



600 Fifth Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-962-2891

May 27, 2010

Chairman Benjamin and Members of the Board:

It is my pleasure to present you with the Riders' Advisory Council's report for May 2010.

Metro's Next Capital Agreement:

Metro staff came to the May Council meeting and provided an overview of Metro's proposed FY2011 – FY2016 capital program. Council members had concerns about the removal of several projects from the program as proposed due to funding constraints. It is our understanding that funding for many of these projects has been restored as negotiations on the capital plan continue. However, the capital plan as currently proposed will still not fully fund Metro's estimated \$11 billion capital needs inventory. Many of the projects that will not be funded in this plan are those designed to improve the rider experience, such as expansions to station entrances and mezzanines.

The Council understands the critical link between keeping Metro in a state of good repair and its ability to deliver safe and reliable service. We also hope that there will be opportunities for projects to be added to the capital plan as funding allows. We look forward to working with staff to provide rider input as the capital plan undergoes updates.

Senate Testimony:

On May 19th, I provided testimony to the Senate Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies. A copy of my testimony is attached for your information. As I noted in my testimony and a subsequent exchange with Senator Mikulski, the Council is looking forward using Metro's "Vital Signs" report which will be launched in June to identify and help address systemic Metro service issues.

Subcommittees:

As noted previously, the Council has started holding committee meetings to allow for greater discussion on specific topics. The Metrobus Committee had its first meeting on May 10th and will be meeting in June to discuss passenger communications. As always, we welcome the Board's suggestions on areas where the Council can provide useful feedback.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Frank DeBernardo'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Frank DeBernardo, Chairman