June 25, 2025

TO: Mr. Charles Allen, Ward 6 Council Member Chair of the Committee on Transportation and Environment 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 110 Washington DC, 20004

RE: Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority Budget Oversight Performance 2025-MetroLift

At its regular meeting on June 18, 2025, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A ("ANC 2A" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With five commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission, after a motion made by Commissioner Patel and seconded by Commissioner DiCapo, adopted the following resolution by 4-0-1:

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting in April 2025, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A ("ANC 2A" or "Commission") adopted a <u>resolution</u>¹ addressed to the Council of the District of Columbia's Committee on Transportation and the Environment regarding the performance of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA);

WHEREAS, WMATA's mission is to provide the public with safe, efficient, and affordable transportation;

WHEREAS, WMATA offers Metro Lift², a reduced fare program for customers who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in DC, Maryland, or Virginia;

WHEREAS, Metro Lift³ provides a 50% discount on Metrobus and Metrorail trips for eligible residents in the region who are enrolled in SNAP;

WHEREAS, Congressional Republicans have proposed cutting \$230 billion or more from SNAP and requiring states to begin covering a portion of those benefits⁴;

WHEREAS, if Congress mandates that states pay 10% of SNAP benefits distributed to their residents, the District of Columbia would need to contribute approximately \$31.7 million in FY2026 to maintain existing levels of food assistance⁵;

¹ WMATA-Performance-Oversight-2025.pdf

² Metro Lift | WMATA

³ Ihid

⁴Proposed Federal Medicaid and Food Assistance Cuts Will Hurt DC Residents

⁵ Cuts to Federal Food Assistance Will Hurt Residents Just As DC Enters Recession

WHEREAS, over 54% of DC households enrolled in SNAP are raising children, and more than 34% include seniors or adults with disabilities⁶;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges WMATA to ensure that DC residents currently enrolled in Metro Lift remain eligible, even if SNAP eligibility rules are affected by federal changes;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A makes the following recommendations to WMATA regarding the Metro Lift program:

Grandfather existing Metro Lift enrollees to preserve their access regardless of changes to SNAP eligibility or cost-sharing requirements.

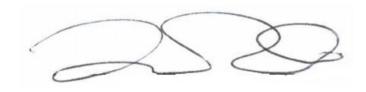
Streamline enrollment by automating eligibility when individuals apply for or renew SNAP benefits.

Enhance outreach and awareness of Metro Lift through partnerships with trusted community institutions such as public schools, community centers, and houses of worship.

Commissioners Trupti Patel (<u>2A03@anc.dc.gov</u>) is the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,



Trupti Patel Chairperson

CC:

Kevin Donahue, City Administrator, Washington DC Jenny Reed, Director, Office of Budget and Performance Management

⁶ Ibid



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

Jennifer Budoff, DC Council Budget Director
Phil Mendelson, Chairman DC Council
Kenyan McDuffie, At-Large Councilmember
Christiana Henderson, At-Large Councilmember of the District of Columbia
Brooke Pinto, Ward 2 Councilmember
Janeese Lewis George, Ward 4 Councilmember of the District of Columbia
Zachary Parker, Ward 5 Councilmember of the District of Columbia
Christophe Wassmer, Ward 2 Liaison DC Department of Transportation
Randy Clarke, WMATA General Manager
Ann Chisholm, Government Relations Officer – District of Columbia
Tadai Abila, Ward 2 Manager, Mayor's Office Community Relations