

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority  
Public Access to Records Policy ("PARP") Quarterly Report  
October 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008

WMATA's Office of General Counsel submits the following information to the GM/CEO in accordance with the requirements of the PARP § 11.1.

**I. Basic Information Regarding Report**

A. Name, Title, Address, and Telephone Number of the PARP Administrator

Keysia A. Thom, PARP/Privacy Policy Administrator  
Office of General Counsel  
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)  
600 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
Tel: 202-962-2058  
Fax: 202-962-2550

B. Electronic Address for the Quarterly Report on the Internet

The electronic address for the Quarterly Report is on WMATA's website:  
[http://www.wmata.com/about\\_metro/public\\_rr.cfm](http://www.wmata.com/about_metro/public_rr.cfm).

C. How to obtain a copy in paper form

A paper copy of this report may be obtained from the address listed above.

**II. How to Make a PARP Request**

The procedure for making a PARP request can be located on our website at [http://www.wmata.com/about\\_metro/public\\_rr.cfm](http://www.wmata.com/about_metro/public_rr.cfm) under PARP § 7.0.

**III. Definitions**

1. Average Number - the number obtained by dividing the sum of a group of numbers by the quantity of numbers in the group. For example, of 3, 7, and 14, the average number is 8.
2. Backlog - the number of requests or administrative appeals that are pending at the end of the quarter that are beyond the statutory time period for a response.
3. Complex Requests - a request for records that generates voluminous records (more than 1000 pages) and/or requires coordination with several offices and/or third parties (e.g. requests for contracts).
4. Denial - an agency decision not to release any part of a record or records in response to a PARP/Privacy Policy request because all the information in the requested records is determined by WMATA to be exempt under one or more of the PARP or Privacy Policy exemptions, or for some procedural reason (e.g. no record is located in response to a PARP/Privacy Policy request).
5. Expedited Processing - processing a PARP request on an expedited basis after a requester demonstrates an exceptional need or urgency for the records based on criteria established in PARP § 7.10.2 that warrants prioritization of his or her request over other requests that were made earlier.
6. Grant - a decision to disclose all records without redaction in response to a PARP/Privacy Policy request.
7. Initial Request - a request to Metro for access to records under the PARP/Privacy Policy.

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8. Median Number - the middle, not average number. For example, for 1, 5 and 17, the median number is 5.
9. Non-Perfected - a request that is not processed because WMATA is waiting on supporting documentation (e.g. notarized release) or payment from the requester.
10. PARP Appeal - a request asking for administrative review of a full or partial denial of a request for records and/or denial of a fee waiver.
11. PARP Request - a request for records concerning WMATA, a third party or a particular topic of interest.
12. Partial Grant - decision to disclose a record in part in response to a PARP/Privacy Policy request, redacting information determined to be exempt under one or more of the PARP/Privacy Policy exemptions; or a decision to disclose some records completely, but to withhold others in whole or in part.
13. Pending Request - a request for which WMATA has not yet taken final action.
14. Perfected Request - a response for records which reasonably describes such records and is made in accordance with published rules stating the time, place, fees (if any) and procedures to be followed.
15. Privacy Appeal - a request asking for administrative review of a full or partial denial of access to records and/or a refusal to amend records.
16. Privacy Policy Request - a request for access to records concerning oneself; such requests are also treated as PARP requests.
17. Processed Request or Appeal - a request for which Metro has taken a final action.
18. Routine Requests - a request for records that requires less than 2 hours of staff time to retrieve and review (e.g. incident reports, crime statistics, or SmarTrip® records).

**IV. Exemption 3 Statutes**

<b>Statute</b>	<b>Type of Information Withheld</b>	<b>Case Citation</b>	<b>Number of Times Relied Upon</b>
N/A <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A

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<sup>1</sup>Metro did not claim this exemption this quarter.

