



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”

May 2, 2023

Councilmember Charles Allen
Chair, Committee on Transportation and the Environment
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 110
Washington, DC 20004
callen@dccouncil.gov

RE: Proposed Cuts to DC Circulator Service

Dear Councilmember Allen,

At its regular meeting on April 19, 2023, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“**ANC 2A**” or “**Commission**”) considered the above-referenced matter. With seven of nine commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (**7-0-0**), after a motion made by Commissioner Bandy and seconded by Commissioner Omictin, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Mayor Bowser's FY 2024 “Comeback Plan” budget includes elimination of DC Circulator bus service for the Rosslyn-Dupont Circle (RS-DP), Woodley Park-Adams Morgan to McPherson Square Metro (WP-AM), and Eastern Market-L’Enfant Plaza (EM-LP) routes,

WHEREAS, availability of affordable and efficient public transportation is a fundamental right of all residents, including working-class communities, and should be prioritized over profit-driven motives or budgetary considerations that disproportionately burden those with the least resources,

WHEREAS, public transportation is critical to the vitality, success, and very existence of the District’s business and tourism engines,

WHEREAS, many of the District’s most popular activity centers, tourism destinations, and nightlife destinations are served by the DC Circulator routes and extensions nominated for elimination,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A, along with other ANCs, believes that the Mayor’s requested DC Circulator service eliminations will produce the exact opposite effect of a “comeback” for the residents and businesses in the District,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A is an ardent supporter of the DC Circulator, especially the RS-DP route and its planned extension to U Street NW, since the beginning of the service,



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WHEREAS, the RS-DP route provides a convenient connection between the Dupont Circle Metrorail station and Rosslyn via M Street NW through the hearts of the West End and Georgetown,

WHEREAS, the RS-DP route reduces the number of personal vehicles, and thus traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions, by providing an efficient public transportation option for thousands of residents and visitors,

WHEREAS, plans to extend the RS-DP route to U Street NW, LeDroit Park, and Howard University have been in development for over a decade and it has been anticipated that FY 2024 would at long last actualize the plan,

WHEREAS, extension of RS-DP to U Street NW, LeDroit Park, and Howard University via 18th Street NW will make it easier for residents and visitors to travel to employment, retail, dining, and entertainment destinations across multiple neighborhoods and activity centers, encouraging and supporting economic opportunity and post-pandemic business recovery,

WHEREAS, extension of RS-DP to U Street NW, LeDroit Park, and Howard University will improve transit equity for a significant population of minority and lower-income residents with a low-cost, convenient service, directly connecting multiple activity centers and transfers to other DC Circulator, Metrobus, and Metrorail routes,

WHEREAS, extension of RS-DP has the potential to replace hundreds of private vehicle trips within the route corridor, thus increasing bus utilization and further supporting DDOT’s planned U Street NW Bus Priority Project,

WHEREAS, the EM-LP route provides connections to Metrorail and Metrobus, along with transit access to the Wharf and Audi Field, encouraging fewer personal vehicle trips to those destinations,

WHEREAS, conversion of the DC Circulator bus fleet to all-electric buses can be reprogrammed to better align with capital funding availability, and

WHEREAS, the DC Council’s Committee on Transportation and the Environment will now conduct budget hearings and prepare a committee report that will include final recommendations for funding of DC Circulator lines.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges DC Council’s Committee on Transportation and the Environment to recognize and prioritize the importance of DC Circulator bus service to the District’s economic recovery and well-being, Vision Zero, and established environmental and transportation equity objectives, and to recommend that the DC Council provides full funding for DC Circulator



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operations in the FY 2024 budget and following years to prevent service reductions or eliminations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges the DC Council’s Committee on Transportation and the Environment to recognize the importance and necessity of extending the DC Circulator’s Rosslyn-Dupont Circle route to U Street NW, LeDroit Park, and Howard University in FY 2024, and to recommend to the DC Council to provide the necessary funding for this and other service improvements in the FY 2024 budget and following years.

Commissioners Trupti Patel (2A03@anc.dc.gov) and Jim Malec (2A02@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Jim Malec
Vice Chairperson