



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

June 18, 2024

Randy Clarke, General Manager and Chief Executive Officer
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
300 7th Street SW
Washington D.C. 20024

RE: the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)’s Better Bus Initiative’s Elimination of 42/43 Bus Service in Foggy Bottom

Dear Mr. Clarke, Ms. Chisholm, and Chairperson Allen,

At its regular meeting on June 18, 2024, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With five of eight commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission, after a motion made by Commissioner Omicini and seconded by Commissioner Chadwick, adopted the following resolution (CR-24-026) by unanimous consent:

WHEREAS, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) is considering adopting the Better Bus Network plan in 2025, with the goals of improving service, especially on evenings and weekends; creating more efficient bus stop spacing; naming bus lines more intuitively; and expanding service in transit-poor neighborhoods;

WHEREAS, there are many unique bus-using constituencies in Foggy Bottom, from the largest on-campus student population of any university in DC, to a large number of elderly residents without reliable access to cars, to users of services that are particular to Foggy Bottom, like one of the only methadone clinics in DC and GW Hospital;

WHEREAS, the 42/43 bus line has served the heart of Foggy Bottom and GW’s campus, starting at the Kennedy Center, serving F St NW, and continuing northward through Dupont Circle, Adams Morgan, and its northern terminus in Mt. Pleasant;

WHEREAS, the 42/43 bus line both have above-average ridership relative to the entire system, have surpassed pre-pandemic ridership by 32%, and when combined, have an average weekday ridership in the top 25 bus lines in the whole network;

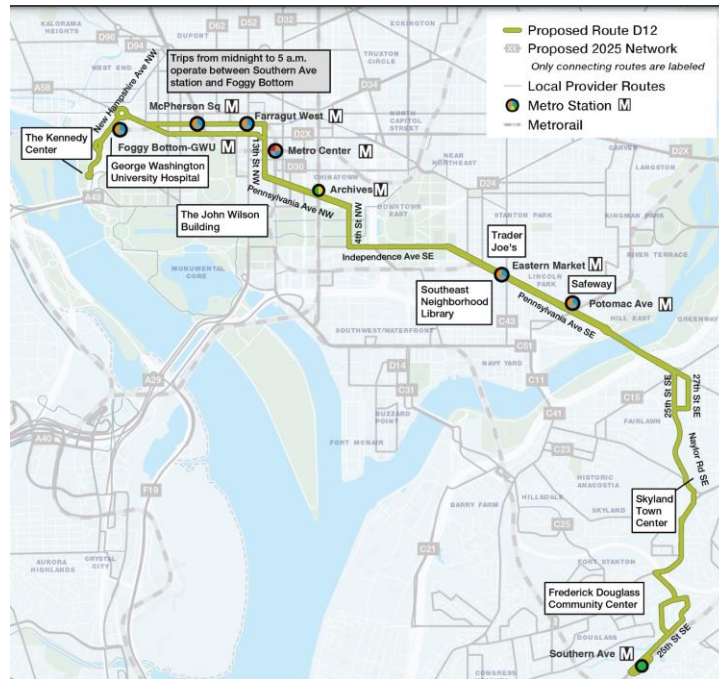
WHEREAS, WMATA’s Better Bus Network plan replaces 42/43 service with the following routes:

- D12 between Southern Ave. and the Kennedy Center, which is now the only bus route that directly services the Kennedy Center by connecting to points southeast along Pennsylvania Ave. and through Fairlawn and Fort Stanton



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- D72 between Van Ness or Mt. Pleasant and Lafayette Square, which follows the 42/43 route from Mt. Pleasant until Farragut West Metro station and terminates between Farragut West and McPherson Square



- D74 between Rhode Island Ave. and Farragut Square, which follows the 42/43 route northward from Farragut Square until the intersection of Columbia Rd and 16th St. NW

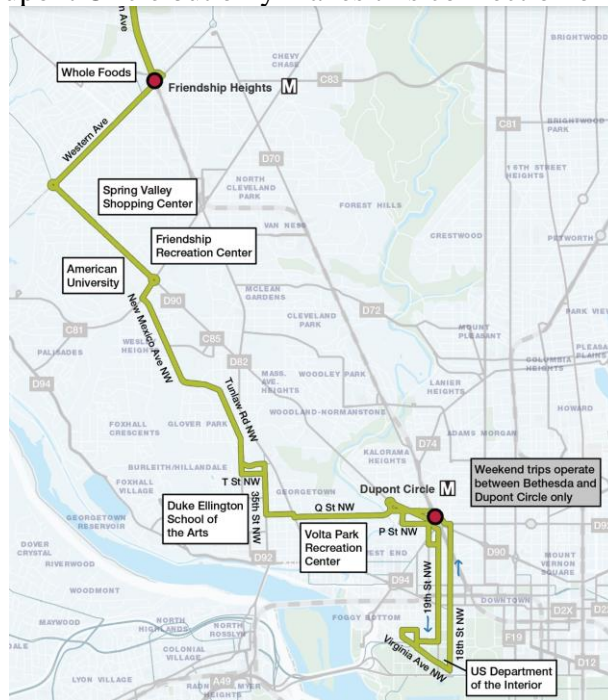


Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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- D96 between Bethesda and Potomac Park, which is a direct connection between F St. NW and Dupont Circle but only makes this connection on weekdays



