The Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA) is committed to keeping our state on the move while fostering a healthy environment. One of the ways we honor this commitment is by making it easy to take personally owned bicycles, battery-assisted e-bikes and e-scooters onto our system.

Public transportation at its best provides more mobility options to everyone, helps improve air quality, and reduces traffic congestion. In Maryland, public transportation and your personal wheeled vehicles work together to allow for longer trips. That’s smart transportation – the ability to move seamlessly between transit modes in a healthy, enjoyable manner. Because the best transit experience is all about you.

Full-size personally owned bicycles, e-bikes and e-scooters are permitted on Light RailLink, Metro SubwayLink, Local Bus and MARC Trains. No more than two personal vehicles are
permitted on any individual Light RailLink or Metro SubwayLink car. Local buses are equipped with racks above the front bumper to carry up to two bicycles or e-bikes weighing less than 50 pounds each. Bicycles are not allowed inside MDOT MTA buses. Folded e-scooters are permitted on buses when secured between the rider’s legs or held close to the rider when standing.

Bicycles with trailers or training wheels, tricycles, stationary, cargo, or tandem bicycles are not allowed on MDOT MTA services. Motorcycles, mopeds or gas-powered vehicles of any sort are also not allowed on MDOT MTA vehicles. Riders of personally owned e-scooters must fold the scooter when boarding an MDOT MTA vehicle. You must be 18 years or older with proof of age, or accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 to bring a personal vehicle onto MDOT MTA services. Only one bicycle or scooter per person is allowed on board. For a complete list of do’s and don’ts for bikes on MDOT MTA services, visit mta.maryland.gov/bike
RACK IT

Tips for Using a Bus Front-Mounted Bike Rack

MDOT MTA LocalLink, CityLink, and Express BusLink vehicles are equipped to carry two bicycles or e-bikes. The racks are easy to use and designed for cyclists to load and unload themselves. All bikes must be placed on the bike rack situated on the front of each bus. See the steps on the following pages for loading and unloading, or visit a Bike-n-Ride display at a local bike shop.

Loading

1. To prepare your bike for loading prior to the arrival of the bus, remove all loose items, water bottles, chain locks or any other dangling objects.

2. Stay back as the bus approaches the stop, keeping yourself and your bicycle safely out of the way.
3. Alert the operator that you will place a bicycle on the rack, and then go to the front of the bus to load the bicycle from the curb side. Do not step into oncoming traffic to load your bike.

4. If the rack is in the upright position, using one hand, squeeze the handle to carefully lower the bicycle rack while holding your bike with the other hand.

5. Lift the bicycle, fitting wheels into the slot closest to the bus. If it is the second bicycle on the rack, place your bike in the opposite direction of the first bicycle. The front tire should be in the wheel slot with the tire-stabilizing hook.

Don’t rush; ensure your bicycle is secure before boarding. The operator will wait for you to finish.
6. Raise the tire-stabilizing hook up and over the front tire so the hook rests at the highest point on the front wheel. The hook adds lateral support for the loaded bicycle. If you are having trouble with this step, try to pull the hook out straight before positioning it at the highest point of the wheel.

7. Board the bus, pay the fare and tell the operator at which stop you will depart with your bicycle.

8. Enjoy the ride!
Unloading

1. Don’t forget your bicycle is loaded on the bus! If you do forget, call 410-539-5000.

2. Exit from the front door and remind the operator you have a bike to take off the rack.

3. Raise the hook off the tire by pulling up on the yellow handle. Lower it past the bicycle tire to its original position on the rack. Lift your bike off the rack.
4. If there are no other bicycles on the rack, return the rack to the upright position by squeezing the handle and folding up the rack until it snaps into position.

