# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Public Access to Records Policy ("PARP") Quarterly Report January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023

WMATA's Legal Department submits the following information to the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer in accordance with PARP § 11.1:

#### I. Basic Information Regarding the PARP and the Quarterly Reports

The PARP was enacted in accordance with WMATA's interstate compact and carries the force of law. See D.C. Code Ann § 9-1107.01(12).

The text of the PARP is available in its entirety on WMATA's website at <a href="https://www.wmata.com/about/records/public-records.cfm">https://www.wmata.com/about/records/public-records.cfm</a> under the section titled Legal Affairs.

All available quarterly PARP reports dated from October 1, 2005 to the present are posted on WMATA's website at <a href="https://www.wmata.com/about/records/">https://www.wmata.com/about/records/</a> under the section titled Quarterly Reports.

#### II. How To Submit a PARP Request

A. **By mail to:** Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Legal Department - 7E

P.O. Box 44390

Washington, DC 20026 ATTN: PARP Administrator

B. **By email to:** PARP@wmata.com

C. **By facsimile (fax) to:** (202) 962-2550

For complete information regarding filing requirements, please <u>see</u> PARP § 7.0, which is available on WMATA's website as described above.

#### **III.** Key Definitions

- **1. Appeal** A written statement requesting reconsideration of a denial of a request for records or denial of fee waiver.
- **2. Backlogged Request** A PARP request that has exceeded the prescribed time for a response (for routine requests 20 working days; for complex requests 30 working days).
- **3. Closed Request** A PARP request for which WMATA has taken final action.
- **4. Complex Request** A PARP request that generates voluminous records (totaling more than 200 pages) or requires coordination with multiple stakeholders within or outside WMATA.
- **5. Exemption** A category of records that is not subject to release under the PARP.

- **Expedited Request** A PARP request that is taken out of order for priority processing because of circumstances in which the lack of expedited treatment could reasonably be expected to pose an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual, or because of an urgent need to inform the public about an actual or alleged WMATA activity in accordance with PARP § 7.10.2b(ii).
- **7. Full Denial** A response to a PARP request which does not result in the release of any requested records.
- **8. Full Grant** A response to a PARP request resulting in the release of all requested records without reduction.
- **9. Mean Processing Time** The average time of the set of relevant processing times.
- **10. Median Processing Time** The middle value of the set of relevant processing times.
- **11. Media Request** A PARP request submitted on behalf of an entity whose primary activity involves publishing or disseminating information to the general public, to the extent records are requested for a news story.
- **12. PARP Request** A written request for WMATA records pursuant to the PARP.
- **13. Partial Grant** A response to a PARP request which releases records with information determined to fall under one or more prescribed exemptions redacted.
- **14. Perfected Request** A PARP request that reasonably describes the records sought and complies with all relevant sections of the PARP.
- **15. Processing Time** The duration that a PARP request was pending.
- **Quarter** Quarter 1: January 1 to March 31; Quarter 2: April 1 to June 30; Quarter 3: July 1 to September 30; and Quarter 4: October 1 to December 31.
- **17. Routine Request** A PARP request that requires less than two hours of staff time to process, generates minimal records (totaling less than 200 pages), and does not require coordination with multiple stakeholders within or outside WMATA.
- **18. Working Days** Business days (which exclude weekends and federal holidays). All processing times noted herein are calculated in working days.

## **IV.** Quarterly Overview:

#### a. Total Requests

| Requests Pending at Start of 1Q 2023                 | 95  |
|--|-----|
| Requests Received in 1Q 2023                         | 84  |
| Requests Closed in 1Q 2023                           | 55  |
| Requests Pending at End of 1Q 2023                   | 124 |
| Mean Processing Time of Requests Closed in 1Q 2023   | 106 |
| Median Processing Time of Requests Closed in 1Q 2023 | 70  |

## b. Requests for Expedited Processing

| Expedited Granted Requests Pending at Start of 1Q 2023                 | 0   |
|--|-----|
| Requests for Expedited Processing Received in 1Q 2023                  | 2   |
| Requests for Expedited Processing Granted in 1Q 2023                   | 0   |
| Requests for Expedited Processing Denied in 1Q 2023                    | 2   |
| Requests for Expedited Processing Mooted in 1Q 2023                    | 0   |
| Expedited Granted Requests Closed in 1Q 2023                           | 0   |
| Expedited Granted Requests Pending at End of 1Q 2023                   | 0   |
| Mean Processing Time of Expedited Granted Requests Closed in 1Q 2023   | N/A |
| Median Processing Time of Expedited Granted Requests Closed in 1Q 2023 | N/A |

