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May 12, 2017

Chairman Evans & WMATA Board Members:

The RAC continues to provide feedback to the WMATA Board and staff. This month's activities and priorities are described below.

#### **FULL RIDERS ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

During the monthly full RAC meeting on Wednesday, April 5, Board member Leif Dormsjo and WMATA Customer Service Manager Lynn Bowersox visited us. Mr. Dormsjo provided his views on WMATA's current issues and trajectory, and Ms. Bowersox engaged the RAC in a discussion about the red line fire and shutdown of April 27, 2017, and the communication surrounding the incident. We appreciate their presence and engagement with the committee.

Members of MWCOC's Transportation Planning Board Citizen Advisory Committee also attended the RAC meeting on May 3. As this group develops its recommendations for projects and policies to include in a 2040 regional transportation plan, they hope to have input from WMATA and the RAC to ensure that the recommendations are consistent with WMATA's needs.

Anthony Garland also gave a presentation to the RAC about ATU 689's "Fund It, Fix It, Make It Fair" proposal. RAC members held a discussion with Mr. Garland about the proposal's highlights and the union's concerns about WMATA's future.

The RAC is also in the process of reviewing and revising its bylaws, and expects to send an updated version to the WMATA board for approval at the Board's June 22 meeting.

#### **RAC COMMITTEES:**

The **Budget** committee discussed funding alternatives for WMATA, including dedicated funding. The **Customer Service** committee led a discussion about communications needs during major incidents such as the red line shutdown of April 27, 2017. The **Programs, Projects, and Planning** committee authored its first article about the RAC for publication on the Greater Greater Washington blog. The **Safety** committee participated in WMATA's quarterly security drill on Sunday, April 23. The committee will also provide a set of questions to WMATA staff and relevant Board members on safety and security topics, following up from a previous set of questions.

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- At the request of the WMATA board, the RAC authored a report on the communications issues during the April 27, 2017 red line shutdown and provided suggestions for improvement. The report was delivered to WMATA staff, to be passed along to the Board, on Friday, May 5, 2017.

#### **UPCOMING ACTIONS**

- RAC's three jurisdictional vice presidents are working on joint events between RAC members and their jurisdictional representatives on the board.
- The RAC will discuss and vote on updated bylaws during their June 7 meeting.

#### **CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP**

Rebekah Mason (Maryland) has joined the RAC, and James Zepp (Maryland) has resigned.

Sincerely,

*Katherine Kortum*

Chair, Riders' Advisory Council