



AAC

Accessibility Advisory Committee

600 Fifth Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
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June 3, 2013

Dear Chair Downs and Members of the Board,

It is my pleasure to present you with the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) report for the month of May 2013. The primary issues reviewed by the AAC, its subcommittees, and workgroups during the month were: Metro's draft strategic plan - Momentum; the Silver Line; "Bumpy Tiles"; Priority Seating; and the upcoming Open Payment System.

Issues of the Month

Momentum

Momentum, Metro's draft strategic plan, is a multi-year capital rebuilding effort to bring the system into a state of good repair while, simultaneously planning for the expansion of service in the region from demands due to expected population growth. This strategic plan demonstrates Metro's future vision as the region's one-stop shop for transit customers regardless of which mode or service provider is being used. Upon motion, the ACC commended Metro with the understanding that the AAC would continue to be involved in the development of the accessibility portions of the plan.

Priority Seating

In response to an action item from the AAC's quarterly meeting with the Board's Executive Committee, Metro will be launching a new priority seating awareness campaign. Metro will advertise through 'take one' brochures; enhanced announcements on buses; more frequent information on the Passengers Information Display Systems; the General Manager's column in the newspaper; social media; and public service announcements to bring attention to this issue. The priority seating awareness campaign is an action item developed during our first quarterly meeting with the Board's Executive Committee. The campaign is slated to commence in June 2013. The AAC applauds Metro for its proactive approach to creating a culture of courtesy and looks forward to working with staff on various aspects of the priority seating campaign.

Silver Line Station

The AAC received an update on Metro's new Silver Line, which will extend Metrorail and provide high-capacity transit service along the Dulles Corridor into Reston. The AAC expressed an interest in having a tour of the new station. Staff pointed out that while stations are under construction, a tour is not feasible, but a tour will be arranged for the AAC as soon as practical and safe. The AAC is highly interested in Silver Line station lighting and directional signage.

Open Payment System

Metro is exploring new electronic payment systems to meet the demands of customers and provide better service. The proposed payment system will be integrated with Metro's other business systems and 100% accessible. The new electronic payment system will not do away with any fare media, and cash will still be accepted on all three modes. The AAC will continue its review and offer recommendations during our June 2013 meeting.

Bumpy Tiles (Detectible Warning Tiles)

Staff presented Metro's plan to add ADA compliant bumpy tiles to the 18 stations that currently do not have them by the end of the calendar year 2014. All the new tiles are slip resistant; require little maintenance; are easier to replace than the current 8-inch tiles; and will be the standard for all new stations. The AAC supports the priority Metro staff has placed on this effort.

MetroAccess Fare Calculator

The AAC received an update on the MetroAccess Fare Calculator. At the time of the reservation, all customers will be automatically given the lowest fare available during the reservation process. The MetroAccess Fare Calculator will be made available at the end of May 2013, and the AAC will work with staff to provide additional feedback after implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Sheehan", written in a cursive style.

Patrick Sheehan, Chairman