

# **Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B**

April 18, 2022

Councilmember Mary Cheh
Chair, Committee on Transportation and the Environment
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 108
Washington, DC 20004
mcheh@dccouncil.us

RE: Funding for the Proposed Extension of the DC Circulator's Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn Route to U Street NW and Howard University

Dear Councilmember Cheh,

At its regular meeting on April 13, 2022, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 6 of 7 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (6-0-0):

WHEREAS, for over a century, convenient and efficient options for one-seat crosstown travel in DC have languished while dominance of downtown-centric transportation prevailed,

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) first proposed extension of the DC Circulator's Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route to U Street NW and LeDroit Park near Howard University in its 2011 Transit Development Plan. At the time, the plan called for implementation in the 2012-2015 timeframe,

WHEREAS, the only direct crosstown service in the vicinity is the infrequent and unreliable Metrobus G2 route, running from Georgetown University to Howard University along P Street NW,

WHEREAS, the lack of convenient options for crosstown travel for residents and workers along the U Street NW corridor creates transit inequity, resulting in many having to pay upwards of \$12 each way for a for-hire ride or rely on automobiles,

WHEREAS, this DC Circulator route extension will provide an invaluable and affordable connection for residents, workers, and visitors alike between the major and minor activity centers along it,

WHEREAS, this extension is urgently needed to support local business recovery from the pandemic,

WHEREAS, this extension supports DC's policies for a cleaner environment and safer streets for all by providing a viable alternative that will encourage the reduction of personal vehicle trips to and from the areas along the extension,

WHEREAS, this extension is consistent with the objectives of the forthcoming bus priority plans for Florida Avenue NW and U Street NW, as well as the U Street NW streetscape project,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B has voted to support this extension multiple times since at least 2014 (Attachment A),

WHEREAS, this extension has also been supported by ANC 2A and ANC 2E,

WHEREAS, DDOT last reported to ANC 2B that funding for this extension was expected in DC's FY 2023 budget, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's proposed FY 2023 budget does not contain the expected funding for this extension.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B respectfully requests that the DC Council includes full funding for the extension of the DC Circulator's Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route to U Street NW and the Howard University area in DC's FY 2023 budget and directs DDOT to expedite the extension's implementation.

Commissioners Jeffrey Rueckgauer (<u>2B02@anc.dc.gov</u>) and Matthew Holden (<u>2B08@anc.dc.gov</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

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Sincerely,

Matthew Holden

Chair

# **Attachment A**

ANC 2B's October 2021, March 2019, October 2017, and November 2014 Resolutions Regarding the Proposed Extension of the DC Circulator's Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn Route to U Street NW and Howard University



# **Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B**

October 26, 2021

Mr. Everett Lott
Acting Director
District Department of Transportation
250 M Street SE
Washington, DC 20003
Everett.Lott@dc.gov

RE: Proposed Extension of the DC Circulator's Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn Route to U Street NW and Howard University

#### Dear Director Lott:

At its regular meeting on October 13, 2021, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 7 of 8 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-0):

WHEREAS, ANC 2B has previously passed multiple resolutions (March 2019, October 2017, and November 2014) in support of extending DC Circulator service along U Street NW,

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation's (DDOT) Transit Development Plan (TDP) for the DC Circulator outlines a proposed extension of the Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route with a proposed implementation date in 2023,

WHEREAS, the TDP presented two different alignments for the eastern terminus of the new route, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that a proposal that best serves communities throughout the route is the best option.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B echoes ANC 1B's resolution that expressed a "preference towards Alignment 2 because the proposed stops serve essential infrastructure in the neighborhood: Howard University Hospital and Shaw Howard University Metro Station" along with "an additional stop at the Whole Foods Market on Florida Avenue NW."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B calls for a speedy implementation of this extension as more must be done to reduce the number of automobile trips taken in DC and this long-planned route enjoys broad community support.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B suggests that DDOT considers adjusting the route to avoid Dupont Circle itself and instead use 20th Street NW and Q Street NW to better connect bus service to Metrorail and avoid congestion.

