



December 17, 2009

Ms. Diana Zinkl, Chairman
Riders' Advisory Council
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
600 5th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms. Zinkl:

Thank you for your December 8, 2009 letter on behalf of the Riders' Advisory Council (R.A.C.) offering suggestions regarding the development of Metro's FY2011 budget.

Clearly you are aware of the mounting pressures that have made the FY2011 budget such a challenge. We are highly conscious of the importance of Metro's services in the daily lives of people all around the region, and of the effects any changes in service or policy might have on them. Because of this sensitivity, we plan to move forward in this process with transparency and full public involvement, in keeping with the goals of the R.A.C.

I appreciate your sharing the Advisory Council's insightful, pragmatic suggestions to help Metro address the financial pressures we currently face in ways that will benefit both Metro and its riders. Some of your suggestions have already been under consideration. I have shared a copy of your letter with Metro's Chief Financial Officer and am assured that staff is evaluating all of the options outlined in your letter.

I am now reviewing the R.A.C.'s specific suggestions with an eye toward giving the Board my particular reactions.

Sincerely,

Jim Graham
Chairman

**Washington
Metropolitan Area
Transit Authority**

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By Metrorail:
Judiciary Square—Red Line
Gallery Place-Chinatown—
Red, Green and
Yellow Lines
By Metrobus:
Routes D1, D3, D6, P6,
70, 71, 80, X2