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**V. Initial PARP Requests**

**A. Number of Initial Requests Received During this Quarter**

Routine PARP Requests	103
Complex PARP Requests	6
Expedited PARP Requests	2
Total	111

**B. Requests Pending at the Beginning of this Quarter**

Routine PARP Requests	35
Complex PARP Requests	8
Expedited PARP Requests	0
Total	43

**C. Disposition of Initial Requests**

Number of total grants	37
Number of partial grants	16
Number of denials	1
Other reasons for non-disclosure (total)	57
No records	1
Non-perfected request	1
Request withdrawn	0
Fee not paid by deadline	1
Pending Requests	54 <sup>2</sup>
Not a PARP	0

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<sup>2</sup>Forty-six pending requests were due after December 31, 2008.

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**D. Number of times each PARP exemption was applied**

Exemption 1 (critical infrastructure or sensitive security information)	0
Exemption 2 (internal personnel rules and practices)	0
Exemption 3 (exempt by statute)	0
Exemption 4 (proprietary information)	0
Exemption 5 (intra/inter-agency privileged)	16
Exemption 6 (personal privacy)	15
Exemption 7(A) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 7(B) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 7(C) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 7(D) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 7(E) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 7(F) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 8 (SmarTrip®)	1
Exemption 9 (customer financial information)	0

**VI. Appeals of PARP Decisions**

**A. Number of Appeals**

Number of Appeals Pending at the Beginning of this Quarter	4
Number of Appeals Received this Quarter	2
Number of Appeals Processed	4
Number of Appeals Pending at the end of this Quarter	2

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**B. Disposition of Administrative Appeals**

Number Affirmed on Appeal	1
Number Partially Affirmed and Partially Reversed/Remanded on Appeal	2
Number Completely Reversed/Remanded on Appeal	1
Number of Appeals Closed for Other Reasons	0
Total	4

**C. Reasons for Denial of Administrative Appeals**

Exemption 1 (critical infrastructure or sensitive security information)	0
Exemption 2 (internal personnel rules and practices)	0
Exemption 3 (exempt by statute)	0
Exemption 4 (proprietary information)	0
Exemption 5 (intra/inter-agency privileged)	2
Exemption 6 (personal privacy)	3
Exemption 7(A) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 7(B) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 7(C) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 7(D) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 7(E) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 7(F) (law enforcement)	0
Exemption 8 (SmarTrip®)	0
Exemption 9 (customer financial information)	0

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**D. Response Time for Administrative Appeals (Business Days)**

Median Number of Days	68
Average Number of Days	63
Lowest Number of Days	42
Highest Number of Days	95

**E. Ten Oldest Pending Administrative Appeals**

10 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	0
9 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	0
8 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	0
7 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	0
6 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	0
5 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	0
4 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	0
3 <sup>rd</sup> Oldest	0 <sup>3</sup>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Oldest	Date: 12/22/08 Number of Days: 6
Oldest	Date: 11/12/08 Number of Days: 33

**VII. Compliance with Time Limits/Status of Pending Requests**

**A. Processing Time for Routine Requests (Business Days)**

Number of Requests Processed	89
Median Number of Days	17
Average Number of Days	18
Lowest Number of Days	1
Highest Number of Days	57

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<sup>3</sup>There are only 2 pending appeals.

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**B. Processing Time for Complex Requests (Business Days)**

Number of Requests Processed	4
Median Number of Days	85
Average Number of Days	95
Lowest Number of Days	54
Highest Number of Days	156

**C. Processing Time for Expedited Processing (Business Days)**

Number of Requests Processed	0
Median Number of Days	0
Average Number of Days	0
Lowest Number of Days	0
Highest Number of Days	0

**D. Response Times for Routine Requests (Business Days)**

1 - 20 Days	64
21 - 40 Days	22
41 - 60 Days	3 <sup>4</sup>
Total	89

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<sup>4</sup>Response times for processing routine requests does not exceed 60 business days.

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**E. Response Times for Complex Requests (Business Days)**

1 - 20 Days	0
21 - 40 Days	0
41 - 60 Days	1
61 - 80 Days	1
81 - 100 Days	0
101 - 120 Days	1
121 - 140 Days	0
141 - 160 Days	1 <sup>5</sup>
Total	4

**F. Response Times for Expedited Requests (Business Days)**

1 - 20 Days	0
Total	0 <sup>6</sup>

**G. Routine Pending Requests (Business Days)**

Number Pending	48
Median Number of Days	11
Average Number of Days	13
Lowest Number of Days	0 <sup>7</sup>
Highest Number of Days	55

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<sup>5</sup>Response times for processing complex requests does not exceed 160 business days.

