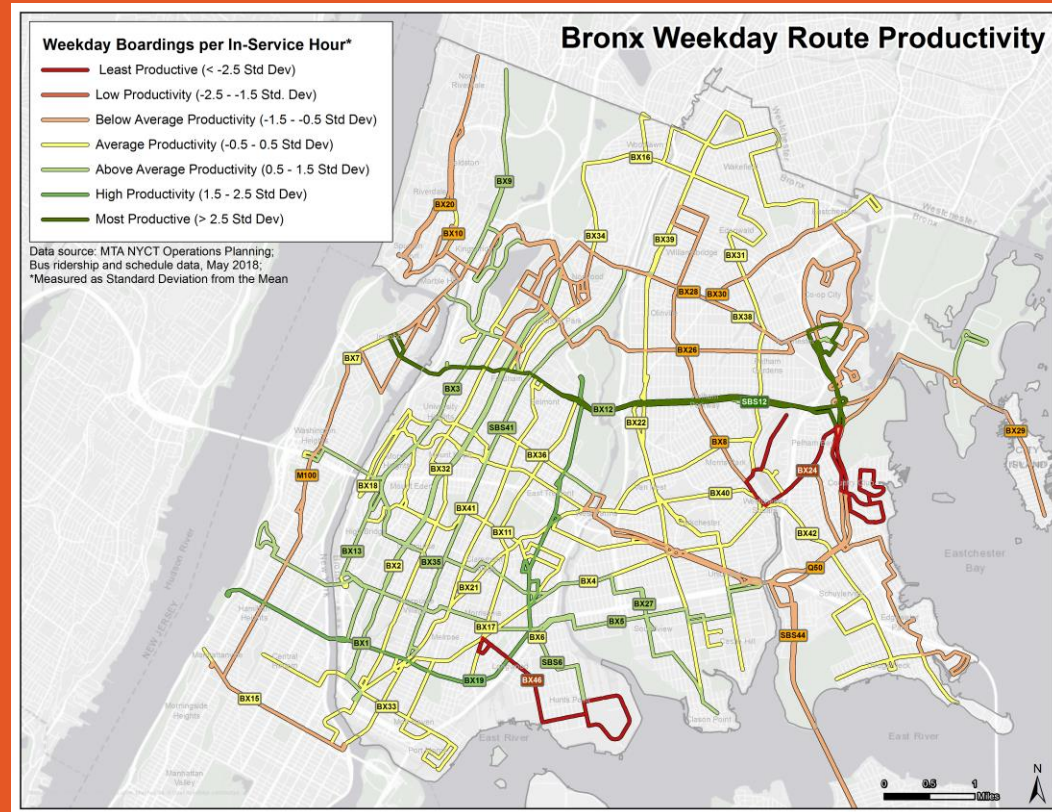
# Key Service Analysis Findings

- **Average boardings**
  - 675,000 weekday
  - 390,800 Saturday
  - 296,600 Sunday
- **Crucial corridors within the bus network:**
  - 3rd Ave
  - E 149th St
  - Fordham Rd/Pelham Pkwy
  - Grand Concourse
  - Tremont Ave



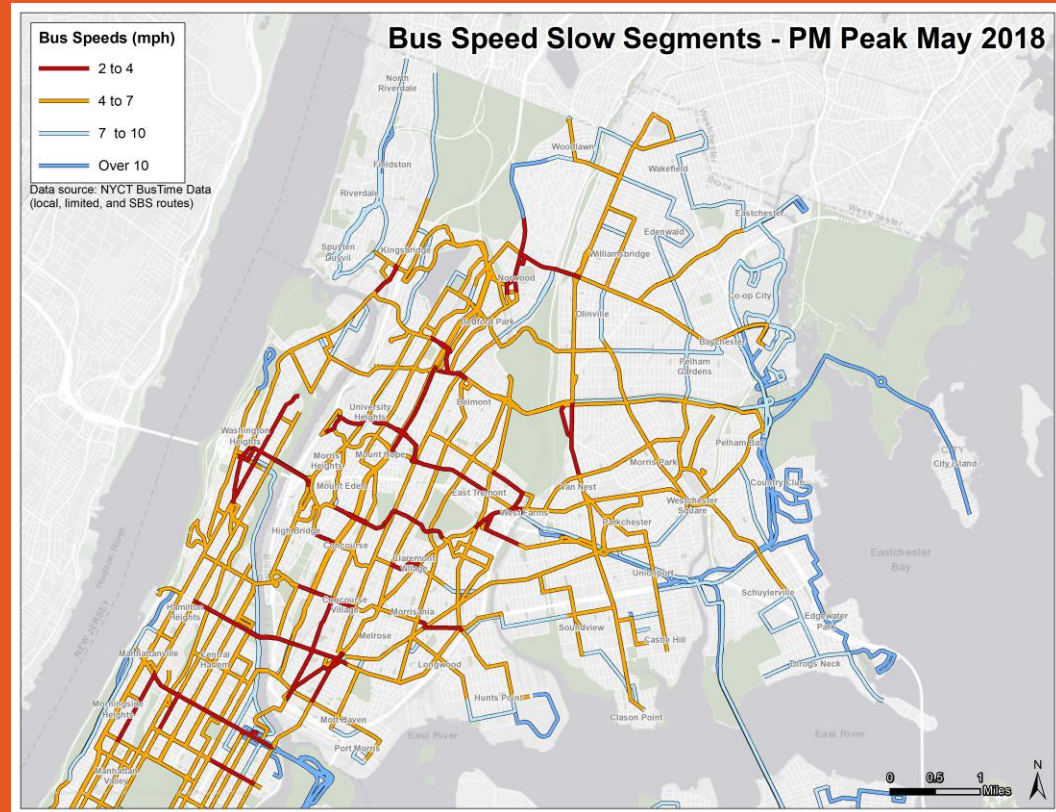
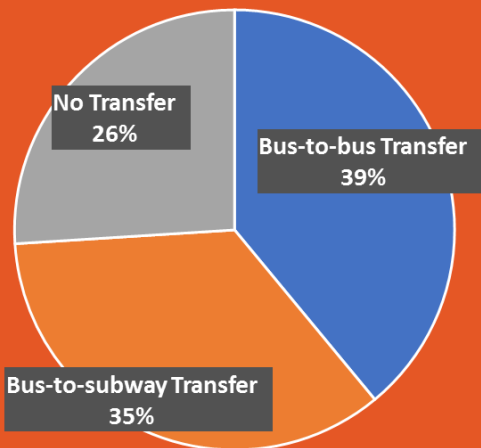
# Key Service Analysis Findings

