

# Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

## What Is BRT?

BRT is a flexible, rubber-tire form of rapid transit that combines running ways, vehicles, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), stations and branding elements to improve speed, reliability, capacity, and attractiveness of the system.

**Running Way** - Possible on-street running ways include mixed traffic (used by automobiles and buses) and exclusive transit lanes (used by buses and possibly right-turn vehicles). Exclusive transit lanes improve bus travel time and can be located in the median or curbside, outer lane of a roadway.



**Vehicles** - The quality and attractiveness of the service can be improved with high-capacity, low-floor vehicles and various door configurations. Vehicles range from conventional buses to modern-looking vehicles with amenities designed to provide a "light rail-like" riding experience.



**Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)**- Transit signal priority, automatic vehicle location systems, and real-time traveler information can be used to enhance the transit operations and overall passenger experience.

**Stations** - Range from basic bus stops to rail-like stations with pre-boarding fare payment, real-time bus arrival information, and level boarding.



**Branding** - The creation of a brand or identity for BRT service, separate from that of the local bus service, helps in attracting riders.



BRT Logos from Lane Transit District and Utah Transit Authority.

### Benefits of BRT:

- **Fast and Reliable** - offers passengers a quicker, more predictable trip.
- **Flexible** - allows multiple operators and multiple types of service (e.g., local, BRT, and express bus routes) in the same lanes.
- **Phasing** - may be deployed in phases based on funding availability and demand.

Sources: FTA Characteristics of Bus Rapid Transit for Decision-Making, RTC Las Vegas, Lane Transit District.