

ANC1C Resolution on the Planned Elimination of the Circulator Bus System

Whereas, efficient and reliable public transit is essential for the residents and commuters of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C (ANC 1C) in Washington DC;

Whereas, the Circulator's Woodley Park Adams Morgan (WP-AM) bus line provides two-way bus service that begins at the McPherson Square Metro station, turns onto 14th Street NW, crosses Thomas Circle NW to remain on 14th St NW, turns left onto Columbia Road NW, turns right onto Calvert Street NW, and turns around at the Woodley Park Metro station to return in the opposite direction; and

Whereas, DC Circulator service provides critical transit service between Wards 1, 2, and 3, connecting the neighborhoods of Woodley Park, Adams Morgan, Mount Pleasant, Columbia Heights, Cardozo, Logan Circle, and Downtown; and

Whereas, the WP-AM bus line is the only direct service between the Green and Red metro lines north of downtown DC which would significantly increase transfer times between the Columbia Heights and Woodley Park Metro stations; and

Whereas, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is in the process of investing millions of dollars in a bus priority project along Columbia Rd. NW to improve the flow of traffic on Columbia Rd. NW, of which the WP-AM is a key component; and

Whereas, according to DDOT ridership data, the WP-AM route served 313,373 riders (18% of all rides) in FY2022. The WP-AM route has the second highest rates of ridership of all routes in the DC Circulator system; and

Whereas, according to the 2021 DC Circulator Customer Satisfaction Survey, the WP-AM bus line reported the second highest rates of ridership across the entirety of the DC Circulator system, retaining 20% of system ridership through the COVID-19 pandemic. The WP-AM line also reported an average customer satisfaction of 8.4 out of 10; and

Whereas, because Adams Morgan is one of the few urban core neighborhoods in Washington, DC without a Metro stop within a 15 minute walk of the center of the neighborhood, the WP-AM route connects Adams Morgan to two of the closest Metro lines; and

Whereas, the WP-AM line contributes to the reduction of traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions by providing an efficient public transportation option for thousands of residents and visitors; and

Whereas, more than 80% of residents in Adams Morgan use public transportation, walking, and/or micro-mobility as their primary form of transportation; and

Whereas, the elimination of the WP-AM line would disproportionately impact low-income residents, seniors, and people with disabilities who rely on the affordable and accessible service provided by the DC Circulator; and

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

Whereas, the removal of WP-AM and all other Circulator routes are part of the District Fiscal Year 2025 Budget and Financial Plan; and

Whereas, DDOT announced the start of the planned phase down of DC Circulator service beginning October 1, 2024, culminating with service ending December 31, 2024; and

Whereas, on September 10, 2024, the Bowser administration and Metro [announced plans](#) for enhanced metrobus service to help backfill well-utilized Circulator routes. Yet, none of those enhancements will help Adams Morgan backfill the WP-AM route through Adams Morgan;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C:

- Continues to oppose the elimination of the WP-AM route through Adams Morgan;
- Calls upon the Bowser administration and Metro to backfill service in Adams Morgan along Columbia Road and Calvert Street Northwest so Adams Morgan residents continue to have reliable and consistent public transportation options that connect the neighborhood to the Columbia Heights and Woodley Park-Zoo Metro stations; and
- Calls upon Metro to alter the “Better Bus Network” consistent with the goals of holding Adams Morgan harmless despite the elimination of the WP-AM.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Metro, DDOT, relevant District officials, and other appropriate stakeholders.