- The Bronx has the most productive bus service in the city, carrying the most passengers per hour of service
- The most productive routes are simple and direct, and serve high-density, high-activity areas
- Less productive routes are very circuitous and travel through low-density areas



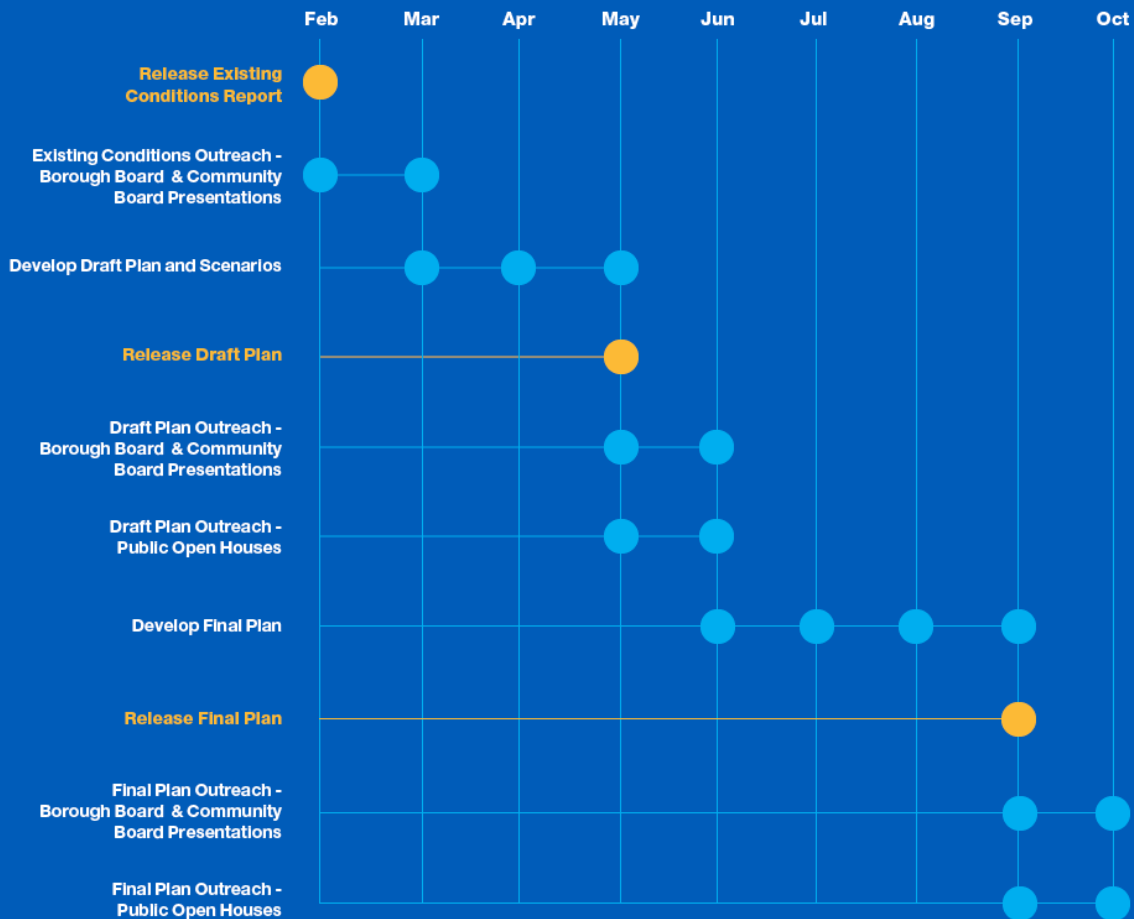
# Key Service Analysis Findings

- The Bronx bus network is less reliable than the system-wide average
- The Bronx bus network has very close stop spacing
- Most customers rely on multiple routes or subway lines to get around



# Moving Forward

## Bronx Bus Network Redesign Updated Project Timeline



# Thank you

[new.mta.info/bronxbusredesign](https://new.mta.info/bronxbusredesign)

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New York City Transit