

600 Fifth Street NW Washington, DC 20001 (202) 962-2511

Dear WMATA Board of Directors,

Below is the Riders' Advisory Council's report for February 2022.

## **Membership Recruitment:**

The RAC will be working with staff to recruit new members to fill our current vacancies and hope to have candidates for the Board's consideration in March. We would also encourage Board members to let their networks know about the opportunities to serve and direct interested candidates to the online application available on Metro's website.

## **Board Member RAC Liaison:**

The Board's RAC liaison, Alternate Director Bryna Helfer, attended our February meeting to formally introduce herself to the RAC and to discuss her role as a bridge between the RAC and the Board. She is currently holding one-on-one sessions with current RAC members to learn more about their experience serving on the Council and identify opportunities improve the RAC's processes and effectiveness. We're looking forward to taking advantage of her significant experience with public outreach and stakeholder engagement to find ways to increase participation by both RAC members and members of the public.

## **FY2023 Budget Outreach:**

RAC members observed this month's public hearings on Metro's Proposed FY2023 Operating and Capital Budgets and will be reviewing the input Metro received in order to provide the Board with recommendations next month during the budget adoption process.

## **General Manager Search:**

The RAC also appreciated the opportunity to provide input as the search begins for a new WMATA General Manager. As the Board identifies candidates, we feel that the it's important that the candidates under consideration:

- Are able to meaningfully collaborate with stakeholders to receive both feedback and advice – this includes not only the Board's formal advisory groups, the RAC and AAC, but also the business community, communitybased organizations, elected officials and members of the public; and
- Will proactively communicate with riders about the state of Metro service and any upcoming changes; and

• Can equitably balance the various competing needs of Metro's riders, recognizing that different riders' differing needs are not in conflict with one another, but rather interconnected elements that must all be considered as part of Metro's decision-making.

The RAC recognizes the significant challenges facing the next General Manager and looks forward to the opportunity to continue to be involved as the search process continues.

Thank you. On behalf of the RAC, we look forward to strengthening our working relationship with you during the year ahead.

Best,

Brian Meyer

Chairman of the Riders' Advisory Council