

Chevy Chase Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3/4G

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 6252 Northwest Station Washington, DC 20015

CHEVY CHASE OFFICE 5601 Connecticut Ave. NW Washington, DC 20015 (202) 363-5803 FAX (202) 686-4366 Email: ChevychaseANC3@verizon.net

February 9, 2016

Leif A. Dormsjo, Director D.C. Department of Transportation 55 M Street, S.E., Suite 400 Washington, D.C. 20003

Paul J. Wiedenfeld, General Manager and CEO WMATA
Office of the Secretary
600 5th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Chevy Chase ANC 3/4 G (E6 Bus Route Issues)

To DDOT and WMATA,

At our duly noticed February 8, 2016, meeting, the Chevy Chase ANC (ANC 3/4 G) voted 6 to 0 (a quorum being four) to request that the D.C. Department of Transportation ("DDOT") and Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority ("WMATA") reinstate and expand service on the E6 bus route. This letter reiterates the requests in our letter of May 15, 2014, which adopted various recommendations from the Chevy Chase ANC Transportation Task Force, and incorporates recommendations from residents and organizations who attended an open community public meeting on February 8, 2016. The E6 bus is especially vital to the daily life of all citizens within the District, especially the Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods and Knollwood Retirement communities, and we request that service on this line be extended to better meet the community's needs.

The E-6 bus route gives all citizens - but especially seniors, the disabled and youth - access to a wide variety of District services, including shopping, banking, medical appointments, recreation and entertainment. Additionally, the E6 permits non-driving residents and employees (e.g., the 200 workers at Knollwood) to reach work, school, and other essential activities. Presently, the E6 provides only limited weekday operations which severely isolates those who rely on this service. Such limitations are inconsistent with the District of Columbia's overall strategic effort to provide a "livable" environment and its specific commitment to provide "safe and affordable modes ofpublic transportation" for the District's senior residents. (See the Office on Aging's "Age-Friendly DC Initiative", dcoa.dc.gov/page/age-friendly-dc-initiative.) If the District is to be truly livable and age-friendly, it must look beyond a simplistic cost analysis and assure that its tax-paying residents have those transportation services that are essential to our urban quality of life.

To give concrete reality to the District's commitments, ANC 3/4 G supports a fully operational E6 bus route, with reliable weekend and weekday services, and we urge your agencies to review and consider implementing the following actions as soon as possible:

- Provide more frequent E6 buses during the day and in the late evenings (e.g., to permit residents to travel to restaurants or theaters by public transportation and to return home after the current last bus that leaves Friendship Heights at 8:50 pm);
- 2. Reinstate E6 bus route weekend service on both Saturday and Sunday; and
- 3. Provide reliable, on-time E6 bus route service during all hours of operation.

Thank you for considering our recommendations, which are overwhelmingly supported by the Chevy Chase community. We look forward to your reply.

Respectfully Submitted

Randall L. Speck

Chair, Chevy Chase ANC