

Alexandria Transportation Commission 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 Phone: 703.746.4025

WMATA Board of Directors Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority 300 7th St SW Washington, DC 20024

February 15, 2023

Re: WMATA FY24 Budget Comments

Dear WMATA Board of Directors:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed FY24 budget on behalf of the City of Alexandria's Transportation Commission. We applaud the proposed budget's delicate balance of cost saving proposals, fare simplification and equity proposals, and improved service. Moreover, we want to express our appreciation of the return of 11Y service to the City of Alexandria and County of Fairfax.

The DC-3 shuttle, which follows the 11Y route, has demonstrated demand, that we believe will continue even after the Yellow Line bridge reopens due to its direct, one seat ride and the push for a greater in person presence at the office. We further appreciate that there will be no break in service once the DC-3 shuttle goes away to keep it easy for riders. Transportation Commission prefers the 24-minute headway option to the 30-minute option.

We also support the new fare proposals in conjunction with the low-income fare pass. For the low-income fare pass, we hope that you continue to work with the jurisdictions and funding sources available to them, such as the TRIP program to ensure that the program is developed in the most efficient and effective way possible.

Lastly with regards to the FY24 budget, we greatly look forward to the opening of the Potomac Yard-VT Metrorail station in May and the subsequent increase in Yellow Line service – and overall service with the continued reintroduction of 7000 series vehicles.

Looking ahead, we recognize the dire situation that Metro is in for FY25 and beyond with the absence of Federal assistance and urge you to work closely with the jurisdictions to immediately begin looking at alternative funding options, to ensure that transit continues to serve the region's transportations needs and contribute to congestion reduction, greenhouse gas emissions reduction, and equity for all.



Alexandria Transportation Commission 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 Phone: 703.746.4025

Sincerely,

DSCAP GONZALEZ Oscar Gonzalez (Mar 9, 2023 19:35 EST)

Mar 9, 2023

Oscar Gonzalez Transportation Commission, Chair

cc: City Manager James F. Parajon
Emily A. Baker, Deputy City Manager
Tarrence Moorer, Director, T&ES
Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
Christopher Ziemann, Division Chief, T&ES
Jennifer Monaco, Transit Programs Manager, T&ES

## FY24 WMATA Budget Letter\_TC-Final

Final Audit Report

2023-03-10

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