5. Step away from the bus toward the curb and wait for the bus to pull away from the stop before mounting your bicycle.

BIKES ON LIGHT RAILLINK AND METRO SUBWAYLINK

Any standard-size bicycle, e-bike or e-scooter may be brought aboard MDOT MTA’s Light RailLink, Metro SubwayLink or MARC Train. When using Light RailLink, e-bikes are only allowed on the last car of the train. For both Light RailLink and Metro SubwayLink, e-bikes...
must be held firmly upright in the priority seating area. You’ll also need to be prepared to move the bike to make way for seniors and individuals with disabilities, who have priority for this seating area. When using these services, be sure to:

- Walk or carry the bicycle when on the elevator, inside the station, on the platform or in the train.
- Please wait for a less crowded train if the train is crowded due to morning or afternoon rush hour, sporting events or special events.
- Stay a safe distance from the loading platform edge at all times before boarding trains.
- Be considerate of other passengers and wait until exiting and entering passengers have cleared the doorway before carrying the bicycle onto the train.
- Follow any instructions given by transit staff regarding bicycle transport.

Do not use the escalator or carry your bike on the stairs. Only use the elevator.
• In the event your personal vehicle or other property falls into the track area, DO NOT attempt to retrieve it. Immediately approach the station attendant for assistance on Metro Subway or contact MDOT MTA Police at 410-454-7720.

MARC Train

Designated cars are now available to carry full-size bikes, e-bikes and e-scooters on all MARC Train lines. Collapsible bicycles that fold with wheels that come together are permitted on all MARC Trains. Stow folded bicycles so that passenger aisles are kept unobstructed. Folded bicycles and folding scooters are not permitted to be stowed in overhead storage bins. Please be cautious when entering or exiting a MARC Train with a personal vehicle, particularly from or onto a low platform.

Stand or sit with your bicycle in a location that minimizes the impact on other passengers, and always maintain control of your bicycle, e-bike or e-scooter.
WHICH CARS ACCEPT BIKES?

Passengers with full-size bicycles can identify which railcar to board by looking for the green “Bicycle Entrance” decal or an illuminated green light on the outside of the car. Passengers unable to find an available bike rack will need to wait for the next train with bike racks.

MARC cars will be clearly identified and riders should board and depart at designated entrances and exits. For a complete list of do’s and don’ts for bikes on MARC Train, visit mta.maryland.gov/bike

Securing Bicycles

Passengers should always bring two bungee cords to secure their bicycles and e-bikes. MARC train equipment assignments vary by day, and your train may have any type of MARC rail car. You should be prepared to travel and store your bike with bungee cords.

- Remove all bags and unsecured items before boarding the train.
- Passengers must load and unload bikes on their own. Conductors cannot assist, including at low-level platform stations.
• Bikes must be secured in designated areas.
• Look for clearly marked bike areas.

On MARC IIB and MARC III railcars, look for the illuminated green light on the outside of the car.

• Bikes must remain in the bike rack while the train is in motion.
• Bikes may only be removed from the bike rack when you reach your destination.
• If all bike racks are occupied on a train, please wait for the next train.

On MARC IV railcars, look for the green “Bicycle Entrance” decal on the outside of the car.

• Secure your bike against the folded bench seats.
• Bicycles must be secured in at least two points on the bike to prevent shifting or movement of the bike. Hook bungee cords through the eyelets at the top of the seats.

• Sit next to, or near, your secured bike.

• Only one bike is allowed on each side of the aisle.

• All portions of the bike should remain behind the line marked on the floor to ensure a clear and safe walkway.

SAFETY RULES

Staying safe when riding on the roads means watching out for a wide variety of vehicles and audio/visual warning devices. **Bicyclists should always watch for transit vehicles and practice the following:**

• If you as a bicycle rider cannot see a transit vehicle’s outside mirror, the operator of that vehicle is unable to see you.

• Be aware that buses pull over to the curb to pick up or drop off passengers. You should exercise extreme caution before passing any bus on the right. Be sure not to pass a bus on the right when it is pulling over to stop for passengers.
• When you pass a bus with its rear angled out into traffic, pass on the left and look around carefully. Pass the front of the bus with plenty of room in case it pulls out or pedestrians appear. Buses and other large vehicles need more room to negotiate turning corners, so stay away from the rear of a turning vehicle.

• Use high-visibility front and rear lights in low-visibility situations to make sure drivers can see you.

• When approaching Light RailLink or other railroad tracks, always expect a train at any time, from any direction, and on any track in the vicinity.

