Resolution Regarding Proposed Cuts to WMATA’s D1 and N3 Bus Lines

Whereas, the Washington Metropolitan Transportation Authority (WMATA) is proposing to shorten the route of its D1 line so it no longer travels between Franklin Square and Federal Triangle; eliminate the last run of the D1 bus to Glover Park each evening; and completely eliminate the N3 route that serves Cathedral Heights;

Whereas, WMATA is currently seeking input about those proposed cuts from the public;

Whereas, despite requests from this Commission, WMATA has not provided data substantiating its claim that the service and route cuts are warranted because of low ridership;

Whereas, many residents of Glover Park and Cathedral Heights have contacted ANC3B to express their vehement opposition to the proposed service reductions due to continued degradation of service;

Whereas, the proposed service cuts would disrupt daily commutes and travel arrangements for many Glover Park and Cathedral Heights residents who count on the bus service to get to and from work, visit doctors’ offices, and conduct other important trips;

Whereas, Glover Park and Cathedral Heights have no convenient access to Metrorail and therefore must depend on bus service for their public transportation needs;

Whereas, having a direct transit route without a transfer to get to key points in the heart of downtown such as Metro Center and Federal Triangle (which would no longer be served by the D1 under the proposed service reductions) is essential to make those trips practical for many commuters, shoppers and others;

Whereas, elimination of the N3 line would leave many residents of Cathedral Heights without convenient access to public transportation services to key destinations;

Whereas, alternative public transportation options in Glover Park and Cathedral Heights are already in heavy use, with many buses skipping stops in the two neighborhoods because of overcrowding and local bike share racks frequently empty before 8:30 a.m.;

Whereas, the proposed cuts to bus services would force many residents to rely on other often more costly forms of transportation including private bus and car sharing services, taxi cabs, or driving alone to travel from Cathedral Heights and Glover Park to downtown and Metrorail stations;
Whereas, WMATA has already made many significant service reductions affecting the neighborhoods of Glover Park and Cathedral Heights, including cutting back late night service on the D2 route, eliminating the N8 line, and reducing the frequency of the D1 buses from every 8 minutes to every 18 minutes, which have decreased transit accessibility to our community and discouraged many residents from using bus service;

Therefore, be it RESOLVED that ANC3B strenuously opposes WMATA’s proposed cuts to the D1 and N3 bus lines and urges WMATA officials to look instead for ways to increase and improve bus service to the neighborhoods of Glover Park and Cathedral Heights.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman or the Commissioner of ANC3B05 or their designees are authorized to represent the Commission on this matter.

This Resolution was APPROVED by a vote of 4-0 at a duly noticed public meeting of ANC3B on Thursday, September 10, 2015, at which a quorum was present. (A quorum is 3 of the 5 members.)

Jackie Blumenthal, Chairman
Ann Mladinov, Secretary