Commissioners Mo Pasternak (<u>2B04@anc.dc.gov</u>) and Matthew Holden (<u>2B08@anc.dc.gov</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

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Sincerely,

Matthew Holden Chair

9 Dupont Circle, NW • Washington, DC 20036 • www.dupontcircleanc.net



# **Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B**

March 15, 2019

Mayor Muriel Bowser Mayor Government of the District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20004 muriel.bowser@dc.gov Chairman Phil Mendelson Chairman Council of the District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 504 Washington, DC 20004 pmendelson@dccouncil.us

RE: Funding for the Proposed Extension of the DC Circulator's Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn Route to U Street NW and Howard University

Dear Mayor Bowser and Chairman Mendelson:

At its regular meeting on March 13, 2019, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 9 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (9-0-0):

WHEREAS, the lack of a direct, regularly scheduled thru transit connection between the major activity centers of Dupont Circle, U Street, LeDroit Park, and Howard University, as well as the western destinations of Rosslyn and Georgetown served by the DC Circulator's current route, creates inconvenience and financial burden for residents and visitors to those areas wanting to travel among them,

WHEREAS, the lack of a transit bridge between these areas results in greater use of passenger vehicles, which is contrary to the District's environmental and sustainability efforts,

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation's (DDOT) updated 2017 DC Circulator Transit Development Plan (TDP) outlines the strategic priorities of the DC Circulator system in the coming years and was produced using input and feedback from robust stakeholder and community engagement,

WHEREAS, one of the proposed route extensions would connect the already existing Rosslyn – Georgetown – Dupont Circle route to U Street NW and Howard University,

WHEREAS, during the public survey, approximately 82 percent of respondents from across the District ranked high interest for this extension,

WHEREAS, the benefits of the proposed extension include but are not limited to:

- Increased ridership by extending the route to additional major activity centers
- Adding a connection to Metrorail's green and yellow lines
- Providing transfers to the DC Circulator's Woodley Park Adams Morgan McPherson Square Metro route at 14th Street and U Street NW
- Improved connectivity to and from Metrobus' 5A DC Dulles Airport route at the Rosslyn Metrorail Station
- Improved connectivity to and from the West End Public Library
- Improved connectivity to and from the campuses of:
  - Howard University Hospital
  - George Washington University Hospital
- Improved connectivity to and from the campuses of:
  - Howard University
  - o George Washington University
  - o Georgetown University
- Improved connectivity to and from the DC Public School campuses of:
  - o Benjamin Banneker Academic High School
  - o Cardozo Education Campus
  - o C.H.O.I.C.E. Academy Washington Met.
  - o Cleveland Elementary School
  - o Garrison Elementary School
  - o Marie Reed Elementary School
  - o Oyster-Adams Bilingual School
  - o Ross Elementary School
  - School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens
  - o Hyde-Addison Elementary School
- Improved connectivity to and from the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) facilities of:
  - o Banneker Pool and Community Center
  - o Harrison Recreation Center and Spray Park
  - Marie Reed Recreation and Aquatic Center
  - Stead Park and Recreation Center
  - o Francis Pool
- Providing late-night public transit options and connectivity to major nightlife activity centers such as U Street, Upper 14th Street, Adams Morgan, Dupont Circle and Dupont Circle's "Club Central," and Georgetown,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B passed a resolution in October of 2017 supporting DDOT's draft 2017 DC Circulator Transit Development Plan, which included a plan to extend the Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route, and

WHEREAS, community members and District leaders are currently engaged in the DC FY 2020 budget process.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B reaffirms its support for DDOT's proposal to extend the DC Circulator's current Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route to Howard University by way of 18th Street and U Street NW, as this proposed route would provide a low-cost, one-seat ride along a major underserved travel corridor

in the District. Such an extension would enhance mobility for residents, workers, and visitors in ANC 2B and the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B encourages Mayor Bowser and the DC Council to approve funding in DC's FY 2020 budget that supports the ability to adequately expand the DC Circulator fleet to permit reliable operation of the Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route extension.

Commissioners Randy Downs (<u>2B05@anc.dc.gov</u>) and Daniel Warwick (<u>2B02@anc.dc.gov</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

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Sincerely,

Daniel Warwick

Chair



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

October 28, 2017

Mr. Jeff Marootian Acting Director District Department of Transportation 55 M Street SE, Suite 400 Washington, DC 20003 jeff.marootian@dc.gov

RE: DDOT's Draft 2017 DC Circulator Transit Development Plan

Dear Acting Director Marootian:

At its regular meeting on October 11, 2017, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 7 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-0):

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has released the draft 2017 DC Circulator Transit Development Plan (TDP) in order to guide the strategic priorities of the DC Circulator system in the coming years and is seeking public comment,

WHEREAS, the Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route extension to U Street NW, as recommended in the 2014 TDP Update, is being recommended again with a slight modification to the eastern terminus,

WHEREAS, during the public survey, approximately 82 percent of respondents ranked high interest for this extension,

WHEREAS, the proposed route extension would extend the already existing Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route by continuing the route from New Hampshire Avenue NW to Dupont Circle and P Street, then continuing north on 18th Street and then east on U Street to Howard University. Furthermore, from Howard University the bus route would return to Dupont Circle via U Street and 18th Street, then continue on to the current line via N Street,