#### c. Routine and Complex Requests

| Routine Requests Closed in 1Q 2023                           | 32  |
|--|-----|
| Complex Requests Closed in 1Q 2023                           | 23  |
| Mean Processing Time of Routine Requests Closed in 1Q 2023   | 57  |
| Median Processing Time of Routine Requests Closed in 1Q 2023 | 34  |
| Mean Processing Time of Complex Requests Closed in 1Q 2023   | 173 |
| Median Processing Time of Complex Requests Closed in 1Q 2023 | 122 |

#### d. Media Requests

| Media Requests Received in 1Q 2023                         | 7  |
|--|----|
| Media Requests Closed in 1Q 2023                           | 7  |
| Mean Processing Time of Media Requests Closed in 1Q 2023   | 98 |
| Median Processing Time of Media Requests Closed in 1Q 2023 | 70 |

#### e. Backlogged Requests

| Backlogged PARP Requests at Start of 1Q 2023                    | 82  |
|---|-----|
| Backlogged PARP Requests Closed in 1Q 2023                      | 43  |
| Backlogged PARP Requests at End of 1Q 2023                      | 92  |
| Mean Processing Time of Backlogged Requests Closed in 1Q 2023   | 132 |
| Median Processing Time of Backlogged Requests Closed in 1Q 2023 | 94  |

#### f. Consultations from External Agencies

| Consultations Pending at Start of 1Q 2023                 | 1   |
|---|-----|
| Consultations Received in 1Q 2023                         | 0   |
| Consultations Closed in 1Q 2023                           | 0   |
| Consultations Pending at End of 1Q 2023                   | 1   |
| Mean Processing Time of Consultations Closed in 1Q 2023   | N/A |
| Median Processing Time of Consultations Closed in 1Q 2023 | N/A |

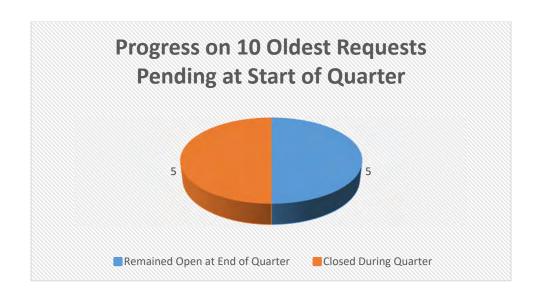
#### V. Status of Ten Oldest PARP Requests:

#### a. Ten Oldest PARP Requests Pending at Start of 1Q 2023

| PARP No. | Date of Receipt | Total Time Pending at Start of 1Q |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 22-0002  | 1/7/2022        | 249 working days                  |
| 21-0201  | 10/18/2021      | 304 working days                  |
| 21-0200  | 10/18/2021      | 304 working days                  |
| 21-0191  | 10/1/2021       | 315 working days                  |
| 21-0165  | 8/23/2021       | 343 working days                  |
| 21-0158  | 8/5/2021        | 355 working days                  |
| 21-0138  | 7/14/2021       | 371 working days                  |
| 20-0129  | 6/30/2020       | 628 working days                  |
| 20-0130  | 6/18/2020       | 636 working days                  |
| 20-0109  | 5/11/2020       | 663 working days                  |

#### b. Ten Oldest PARP Requests Pending at End of 1Q 2023

| PARP No. | Date of Receipt | Total Time Pending at End of 1Q |
|----------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 22-0036  | 2/7/2022        | 289 working days                |
| 22-0024  | 1/24/2022       | 299 working days                |
| 22-0019  | 1/19/2022       | 302 working days                |
| 22-0007  | 1/10/2022       | 308 working days                |
| 22-0004  | 1/7/2022        | 309 working days                |
| 22-0002  | 1/7/2022        | 309 working days                |
| 21-0200  | 10/18/2021      | 364 working days                |
| 21-0191  | 10/1/2021       | 375 working days                |
| 20-0129  | 6/30/2020       | 688 working days                |
| 20-0130  | 6/18/2020       | 696 working days                |



