

Metro System Responded 'Exceedingly Well' During Democratic Convention Opening Night

(Aug. 15) The Metro System responded "exceedingly well" to the opening night of the Democratic National Convention, according to MTA officials who observed operations.

To meet heavier-than-normal passenger loads, that included convention delegates and demonstrators, Metro Rail officials dispatched four additional Metro Red Line trains and four extra Metro Blue Line trains. The trains were scheduled to ensure good connections between the two rail lines.

Other than some littering aboard the cars and intermittent delays at ticket vending machines at a couple of rail stations, the system experienced no problems following the convention session.

Morning rush period service aboard the trains was normal, according to Ralph de la Cruz, deputy executive officer, Rail Operations.

The Metro Bus system also operated smoothly on Monday, according to the Bus Operations Control Center. Passenger loads in the downtown area appeared to be somewhat lighter than normal, perhaps because some businesses near the convention site closed. Detours around the area added five minutes or more to bus headways.

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