# HOW TO READ A ROUTE EVALUATION

The Bus Revolution team is drafting evaluations of each SEPTA bus route. These evaluations help the project team understand the SEPTA bus network in a comprehensive way, viewing the system from the bottom-up while identifying opportunities for potential improvements. The route evaluations will help inform the network scenarios and final recommendations for a revolutionized bus network.

## ROUTE EVALUATION OVERVIEW

Each route evaluation includes the following sections:

- **Key Service Characteristics, Issues, and Opportunities:** A summary of the route evaluation findings.

- **Route Overview:** A brief description of where the route operates and its primary function within the network.

- **Service Overview:**
  - o **Schedule:** An overview of the schedule, including the hours the route is available (service span) and how often the bus arrives (frequency). This data is described for time periods and days. Service frequencies is shown by time period as both an average and a range to account for service patterns that may not operate for the full route alignment.
  - o **Service Patterns:** Some SEPTA bus routes have multiple patterns. There is typically a primary pattern that used for most trips plus other patterns that are used for a variety of reasons like traveling to a school or business that is only open on certain days or times. This section describes each service pattern (the path the trip takes), including their purpose, identification of the primary service pattern, unique route segments or terminals, and typical schedule.

- **Ridership:**
  - o **Overview:** A brief description of Fall 2019 ridership by day type. This section also includes information about route productivity as measured by riders per hour and shows the ranking of the route as compared with SEPTA's system overall.
  - o **Transfer Patterns:** An overview of the most common transfers made to and from the route in Fall 2019.
  - o **Ridership by Stop:** A detailed review of boardings and alightings along the route, with a primary focus on weekday ridership in Fall 2019.
  - o **Ridership by Time of Day:**
    - ▪ *Ridership by Hour:* A review of boardings by hour in Fall 2019.
  - o **Ridership and Maximum Loads by Trip:** A review of Fall 2019 ridership and maximum loads by trip for all day types. Note that maximum load is the greatest number of riders on the bus at once. This section may omit certain charts if (1) patterns are similar on weekdays and weekends or (2) the route does not have trips where maximums loads exceed SEPTA standards.

- **On-Time Performance and Running Times:**
  - o **On-Time Performance:** An overview of on-time performance (the percentage of buses that arrive at their stops no more than two minutes early and six minutes late when compared to their scheduled arrival time) in Fall 2019 by day type, as well as the percentage of missed trips.

- **Average Speeds and Stop Spacing:**
  - o **Average Speeds:** A brief description of overall bus speeds, focused on slow time periods and/or slow speed route segments.
  - o **Stop Spacing:** A brief description of average stop spacing (the average traveled distance between bus stops along a bus route) by route segment, highlighting segments where the distance between stops is significantly longer than industry standards as well as significantly closer than industry standards.

- **Rider Characteristics:** A brief overview of the route's ridership demographics compared to the SEPTA systemwide average.

- **Service Improvement Opportunities:** This section includes a range of potential opportunities for improving the route. It is intended to be a list of ideas and potential ways a route and/or related routes can be strengthened or improved. They are NOT recommendations and may be contradictory to each other, as there is usually more than one way to improve a route.