#### VI. Staffing Levels: 1,2

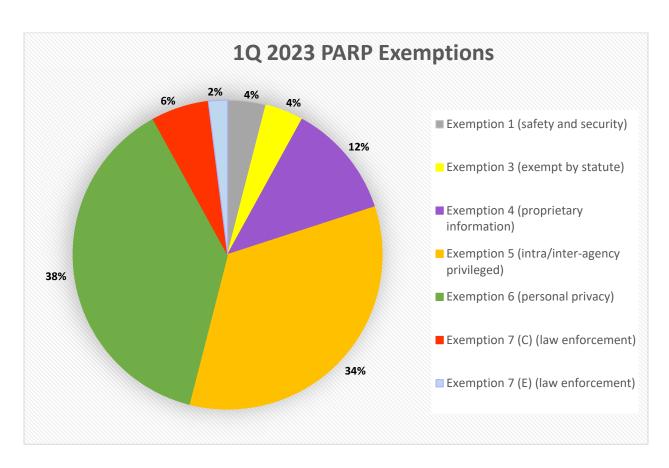
| Full-Time Personnel | 2   |
|---------------------|-----|
| Part-Time Personnel | 3   |
| Total               | 3.5 |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Does not include records custodians and subject matter experts, or personnel who occasionally assist with records retrieval and review for specific requests.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Full-time personnel are calculated as 1, while part-time personnel are calculated as ½.

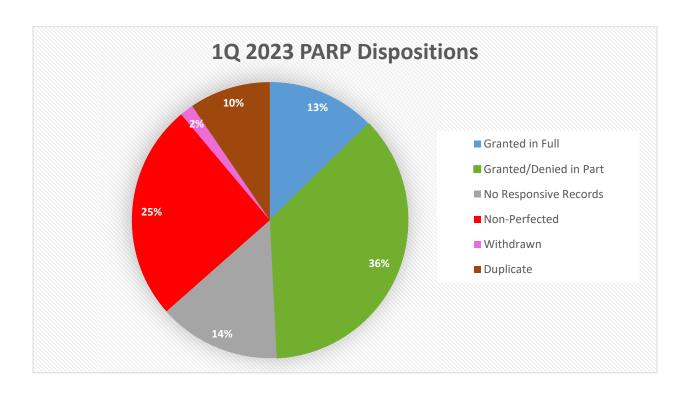
#### VII. PARP Exemptions Applied During 1Q 2023:

| Exemption 1 (safety and security)                           | 2  |
|---|----|
| Exemption 2 (internal personnel rules and practices)        | 0  |
| Exemption 3 (exempt by statute)                             | 2  |
| Exemption 4 (proprietary information)                       | 6  |
| Exemption 5 (intra/inter-agency privileged)                 | 17 |
| Exemption 6 (personal privacy)                              | 19 |
| Exemption 7 (A) (law enforcement – enforcement proceedings) | 0  |
| Exemption 7 (B) (law enforcement – impartial adjudication)  | 0  |
| Exemption 7 (C) (law enforcement – personal privacy)        | 3  |
| Exemption 7 (D) (law enforcement – confidential source)     | 0  |
| Exemption 7 (E) (law enforcement – techniques/procedures)   | 1  |
| Exemption 7 (F) (law enforcement – endanger life/safety)    | 0  |
| Exemption 8 (SmarTrip®)                                     | 0  |
| Exemption 9 (customer financial information)                | 0  |
| Total   | 50 |



#### VIII. PARP Request Dispositions for 1Q 2023:3

| Granted in Full (No Exemptions)           | 8  |
|---|----|
| Granted/Denied in Part                    | 23 |
| Denied in Full                            | 0  |
| No Responsive Records                     | 9  |
| Non-Perfected                             | 16 |
| Burdensome (Requester Declined to Narrow) | 0  |
| Withdrawn                                 | 1  |
| Duplicate/Aggregated                      | 6  |
| Total                                     | 63 |



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A request may have multiple applicable dispositions.

#### IX. Quarterly Processing Fees:<sup>4</sup>

#### a. All PARP Requests Completed in 1Q 2023

| Fees Paid            | \$1,593.53 |
|----------------------|------------|
| Fees Owed/Delinquent | \$204.85   |
| Fees Waived          | \$5,590.27 |
| Total Fees           | \$7,388.65 |



#### **X.** Administrative Appeals:

| Appeals Pending at Start of 1Q 2023 | 2 |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Appeals Received in 1Q 2023         | 1 |
| Appeals Closed in 1Q 2023           | 0 |
| Appeals Pending at End of 1Q 2023   | 3 |

# XI. Comparisons Between Previous Three Quarterly Reports and Current Quarterly Report:

|                          | 2Q 2022 | 3Q 2022 | 4Q 2022 | 1Q 2023 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Requests Received        | 69      | 100     | 67      | 84      |
| Requests Closed          | 77      | 84      | 88      | 55      |
| Appeals Received         | 5       | 7       | 1       | 1       |
| Appeals Closed           | 3       | 6       | 5       | 0       |
| Backlog Start of Quarter | 80      | 77      | 86      | 82      |
| Backlog End of Quarter   | 77      | 86      | 82      | 92      |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Fees are charged for search, review, and duplication of records in accordance with PARP § 8.0.