

For Immediate Release:

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Greater Portland Metro to Extend Service to Bath Iron Works beginning July 7, 2025

On July 7, 2025, Greater Portland Metro will begin operating expanded service on its BREEZ express route to Bath Iron Works (BIW). Two round trips per day will serve Bath Information Center, coinciding with BIW's shift schedule, on a pilot basis through September 2026.

The service expansion will provide a direct transit connection between Portland, Yarmouth, Freeport, and Brunswick to the Bath Regional Information Center, directly adjacent to BIW.

"We are pleased to partner with Bath Iron Works to expand our BREEZ service to the City of Bath", said Glenn Fenton, Greater Portland Metro's Executive Director. "At Metro, we are continuously working to expand transit service throughout the Greater Portland region and beyond. Strategic partnerships like this one, allow Metro to grow our service in a cost effective way benefiting current riders and providing new transportation options for potential riders. This fits closely with Metro's Vision to be the mobility option of choice that connects people to each other and all the places that make for a full life."

The service expansion is funded by the United States Department of Transportation's Workforce Transportation Program, <u>administered by Maine Department of Transportation</u> (MaineDOT). Bath Iron Works will be using these funds to reimburse Metro for the additional service. The goal of the expanded BREEZ service is to provide safe and convenient transportation for employees, who need to contend with daily parking and traffic congestion.

"This public-private partnership will make it easier and more affordable for shipbuilders to commute from Portland to Bath. As a result, it will reduce traffic and parking demand near the shipyard," said BIW President Charles F. Krugh. "Improving the commuting experience makes it possible for more people to join our shipyard and embark on meaningful good-paying careers building ships for the U.S. Navy."

Metro BREEZ also serves park-and-ride lots and downtown areas of Portland, Brunswick, Freeport, and Yarmouth, allowing residents from around the region to park and ride transit to work. One additional northbound trip and two additional southbound trips will be added to the BREEZ schedule as part of this extension.



"The BREEZ's expansion to Bath will greatly enhance public transit and improve regional connectivity for our City," said Bath City Manager Marc Meyers, "I'm thankful for the partnership of BIW and Metro, and their work to provide transportation opportunities for residents and the regional workforce."

Like all Metro service, the new BREEZ trips will be open to the public. Fares are \$4, each way, with \$2 reduced fares available for eligible riders. Additional discounts are available for passengers who ride frequently or who purchase ten rides at a time.

Greater Portland Metro is a public transit agency with eight community members: Brunswick, Falmouth, Freeport, Gorham, Portland, South Portland, Westbrook, and Yarmouth.

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