Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority Board Action/Information Summary

Action Information	MEAD Number:	Resolution: Yes No

PURPOSE

To request Board of Directors approval to establish a new Metrobus route to provide seven-day-a-week, limited-stop service, between Southern Avenue Station and National Harbor, and change the operating budget accordingly. The route will be designated NH-1, National Harbor Line. This subsidy for this route will be completely funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation. The anticipated implementation date is Sunday, March 23, 2008.

DESCRIPTION

The National Harbor development, the first phase of which is scheduled to open in March 2008, will be a 300-acre waterfront destination located just south of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge in Prince George's County, Maryland. The cornerstone of the project will be the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, the largest non-gaming hotel and convention center on the Eastern seaboard. It will also feature a planned mixed-use community comprised of hotels, office, retail, dining and entertainment space, marinas and residential units.

Proposed Route NH-1 would connect National Harbor with Metrorail at Southern Avenue station and with the Metrobus system. It would operate via Southern Avenue (District of Columbia), Indian Head Highway (Maryland Route 210), Oxon Hill Road, the Oxon Hill Park and Ride Lot, and National Harbor roadways. Initially, service would be provided approximately every 20 minutes during the a.m. and p.m. rush periods, every 30 minutes weekdays non-rush and all day Saturday and Sunday. The span of service would be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

This service scenario would apply until the opening of the second new span of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, at which time it is hoped that support will be forthcoming to extend the NH-1 from National Harbor to King Street station in Alexandria as a MetroExtra service and that it would become regional in designation. Any changes in span or headways would be subject to regional agreement in advance of expansion to interstate operation.

FUNDING IMPACT

The proposed establishment of seven-day-a-week Route NH-1 service would have the following impact on the Metrobus operating subsidy, allocated entirely to the Maryland Department of Transportation. The number of peak scheduled buses would increase by three. The anticipated implementation date is March 23, 2008.

Operating Budget Impact		
	Amend FY2008 Approved Budget	Adjust FY2009 Proposed Budget
Revenue	\$67,000	\$249,000
Expense	\$379,000	\$1,408,000
Subsidy	\$312,000	\$1,159,000

RECOMMENDATION

Approve establishment of service on Metrobus Route NH-1, National Harbor Line, in the District of Columbia and Prince George's County, Maryland, and change the operating budget accordingly.

PRESENTED AND ADOPTED:

SUBJECT: REQUEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH SERVICE SEVEN

DAYS A WEEK ON ROUTE NH-1 IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND PRINCE

GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

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

WHEREAS, The first phase of the National Harbor development, located on the Potomac River in Prince George's County, Maryland, south of the Wilson Bridge, is scheduled to open in March 2008; and

WHEREAS, Public transportation will be required to connect this development with the existing Metrobus and Metrorail system; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland Department of Transportation has requested the establishment of a new limited-stop Metrobus service to operate between Southern Avenue station and National Harbor via Southern Avenue in the District of Columbia and via Indian Head Highway, Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill Park and Ride Lot, and new National Harbor roadways in Prince George's County on weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays between approximately 6 A.M. and 10 P.M. daily, at a frequency of approximately every 20 minutes during the morning and afternoon rush periods and every 30 minutes at all other times; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland Department of Transportation has agreed to pay all of the subsidy required to operate this service at the parameters noted above; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors approves the establishment of limited-stop Metrobus Route NH-1, National Harbor Line, to operate between Southern Avenue Station and the new National harbor development in Prince George's County over the roadways, at the span of service and at the frequencies noted above, effective March 23, 2008; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors amends the FY2008 approved operating budget and adjusts the FY2009 proposed operating budget such that Non-Regional Metrobus subsidy allocated to Prince George's County increases by \$312,000 in FY2008, and \$1,159,000 in FY2009; 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