

Support for In/Out Routes in Fixed Route Operations

Many transit systems operate routes that run in one direction called Inbound and Outbound patterns, rather than continuous loops. This update introduces support for In/Out routes in the TransLoc platform, giving agencies the flexibility to accurately configure fixed route services and generate compliant data outputs for planning and real-time information.

Challenge

Agencies often provide service patterns where vehicles travel into a central area (Inbound) and then return in the opposite direction (Outbound), rather than running a circular loop. Without built-in support for these patterns, route configurations may not fully reflect real-world operations. This makes it harder to:

- Model directional service accurately
- Share precise routing data with riders and partners
- Maintain consistency in GTFS datasets for compliance and planning

Impact

Accurate route representation is essential for:

- Clear rider communications and direction-specific trips
- Efficient scheduling and resource allocation
- Reliable performance tracking by direction
- Integration with downstream systems using GTFS and GTFS-RT

Solution

Support for In/Out routes enables agencies to design, publish, and maintain directional service patterns within the same workflow used for loop routes.

1. Create Distinct Inbound and Outbound Routes

- **What it does:** Allows configuration of one-way routes for each direction of travel
- **Why it matters:** Represents service patterns accurately, improving clarity for planners and operators

2. GTFS-Compliant Outputs

- **What it does:** Ensures GTFS Static files represent In/Out routes correctly
- **Why it matters:** Maintains compatibility with trip planners, mapping tools, and regulatory reporting

3. Accurate Real-Time Feeds

- **What it does:** Generates GTFS-RT feeds that align with directional routing
- **Why it matters:** Keeps riders and downstream applications informed with consistent, accurate real-time data

Workflow

Who uses it: Administrators and schedulers configuring fixed route service

When they use it: During service design, seasonal adjustments, or when creating new routes

What changes in their day:

- Ability to create and manage Inbound and Outbound routes in one interface
- Automatic generation of accurate GTFS files for external partners
- Consistent real-time tracking and display for riders

Impact Summary

- Flexible configuration for both loop and directional routes
- Clear and accurate data for riders and planning tools
- GTFS and GTFS-RT outputs that reflect operational reality
- Better alignment between planning and live service information
- Improved support for agencies with multiple route patterns

Get Support

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