

**Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority
Board Action/Information Summary**

Action
 Information

MEAD Number:

Resolution:
 Yes No

PURPOSE

To request Board approval to conduct public hearings on proposed restructuring of regional Metrobus Routes 30, 32, 34, 35, 36, which comprise the Pennsylvania Avenue Line, also known as the 30s Line.

DESCRIPTION

WMATA, in partnership with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), has, since June 2007, been studying ways of improving transit service along the Pennsylvania Avenue Line. Current 30s line service runs from Friendship Heights to Southern Avenue and Naylor Road stations generally along Wisconsin and Pennsylvania Avenues.

The 30s Line has the highest ridership of any Metrobus line at almost 20,000 daily riders and it provides an important link between Southeast and Northwest D.C. However, because of its popularity and heavy traffic along its route, the line suffers from overcrowding, bus bunching and delays.

Following extensive public involvement, the study has developed many short-term and long-term recommendations for improvements to service, operations, stops and facilities, customer information, safety and security, traffic operations and management, vehicles and vehicle assignments, and fare collection. The recommended changes to routes and service, which would be the subject of public hearings, are described below.

1. Maintain local Routes 32 and 36 between Friendship Heights and Southern Avenue Station (Route 32) and Naylor Road Station (Route 36) serving all stops and operating seven days a week.
2. Implement new peak period limited-stop services on Route 37 between Friendship Heights and Archives and on Route 39 between Naylor Road Station and Foggy Bottom-GWU Station.

3. Implement new seven-day-a-week neighborhood connectors on Route 31 between Friendship Heights and Foggy Bottom and on Route M5 between Naylor Road Station and Eastern Market.
4. Eliminate Routes 30, 34 and 35.

FUNDING IMPACT

The proposed service plan is estimated to increase the annual Metrobus regional operating subsidy by up to \$400,000. This additional funding is anticipated to be provided by DDOT, which is available for new limited-stop services, to achieve regional subsidy neutrality. Additional costs associated with customer communications, information, promotions and coordinated capital improvements will be subject to the final service plan recommendations for which specific funding recommendations are being developed. If approved following public hearings, service implementation is planned for June 2008.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the request to conduct public hearings on proposed restructuring of regional Metrobus Routes 30, 32, 34, 35, 36, which comprise the Pennsylvania Avenue Line.

PRESENTED AND ADOPTED:

SUBJECT: METROBUS 30s LINE – AUTHORIZATION TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING AND TO RELEASE HEARING STAFF REPORT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

PROPOSED
RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, The Metrobus 30s Line has the highest ridership of any Metrobus line at almost 20,000 daily riders providing bus service from Southern Avenue and Naylor Road Metro Stations, along Pennsylvania Avenue SE, through Downtown and Georgetown, along Wisconsin Avenue, NW and ending at Friendship Heights Metro Station; and

WHEREAS, The 30s line has long suffered from continuing performance-related issues including on-time adherence, bus separation, detours, incident response, traffic congestion and passenger crowding; and,

WHEREAS, The 30s Line serves areas of the District of Columbia incorporating many land use, economic development and transportation initiatives such as: East of the River; Anacostia Waterfront; Capitol Hill; Center City; Georgetown; Glover Park; and, Upper Wisconsin Avenue; and,

WHEREAS, Between June and December 2007, WMATA, in partnership with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), studied ways of improving transit service along Metrobus routes 30, 32, 34, 35, 36 and M6 (collectively called the 30s Line); and,

WHEREAS, This study process included substantial public input and participation in developing recommendations to respond to consumer needs, minimize costs and enhance line effectiveness and performance; and,

WHEREAS, Staff worked with DDOT to prepare recommendations for funding and implementing an integrated, comprehensive and coordinated strategy of phased operational and service enhancements; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors authorizes the staff to hold a public hearing on the proposed service plan. The General Manager, in coordination with the District Board members, will establish the date, time and location of the hearing; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors authorizes the General Manager to release the Public Hearing Staff Report for public comment, as soon as the Staff Report is available, subject to later submission of the Staff Report Supplement, with final staff recommendations, to the Board for its approval. All Board members will receive the Staff Report concurrently with its release for public review; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That this Resolution shall be effective immediately.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,



Carol B. O'Keeffe
General Counsel