Rider information wherever, whenever

Patrons asking the question such as “how soon will my bus arrive?” and “are there any delays?” are examples of real-time information available through the NextBus system. With real-time service alerts and arrival predictions riders gain insight into journey progress and conclusion, resulting in an enhanced transit experience.

The most important question public transit passengers have is: “When is my bus arriving?” Real-time passenger information that is accurate and reliable has become the expectation of passengers everywhere. The key concern for transit agencies is how to provide high-quality, real-time information that is cost effective regardless of agency size. The NextBus transit management system offers agencies a number of options for riders traveling along any fixed route: bus, light rail, cable car, ferry, train or streetcar.

Our customizable solution allows you to select the management tools and customer touch points you need, whether you have a few vehicles or several thousand. Because different traffic conditions can interrupt service, NextBus is designed to provide passengers the information to keep on schedule, even if their bus or train isn’t.

How it works

GPS technology and a proprietary algorithm link data from the city’s various transit vehicles and agency management systems to the NextBus service center. Our comprehensive transit management system saves operators time and money by optimizing existing routes and schedules. These same tools help transit operators oversee and manage vehicle performance, scheduling, and headway management. Agencies can oversee their fleet in a customizable dashboard displaying all the necessary triggers, enabling efficient and proactive dispatching. In turn, rider experience is enhanced as operators are able to provide real-time information prior to a journey beginning and while a rider is in transit.

With a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) platform, the need for in-house equipment and support is decreased, reducing agency costs. Since NextBus is cloud-based, transit authorities can view information from anywhere, allowing them to understand, react and make more informed decisions.
NextBus offers

- Passenger information displays, including mobile versions
- Electronic signage and displays (LED, LCD/TFT, E-ink), including Push-to-Talk buttons at bus stops
- Sign and Display Management
- Live and replay maps
- Real-time and historical on-time performance reports
- Driver Control Unit
- Automated Passenger Counters
- Silent Alarm Capability
- Engine Diagnostic
- Automated Voice Annunciation Systems

Real-time passenger information

Transit riders can get real-time arrival information and notification alerts through a variety of sources.

- Mobile device applications
- The NextBus website
- Your agency’s website
- SMS/text messaging
- Over the phone
- Through an ADA-compliant interface for the visually impaired

NextBus

CASE STUDY:
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA)

One of the largest customers of NextBus, the agency has over 1,100 vehicles operating across more than 85 routes. This includes historic streetcars, modern light rail vehicles, diesel buses, alternative fuel vehicles, electric trolley coaches and the world-famous cable cars. In addition to customer-facing arrival predictions and agency-facing management tools, the NextBus solution for real-time passenger information in San Francisco includes:

- On-board tracking devices installed in 1,200 vehicles
- Over 850 electronic signs at bus shelters across the city, plus six kiosks
- Access to NextBus predictions through 311 and 511 systems
Our system provides the flexibility you need to keep up with today’s changing technology, while preparing for the future.

NextCity – building a smarter tomorrow
NextBus is part of NextCity, Cubic’s vision for city management and integrated traveler payment and information that centers on three core principles: the delivery of an integrated customer experience, one account and integrated operations and analytics.

Cubic – a leader in intelligent travel solutions
At Cubic, we believe our identity is intrinsically linked with our customers, and the people our customers serve. How they get from one place to the next – how that impacts their lives, their fellow travelers and their cities – and how it feels along the way.

That’s why we’re passionate about developing transportation solutions that improve the way we move throughout cities. Innovation is in our culture, and our history speaks for itself. In our 45-year history, we’ve delivered state-of-the-art public transit and traffic management systems to over 450 operators in major cities and regions on four continents.