

## **Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E**

## Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

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June 4, 2025

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

## **RE: WMATA Proposed Bus Stop and Bus Route Elimination**

Dear Chair Smedberg,

On June 2, 2025 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:

As part of its proposal to consolidate bus stops in coordination with its Better Bus Network, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) has announced that it will eliminate four bus stops through the heart of commercial Georgetown (Four include three stops on M Street - one of the city's most visited commercial corridors - two of the three are on the east side, and one on Wisconsin Ave). While ANC 2E acknowledges the benefits to a more speedy bus service, cutting stops in the heart of one of the District's most vibrant and successful commercial districts is the wrong decision. Without a Metrorail station, Georgetown is heavily reliant on bus service to encourage residents and visitors to travel to and from the neighborhood by transit. Eliminating stops forces these potential riders to walk further to reach their destination, and as a result discourages them from using the bus in the first place and thus further crowding our already overburdened roads.

Moreover, ANC 2E wants to remind WMATA that the cutting of these four major bus stops is happening simultaneously with WMATA cutting several major bus routes through Georgetown and the Circulator through Georgetown being cut. In 2025, the total bus service for Georgetown is being reduced and degraded with the Better Bus Network. There simply will be fewer buses available to residents, visitors and workers at key points through the day and week - and yet Georgetown has no Metrorail stop, over 13+ million

visitors annually/second most visited area beyond the Mall, a disproportionately large percentage of the city's employees, a large university, and a dense and growing residential population reliant on public transit. ANC 2E has issued several <u>resolutions</u> to city leadership and WMATA urging them to not make such drastic changes and has highlighted our concerns during all budget and transportation discussions.

ANC 2E requests that WMATA reconsider some or all of these stop eliminations and—if they go forward nonetheless—to monitor their impact on ridership going forward. Our streets cannot accommodate more single occupancy vehicles.

Commissioner Topher Mathews is the Commission's representative in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Junto lyn John-

Gwendolyn Lohse

Chair, ANC 2E