

## Consent Item (A) 09-26-2024

### Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Board Action/Information Summary

☒ Action ☐ Information

Document  
Number:  
210835

Resolution:  
☒ Yes ☐ No

**Presentation Name:**

New Ballston West Entrance Public Hearing

**Project Manager:**

Tracey Twyman

**Project Department:**

Infrastructure

**Purpose/Key Highlights:**

Request Board authorization to hold a Compact public hearing to amend the Mass Transit Plan by adding a new West Entrance to the Ballston Metrorail Station entrance.

**Interested Parties:**

- Arlington County

**Background:**

A 2013 Ballston Multimodal Study confirmed the need for an additional entrance at Ballston Metrorail Station due to continued growth and ridership demand. Design documents were developed in 2006 to 35% level and the development was then placed on hold due to economic conditions. The county performed a feasibility study in 2010 to determine if the entrance could be developed separately from the adjacent building. The project was reactivated in 2019. A consultant was tasked in 2019 with updating the 35% design documents to current standards.

**Discussion:**

Staff are coordinating the design of the Ballston Station entrance with Arlington County. The updated new design concept is almost complete. The reconfiguration of the transit facilities will be funded by Arlington County. This additional entrance will support the continued ridership growth that has occurred over the last decade.

**Funding Impact:**

There is no funding impact to conduct the proposed public hearing. Any costs incurred by WMATA are subject to reimbursement by Arlington County under the Design Support Agreement.

Arlington County has proposed to fund, design, construct and turn-over to WMATA this proposed new station entrance. A Project Construction Agreement (PCA) between WMATA and Arlington County was executed to cover WMATA's costs, but was specifically limited to the costs incurred during the County's solicitation of a design-builder pending creation of a budget. The County and WMATA have agreed to update the terms and conditions of the PCA to include reimbursement of all of WMATA's costs incurred during design completion and construction. Approval of this agreement will be the subject of a subsequent board action.

Metro will be responsible for the cost of operating the additional entrance.

**Previous Actions:**

- WMATA Board approved the addition of the new entrance to the Adopted Regional System in January 2003 (WMATA Board Resolution 2003-06). The project was not executed due to economic conditions.
- Design documents were developed to 35% level in 2006. The project was placed on hold due to economic conditions.
- Arlington County performed a feasibility study in 2010 to determine if the entrance could be developed separately from the adjacent building.
- A 2013 Ballston Multimodal Study confirmed the need for an additional entrance at Ballston Metrorail Station due to continued growth and ridership demand.
- The project was reactivated in 2019.

**Next Steps:**

Hold a public hearing to amend the Mass Transit Plan in December 2024 and present a staff report and recommendation to the board in first quarter of CY2025.

**Recommendation:**

Approval to: Hold a public hearing on the proposed changes to the Mass Transit Plan by adding a new West Entrance to the Ballston Metrorail Station

SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO HOLD A COMPACT PUBLIC HEARING TO ADD A NEW ENTRANCE TO THE BALLSTON-MU METRO STATION

RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, Compact Section 15 requires the Board of Directors to transmit proposed changes to the Mass Transit Plan to certain enumerated agencies and to conduct a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County has proposed to design, construct and turn-over to WMATA a new west entrance to the Ballston-MU Metro Station as part of its Transit Development Plan;; and

WHEREAS, WMATA and Arlington County have conducted studies that showed demand exists for the additional entrance; and

WHEREAS, The addition of a new west entrance to the Ballston-MU Metro Station will result in a change to the Mass Transit Plan

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

*RESOLVED*, That, in accordance with Compact Section 15, the Board of Directors authorizes staff to transmit the proposed Mass Transit Plan changes to the enumerated agencies and to hold a public hearing on adding a new west entrance to the Ballston-MU Metro Station; and be it further

*RESOLVED*, That the Board authorizes the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer to release the Public Hearing Staff Report to the public for comment prior to Board of Directors approval; and be it further

*RESOLVED*, That in order to schedule and hold the public hearing in this calendar year this Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,

/s/

Patricia Y. Lee  
Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer  
and General Counsel

WMATA File Structure No.:

12.7.2 Master Plans/Mass Transit Plan (including transit zone modifications)