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February 18, 2015

Chairman Downey & WMATA Board Members:

During this second month of the new year, the primary activity of the RAC has been to plan our work for 2015, with some of that work already underway. We have also continued the education of our new and returning membership on the RAC's mission and processes.

Our standing committees are in place, have named members to lead their efforts, and have already met 2-3 times each. They are identifying, prioritizing and planning their work for the year, incorporating requests from the WMATA Board and Staff, as well as our own initiatives.

Our first work plan undertaking has been to understand the 2016 budget options and recent proposal, to provide our own feedback to the information gathered from the public surveys and community groups. RAC members will be attending the public hearings, not only to gain additional perspective on the difficult budget decisions to be made, but also for our new members to witness the incredible energy WMATA expends to give riders an opportunity to be heard.

The RAC is ready and willing to begin our collaboration with staff on safety procedures, emergency management and communications. We hope to hear more about that when Ron Bodner attends our March 4th RAC meeting.

Also, with the arrival of my Metro Payment Pilot card, I am excited about the prospect of beginning the pilot on February 23rd. It is one of many reasons to look forward to the RAC's work throughout 2015.

Sincerely,

/s/

Barbara Hermanson, Chair
Riders' Advisory Council

cc: RAC Members