

Press release

## The AggloBus inter-municipal transit administration renews RATP Dev's contract to operate the AggloBus network for a further eight years

Bourges, December 1, 2022 - On October 12, the AggloBus Inter-municipal Transit Administration demonstrated its abiding confidence in STU Bourges—an RATP Dev subsidiary—by awarding it the contract to operate and maintain the AggloBus network for a further eight-year term, from 2023 to 2030. This renewal further cements the partnership between the inter-municipal administration and the operator to ensure an ever-more dynamic public transit service.

### Advancing the evolution of mobility in the Berruyer region

By renewing its contract with RATP Dev, the AggloBus administration has opted for a proven and reliable partner to help it achieve its ambitions for mobility in the region over the coming eight years. Maintaining the existing relationship of transparency and trust will pave the way for the introduction—as early as 2023—of significant developments for the AggloBus network, and more broadly for mobility in the region.

Starting in September 2023, the network will be redesigned. Some routes will be modified, and a new, more straightforward system for numbering the routes will be implemented. Other routes will be extended during the morning and evening hours. Downtown shuttle buses will follow a single redesigned route to improve the service quality.

These modifications are primarily intended to prepare for the other major change planned by the community: the introduction of free travel on the entire AggloBus network in September 2023.

*"This change in the philosophy of the AggloBus network desired by the community requires a robust organization and special expertise to be successfully implemented. We gauge the actual impact of the change on the ground and on board the buses. We are already working to ensure a seamless public transit provision and guarantee, today and going forward, the best quality of service for passengers,"* said **Michel Rouvière, Director of STU Bourges, operator of the AggloBus network and an RATP Dev subsidiary.**

*"The coming years will determine how modes of travel will evolve in the AggloBus region, with free public transit for all as a major driver of that change. This strong political stance of the AggloBus administration is supported by major infrastructure development projects, such as a new multimodal exchange hub at the train station and several high service level bus routes. RATP Dev managed to put together a balanced proposal that meets the needs of the community and paves the way for a true energy transition,"* explained **Jean-Michel Guerineau, President of the Bourges AggloBus inter-municipal transit administration.**

Starting in summer 2026, AggloBus will operate high service level bus routes providing a public transit service in exclusive lanes that will ensure a high quality of service with significant frequency.

### A new, more environmentally-friendly fleet

Faced with the challenges of climate change, RATP Dev and the local authorities have taken action in two ways. First, by enhancing the attractiveness of public transit to win over a larger share of commuters who currently use their private car to get around. This is a goal that we share with the AggloBus administration. Second, to improve both the rolling stock and the infrastructure. As part of that effort, STU Bourges will gradually switch to biofuel for its vehicles currently running on diesel, i.e. about 50% of its fleet. The rest of the fleet already runs on natural gas and will be switching to biogas. By 2026, electric buses will have replaced the diesel-powered shuttle buses. Over the full term of the contract, 38 vehicles in all will be replaced by new vehicles with improved performance, including articulated vehicles. Lastly—not forgetting active modes of mobility—we will be increasing the number of bicycles available to users.

The daily commitment of the STU Bourges teams to serving the residents of the Bourges region has made it possible to renew the operating contract for the AggloBus network. We plan to reinforce those teams throughout the duration of the contract to assist the evolution of mobility in the Berruyer region.

#### **RATP Group press office**

+33 (0)1 58 78 37 37

[servicedepresse@ratp.fr](mailto:servicedepresse@ratp.fr)

#### **About RATP Dev**

Created in 2002, RATP Dev operates and maintains urban and intercity public transit networks in 14 countries on four continents (France, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Italy, Belgium, Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, China, the Philippines, and the United States of America). Day by day, RATP Dev demonstrates its extensive and renowned expertise in a wide range of mobility services, ranging from rail, regional express rail, tramway, to bus, cable car, and sightseeing services. RATP Dev capitalizes on the technical know-how and experience of the RATP Group—the leader in driverless mobility, tramway services, and operator of the Paris multimodal public transit network, one of the largest in the world—to develop its activities in France and internationally. In France, RATP Dev operates networks in some 40 cities, towns, and administrative regions (Brest, Boulogne-sur-Mer, Charleville-Mézières, Annemasse...).