

Metro Bus Service to Back Cove Festival - August 2 and 3, 2025 Frequent, Fast, and Safe Transportation

For Immediate Release: July 28, 2025

(Portland, Maine) – Greater Portland Metro will be operating additional bus service in support of the Back Cove Music and Arts Festival on August 2 and 3, 2025. The additional service will be **free of charge and open to the public**. Schedules are posted on www.gpmetro.org/backcovefest.

Metro's Route 9B service, which circulates the City of Portland including Congress Street, Stevens Avenue, Allen Avenue, Auburn Street, and Washington Avenue, will be extended through 11pm on both evenings, and will operate every 15 minutes.

Route 9B provides safe and convenient access to the Back Cove Festival with a bus stop at Washington Avenue/Ocean Avenue. **Additionally, a special event route will run between the Back Cove Festival's site at Payson Park and Portland's West End via Congress Street, stopping at all Metro bus stops along the way.** This service will run approximately every 10 minutes from 8pm through 11pm on both nights of the festival.

"Metro strives to be the mobility option of choice for Greater Portland," said Glenn Fenton, Metro's Executive Director. "We are proud to partner with the Back Cove Music and Arts Festival to provide frequent, fast, and safe service for this event."

The Back Cove Festival has numerous transportation options for the event, which has no dedicated public parking onsite. In addition to added Metro bus service, the event will offer free shuttles to parking areas around the city, a free bike valet presented by the Bicycle Coalition of Maine, a rideshare zone on Ocean Avenue, and a dedicated Walking and Bike Trail along Front Street.

The Back Cove Music and Arts Festival is on August 2 and August 3, 2025 at Portland's Payson Park, with music taking place on two, alternating stages beginning around 12:00pm and ending around 10:00pm on both days. Limited tickets are still available at www.backcovefestival.com/tickets.

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

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Contacts:

Mike Tremblay, Director of Transit Development
mtremblay@gpmetro.org | (508) 451-0208

Denise Beck, Marketing Manager
dbeck@gpmetro.org | (207) 517-3027