WHEREAS, the impacts of the extension include increased ridership by extending the route to major activity centers, including three universities and the Dupont Circle "Club Central" area, adding a connection to the green and yellow Metrorail lines, and providing

transfer to the DC Circulator's Woodley Park – Adams Morgan – McPherson Square route at 14th Street NW,

WHEREAS, the existing Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route operating days and hours are Monday through Thursday, 6:00 am to 12:00 am; Friday, 6:00 am to 3:00 am; Saturday, 7:00 am to 3:00 am; and Sunday, 7:00 am to 12:00 am, and

WHEREAS, the existing Woodley Park – Adams Morgan – McPherson Square route operating days and hours are Monday through Thursday, 6:00 am to 12:00 am; Friday, 6:00 am to 3:30am; Saturday, 7:00 am to 3:30am; and Sunday, 7:00 am to 12:00 am.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports DDOT's proposal to extend the DC Circulator's current Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route to Howard University by way of 18th Street and U Street NW, as this proposed route would provide a one-seat ride along a major underserved travel corridor in the District. Such an extension would enhance mobility for residents, workers, and visitors in ANC 2B – particularly those in Dupont Circle that live directly on the existing and proposed route.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B encourages DDOT to maintain the existing operating hours of the DC Circulator's Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route, and to extend the weekend operating hours by 30 minutes on Friday and Saturday nights in order to accommodate for closing times of the nightclubs in the Dupont Circle area, as well as for the convenience for riders who are transferring to the DC Circulator's Woodley Park – Adams Morgan – McPherson Square route.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that DDOT synchronizes the last trips of the DC Circulator's Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn and Woodley Park – Adams Morgan – McPherson Square routes so that riders are able to transfer to between the last trips on both routes at the intersection of 14th Street and U Street NW.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B encourages Mayor Bowser and the DC Council to approve funding that supports upgrades to maintenance capabilities so that the DC Circulator system reaches a state of good operation, and supports bus purchases in order to adequately expand the DC Circulator fleet to permit reliable operation of the Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route extension.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the proposal for the DC Government to utilize funds obtained through the Volkswagen emissions settlement in order to purchase electric buses to meet all or part of the above-mentioned needs, as supported in the previous ANC 2B resolution that was sent to Interim DDOT Director Jeff Marootian and Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) Director Tommy Wells on September 27, 2017.

Commissioners Randy Downs (<u>randy.downs@dupontcircleanc.net</u>), Scott Davies (<u>2B09@anc.dc.gov</u>), and Daniel Warwick (<u>daniel.warwick@dupontcircleanc.net</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

# ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Nicole Mann

Chair



# **Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B**

November 21, 2014

Matthew Brown
Director, District Department of Transportation
55 M Street, SE Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003
matthew.brown3@dc.gov

Re: Resolution in Support of the Draft Circulator Transit Development Plan

Dear Director Brown:

At its regular meeting on November 12, 2014, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 7 of 8 of the Commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following motion by a vote of (7-0).

Whereas ANC2B has been invited to comment on the DC Circulator 2014 Transit Development Plan Update;

Whereas the proposed extension of the Georgetown to Dupont Circle circulator to Howard University goes through ANC 2B on 18th Street;

Whereas ANC 2B find that the extension of Circulator Service from Dupont Circle to U Street and Howard University will benefit the neighborhood;

Whereas has previously expressed support for a expanded Circulator route from Dupont to Foggy Bottom and the Lincoln Memorial, and looks forward to a future Dupont Circle to Waterfront Circulator;

Whereas no specific routes have yet been devised, but that ANC2B encourages strong community engagement so that the neighborhood will have a chance to understand any impacts of stops on a street to traffic, parking, and the and the reliability of the Circulator to provide frequent service while serving high-demand areas with multiple traffic choke points; and

Whereas, vehicles northbound on 18th Street NW often face significant delays approaching Florida Avenue due to the signal timing, which could impact a Circulator service

Therefore be it RESOLVED that ANC 2B enthusiastically supports the proposed plan to add more Circulator service to the Dupont neighborhood, and suggests DDOT staff conduct a walking tour on 18th Street NW between Dupont Circle and Florida Ave with the ANC's transportation and public infrastructure committee in order to identify the best Circulator stop locations while conforming to Circulator service guidelines.

ANC 2B recommends DDOT request reliability data from WMATA's previous service on 18th Street NW and a study of reusing infrastructure on 18th Street NW left behind from WMATA's previous bus service, including bus pads between T St and Florida Ave NW.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC2B general supports additional public transit options servicing our neighborhood.

Commissioners Noah Smith (noah.smith@dupontcircleanc.net) and Will Stephens (will.stephens@dupontcircleanc.net) are the representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

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Sincerely,

Noah Smith Chairman

cc: circe.torruellas@dc.gov, michelle.phipps-evans@dc.gov