WHEREAS, the aforementioned options force residents to walk to Farragut West Station, up to a 30 minute walk from some parts of Foggy Bottom, to access the same bus service

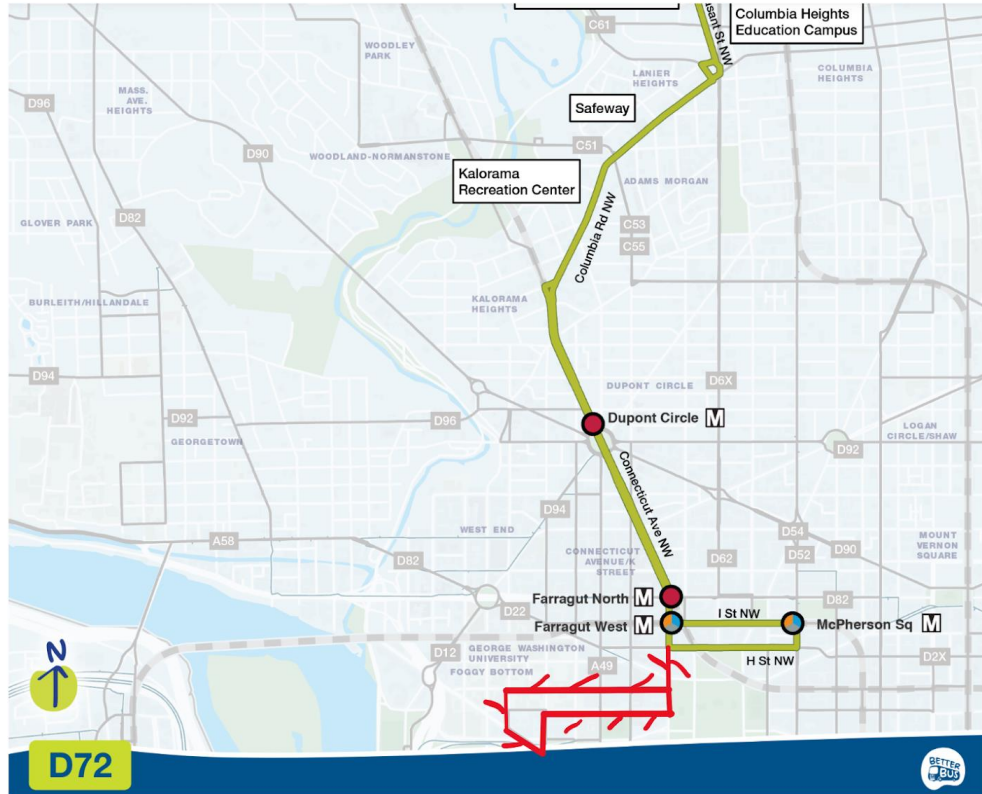


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they previously had just steps away, while the only bus option directly connecting F St NW to Dupont Circle runs only on weekdays;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 2A urges WMATA to consider extending the proposed D72 bus into Foggy Bottom, terminating at Potomac Park, rather than terminating at Farragut West, as seen in the attached example photo;



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 2A expresses deep appreciation for the major strides the proposed Better Bus Network makes in transit equity by providing frequent, well-connected, and efficient service to many lower-income, majority-Black neighborhoods in DC that were transit deserts, and understands that the current proposal is a product of many trade-offs to achieve this result. ANC 2A is requesting this minor alteration to ensure that our neighbors aren't left behind and because we understand that this would be a good use of resources to ensure a bus line that is widely used remains available.

Commissioners Yannik Omictin (2A01@anc.dc.gov) and Trupti Patel (2A03@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.



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Sincerely,

Trupti Patel
Chairperson

CC:

Brooke Pinto, Ward 2 Councilmember

Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember

Phil Mendelson, Chairman DC Council

Christophe Wassmer, Ward 2 Liaison DC Department of Transportation

Christopher Powell, Ward 2 Liaison Mayor's Office Community Relations

Ann Chisholm, Government Relations Office-District of Columbia, Washington Metro
Transit Authority (WMATA)