

What you need to know about the closing of Ruter Garage

In March 2023, bus operations at the Ruter Garage will be suspended. The decision to take Ruter Garage out of active service was not taken lightly. We recognize this change will be difficult for many who enjoy working at Ruter and for staff throughout the organization who will be impacted as staff choose new work locations. Here are important facts that you should know:

All operators, technicians and support staff who work at Ruter Garage will have the opportunity to move to other locations.

- All ATU-represented staff, at all garages, will select new work locations through a system pick in early 2023.
- For bus operators, the pick will begin two weeks earlier to provide more time for familiarization and training.
- Division leadership will work with the management teams on new location assignments.

Metro Transit will continue to maintain Ruter Garage while exploring future reuses of the facility.

- Potential reuses of Ruter Garage will be explored in 2022 by Engineering and Facilities with support from a consultant.
- Equipment at the facility will be kept in a state of good repair for future use.
- Preserving Ruter Garage for future use means Metro Transit will be better prepared to support the revenue and non-revenue fleet as service evolves in the future.

Taking Ruter Garage out of active use will have no direct impact on service, which will continually evolve to meet the needs of the region.

- As of March 2022, service had been reduced by about 20% compared to before the pandemic.
- Service levels will be adjusted over time to reflect future staffing and ridership levels.
- Metro Transit will continue to serve as the contracted provider for Maple Grove Transit.

The Minneapolis Bus Garage and improvements to other support facilities will provide high-quality work environments for all staff.

- Opening in March 2023, the Minneapolis Bus Garage can accommodate 400 employees and more than 200 buses. The facility includes amenities like covered parking, an exercise room and indoor and outdoor gathering spaces.
- Improvements at other service garages are ongoing. This includes new maintenance breakrooms at the Nicollet Garage.



If you have questions or feedback about this decision, please speak with a manager or supervisor. Scan this QR code to submit questions or feedback online.