

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3B
GLOVER PARK AND CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS



January 9, 2020

Chairman and Members of the Board
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
600 5th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Chairman and Members of the Board:

Our ANC has been following the changes to Metrobus services proposed in the draft FY2021 budget released on December 9. We have heard from numerous residents, businesses, employees, and students who use Metrobus service in our Commission area about the potential changes. Though the details are not yet available, they have been very concerned to hear of the possible elimination of the 30S, 30N, 37, and D1 Metrobus routes and the significant restructuring of the D2 route, included in the docket prepared for the WMATA Board meeting in December.

Concerns about potential loss of bus service are easy to understand, as our neighborhoods of Glover Park and Cathedral Heights are not directly served by Metrorail and are not within easy or convenient walking distance to Metrorail. We do not have good public transportation options except for Metrobus service. People in the area rely on Metrobuses to get to and from work, school, shopping, medical appointments, and other services.

Because of the widespread attention and frankly, alarm about the proposals and the clear importance of Metrobuses to people in our area, we urge that WMATA hold a community meeting about the proposed Metrobus service changes in the western part of the District, with the goal of reaching a fuller range of current and prospective riders and neighborhoods, sharing more complete information, and hearing and responding to comments and questions. With potentially 5 or 6 weeks before the public comment period will close, there should be ample time to schedule a community meeting for that purpose before the public hearings, so members of the public, ANCs and other officials can be better informed and prepared to address the plans at hearings and comments have to be filed.

Our Commission will be gathering as much information as we can about the proposed Metrobus changes affecting our area, and we intend to submit written testimony and speak at the WMATA Board at the meetings and hearings that you hold. We understand that WMATA will soon be scheduling public hearings on the proposed budget and fare and service changes, and WMATA staff will be providing more background information online. We also have invited WMATA staff members to attend our ANC3B February meeting to share information and take questions, which they have agreed to do. That will be very helpful to us and our constituents. Still, the effect of the service changes will reach far beyond those we can reach in our meeting. That is a major reason why we urge you to organize a larger forum on this matter.

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3B05
S. GLOVER PARK
BRIAN TURMAIL

Many residents, workers and employers in our area have chosen to live or work in this community because the bus services are available. A good number of them take Metrobuses long distances across the city, between our ANC area and locations south of the National Mall in Southwest/Waterfront, Capitol Hill, 8th Street SE/Navy Yard, and farther to the south and east in the District. We hope that WMATA is considering all these interests and would reach out to include all these groups in a community meeting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brian Turmail", written in dark ink.

Brian Turmail
Chairman

cc. Councilmember Mary Cheh
Raka Choudhury, DDOT

This letter was approved by the Commission by a vote of 4-0 at a duly noticed public meeting on January 9, 2020, at which a quorum was present. (Three of the five members constitute a quorum.) By the same vote, the Commission designated the Chairman or his designee to represent the Commission on this matter.