<sup>6</sup>Metro did process any expedited requests.

<sup>7</sup>Request was received on December 31, 2008.



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**H. Complex Pending Requests (Business Days)**

Number Pending	8
Median Number of Days	13
Average Number of Days	94
Lowest Number of Days	5
Highest Number of Days	424 <sup>8</sup>

**I. Expedited Pending Requests (Business Days)**

Number Pending	0 <sup>9</sup>
Median Number of Days	0
Average Number of Days	0
Lowest Number of Days	0
Highest Number of Days	0

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<sup>8</sup>This request is pending due to litigation.

<sup>9</sup>Metro does not have any pending expedited requests.

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**J. Pending Requests – Ten Oldest Pending Perfected Requests**

10 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	Date: 12/5/08 Number of Days: 17 <sup>10</sup>
9 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	Date: 12/4/08 Number of Days: 18 <sup>11</sup>
8 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	Date: 11/30/08 Number of Days: 21
7 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	Date: 11/20/08 Number of Days: 27
6 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	Date: 11/17/08 Number of Days: 30
5 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	Date: 11/14/08 Number of Days: 31
4 <sup>th</sup> Oldest	Date: 10/9/08 Number of Days: 54
3 <sup>rd</sup> Oldest	Date: 10/9/08 Number of Days: 55
2 <sup>nd</sup> Oldest	Date: 12/10/07 Number of Days: 266 <sup>12</sup>
Oldest	Date: 5/2/07 Number of Days: 424 <sup>13</sup>

**VIII. Requests for Expedited Processing and Requests for Fee Waiver**

**A. Expedited Processing**

Number Granted	0
Number Denied	1
Median Number of Days to Adjudicate	0
Average Number of Days to Adjudicate	0
Number of Adjudicated Within Ten Calendar Days	0

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<sup>10</sup>This request was due after December 31, 2008.

<sup>11</sup>This request was due after December 31, 2008.

<sup>12</sup>This request is pending contact from requester.

<sup>13</sup>This request is pending due to litigation.

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**B. Fee Waivers**

Number of Requests Received	4
Number Granted	0
Number Denied	2 <sup>14</sup>
Median Number of Days to Adjudicate	0
Average Number of Days to Adjudicate	0

**IX. Costs/PARP Staffing**

**A. Staffing levels**

Number of full-time PARP personnel	1
Number of personnel with part-time or occasional PARP duties	3 <sup>15</sup>
Total number of personnel	4

**B. Total Costs**

PARP processing (including appeals)	\$2499.05
Litigation-related activities	0
Total costs	\$2499.05

**C. Fees**

Total amount of fees collected by WMATA for processing requests	\$2499.05
Percentage of Total Costs	100%

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<sup>14</sup>Two requests did not generate a fee. Thus, the appeal was moot.

<sup>15</sup>Does not include personnel outside of the Office of General Counsel who searched for, retrieved and reviewed records in this quarter.

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**XI. Backlogs**

**A. Backlogs of PARP Requests and Administrative Appeals**

Number of Backlogged Requests at the End of Quarter	10
Number of Backlogged Appeals at the End of Quarter	1

**B. Comparison of Numbers of Requests from Previous and Current Quarter**

Number of Requests Received During Prior Quarter	114
Number Received During Current Quarter	111
Number Processed During Prior Quarter	107
Number Processed During Current Quarter	93

**C. Backlogged Requests at the End of the Quarter**

Number of Backlogged Requests at the End of the Prior Quarter	10
Number of Backlogged Requests at End of the Current Quarter	10

**D. Comparison of Numbers of Appeals from Previous and Current Annual Report**

Number Received During Prior Quarter	4
Number Received During Current Quarter	2
Number Processed During Prior Quarter	0
Number Processed During Current Quarter	4

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**E. Backlogged Requests at the End of the Quarter**

Number of Backlogged Appeals at the End of the Prior Quarter	4
Number of Backlogged Appeals at the End of the Current Quarter	2