



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

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March 5, 2024

Mr. Paul Smedberg
Chair, Board of Directors
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
300 7th Street SW
Washington, DC 20024
boardofdirectors@wmata.com

Mayor Muriel Bowser
Mayor
Government of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20004
muriel.bowser@dc.gov

Councilmember Brooke Pinto
Ward 2 Councilmember
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 106
Washington, DC 20004
bpinto@dccouncil.go

RE: Request for FY Funding of WMATA and Need for Long-term Planning

Dear Chair Smedberg, Mayor Muriel Bowser, and Councilmember Brooke Pinto,

On March 4, 2024 ANC 2E held its regularly scheduled public meeting, which was properly noticed and attended by seven commissioners, constituting a quorum. At this meeting the Commission adopted the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-0) with regard to the above-referenced matter:

COMMISSIONERS:

Kishan Putta, District 1	Topher Mathews, District 2	Paul Maysak, District 3
Joe Massaua, District 4	Mimsy Lindner, District 5	Gwendolyn Lohse, District 6
Daniel Chao, District 7	John DiPierri, District 8	

On December 14, 2023, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) announced a proposed fiscal year 2025 budget. Due to an unprecedented \$750 million budget shortfall, WMATA is proposing dramatic service cuts. These proposed service cuts are so severe that even WMATA describes its own proposal as a “worst-case scenario for the region’s economy, quality of life, and environment.”

Included in its proposed service cuts are bus lines that serve as critical modes of transportation for residents of ANC2E. Specifically, the proposal calls for the total elimination (without substitution) of the D2, D6, and the G2. Moreover, the 30 Series bus lines along Wisconsin Ave. would also be significantly reduced. In short, the proposal would virtually destroy bus service to and through Georgetown and Burleith. This would significantly increase automobile-use and strand those without such an option. This would have a particularly negative impact on Georgetown University and patients and visitors to Georgetown University Hospital. It would be a disaster.

This situation would be replicated across the city, with dozens of bus lines being eliminated or greatly slashed. This change, if carried out, would be literally unprecedented for a city the size of Washington, DC. “Worst-case scenario” is far too optimistic for what this would actually produce.

ANC2E applauds the Mayor and Councilmembers for proposing additional funding to help avert these cuts. Furthermore, ANC2E encourages WMATA to work with DC along with Virginia and Maryland to identify equitable funding increases to ensure that these devastating service cuts do not come to fruition. Finally, ANC2E asks DC and WMATA to develop long-term solutions to address the underlying causes for these funding shortfalls.

Commissioners Christopher Mathews (2E02@anc.dc.gov) and Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gwendolyn Lohse", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gwendolyn Lohse
Chair, ANC 2E

CC: Councilmember Charles Allen, Ward 6
Councilmember Phil Mendelson, Chairman
Grace Reeder, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services
Brian Romanowski, Constituent Services Director for Councilmember Brooke Pinto
Cory Peterson, Associate Vice President of Community Engagement and Local Government
Affairs at Georgetown University