ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

For now, Zonar is on a portion of AACPS's bus fleet. But after the solution's success, the county is requiring AVL/GPS to be on every contracted bus moving forward.

Zonar Solutions Involved:
Ground Traffic Control™

"The competitive advantage Zonar gave to us was accuracy and confidence. We can now report accurate bus stop times to parents with the confidence of them being correct" – John Blair, CIS Specialist

Challenge	Action	Result
Anne Arundel County Public Schools is large enough to require the coordination of 600 buses. However, bus stop times produced in its school bus routing software were too optimistic. The school bus routing software takes a simple point A to point B distance calculation and multiples it by the road speed to produce a time. This software does not incorporate real world issues such as traffic, stop signs and lights, and speed bumps. One of the worst cases the county experienced was a bus that ran 27 minutes behind its reported bus schedule. *"Varying bus times were causing anger and anxiety for parents and the community. We needed a way to more accurately predict route times."* -Blair	Transportation offices need to publish consistent, accurate bus stop times, which in turn, cut down on phone call and email complaints. AACPS used Zonar's Ground Traffic Control to more accurately predict these bus times. John E. Blair, CIS specialist, used the data gathered by the Zonar solution to calculate the new average speeds to rebuild the road network with updated and accurate times. Zonar customer service helped quicken this process by producing the data in the correct format. Blair says *"While this may seem more like a GIS project, it has been the Zonar data that has pushed our department to the next level."* -Blair	Installing Zonar was the department's first experience with computer-aided bus routing software and was initially received with hesitation. But the positive results have cleared the hurdles and lessened hesitations. The department now confidently uses the system and knows the times generated are accurate. In turn, the public and parents are receiving better quality data, which is the ultimate goal when utilizing this form of technology. Blair says *"The biggest success of installing Zonar software was being able to report to the public accurate bus stop and pick up times which makes everyone happy."* -Blair

To learn more about how Zonar can help keep your student riders safer, contact us at **info@zonarsystems.com**.