• Only cross Light RailLink or other railroad tracks with caution and with the bicycle wheels perpendicular to the tracks to prevent the wheel from getting stuck in the track flange gap. Tracks can be particularly challenging to cross when they are wet or icy.

• Obey railroad crossing safety devices. That means signals, flashing lights, gate arms and audible bells.

• NEVER try to race a train or piece of track equipment through a grade crossing or intersection.
• Stop, look and listen before crossing tracks at the designated location. Trains and track equipment move more quickly than they might appear to be moving. If stopped, they may move without warning.

• Do not rely on sound alone to warn of an approaching train as they can be very quiet.

• Light RailLink trains follow their own traffic signals and may move at unexpected times.

BICYCLE RACKS AND LOCKERS

Nearly all Light RailLink stops, Metro SubwayLink stations and MARC Train stations have bicycle racks. Rack space is available at no cost. Be sure to use U-locks to secure your bike-frame and both wheels to the rack, and remember to take any easily removable accessories with you.

Bike lockers are available at several Light RailLink stops, Metro SubwayLink stations and MARC Train stations.
For locations where bike lockers are available and for information on renting a locker, call the MDOT MTA Office of Customer and Community Relations at 410-767-3999. A $25 refundable deposit is required for the locker key. The yearly cost of renting a locker is $70.

DEDICATED BUS AND BIKE LANE

Dedicated bus and bike lanes allow buses to travel more easily through some of the region’s most congested streets and provide an additional option for MDOT MTA passengers who connect to the transit system by bicycle.

Dedicated bus lanes are painted red to make them more visible to the public. In areas with a solid red marking, only buses, bicycles and emergency vehicles can travel.
All vehicles can enter areas with dashed-paint markings to make a right turn at the next intersection or driveway. In some areas, the dedicated bus lanes are for peak periods only and are not marked with red paint, but simply with signage and markings on the pavement.

When using a dedicated bus and bike lane, be aware of your surroundings and always follow the rules of the road as other vehicles may occupy the shared lane. If you are traveling slower than a bus behind you, find a safe place that you can pull aside to let the bus pass you safely.
FOR MORE INFORMATION

MDOT MTA Information
410-539-5000 or 1-866-RIDE-MTA
(1-866-743-3682) | mta.maryland.gov

To retrieve or report property that has fallen into the tracks please call MDOT MTA Police at 410-454-7720.

Forgot your bike on the bus?
Call 410-539-5000 and we will make every effort to locate it and arrange for its return. You will be asked to provide bus route number, bus vehicle number (if known) and where you exited the bus.

Bicycle Lockers and Racks
MDOT MTA Office of Customer and Community Relations Information
6 St. Paul Street, 3rd Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202 | 410-767-3999

Maryland Department of Transportation
Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (MBPAC)
7201 Corporate Center Drive, P.O. Box 548
Hanover, MD 21076 | mdot.maryland.gov
Guaranteed Ride Home Program
Once registered in the Guaranteed Ride Home program, bicyclists who ride to work at least two times per week are eligible for up to four free rides home per year in case of personal illness, family emergency or unscheduled overtime. 1-800-745-RIDE (7433)

CommuterConnections.org

MDOT State Highway Administration
Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator
707 North Calvert Street, MS 502
Baltimore, MD 21202 | 410-545-5656
bikes@sha.state.md.us

Baltimore City Bike & Pedestrian Planner
417 East Fayette Street, Suite 555
Baltimore, MD 21202 | 443-984-4094

Bike Maryland
1415 Bush Street, Baltimore, MD 21230
443-406-2711 | bikemaryland.org

Bikemore
2209 Maryland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21218
443-475-0350 | info@bikemore.net
bikemore.net
For more information or to request this information in an alternate format or translated into another language, please contact the department listed below.

Para mayor información, o para solicitar esta información en un formato alternativo o traducido a otro idioma, por favor contacte el departamento enlistado abajo.

MDOT MTA Transit Information Contact Center
410-539-5000 • 866-743-3682
Maryland Relay Users Dial 7-1-1