

# ANC 3/4G Transportation Committee Year-End 2024 Report

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## Activities, Outreach, and Accomplishments

### ANC 3/4G Transportation Committee

- ANC 3/4G established a Transportation Committee (TC) on March 11, 2024, to monitor and respond to issues of transit affecting residents of Chevy Chase DC, with two TC working groups
- ANC 3/4G Transportation Committee Chair—Commissioner James Nash
- ANC 3/4G Co-Chairs—Cal Simone and Michaela Platzer
- The Transportation Committee created two Working Groups:
  - (1) Bus Transit Working Group (BTWG) with a focus on restoring, retaining, and expanding bus service in Chevy Chase (Chair—Michaela Platzer)
  - (2) Transportation Safety Working Group (TSWG) with a focus on improving and enhancing the safety infrastructure for all modes of transportation, including cars, pedestrians, and cyclists (Chair—Josh Rising)
- The TC held its first meeting on April 4, 2024 and has since met monthly.
- The Transportation Committee began to enhance its collaboration with DDOT with its November 2024 meeting, inviting Christian Pineiro to attend all Committee meetings. He participated in the November and December Transportation Committee meetings.
- As a result of this enhanced DDOT collaboration, DDOT conducted a walk-around with residents and committee members of the dangerous and non-ADA-compliant sidewalks on Military Road, west of 27th Street on December 13, 2024. The meeting also addressed local areas that lack sidewalks, to determine DDOT’s schedule for installation, and to urge DDOT to move quickly on these issues.
- The Transportation Committee is also collaborating with other ANC Transportation Committees. Committee Chair Nash and co-chair Simone attended the first-ever Ward 3-4 Transportation Summit on December 5, 2024.
- The two major topics of the summit were pedestrian safety and DDOT’s broken TSI system. CM Frumin and members of the following ANCs attended this meeting: 3A, 3C, 3D, 3E, and 3F. It is hoped this collaboration will deepen over time and that working with other ANCs and CM Frumin will enhance the power of the Transportation Committee to improve transportation safety in ANC 3/4G.

### Transportation Safety Working Group (TSWG)

- The TSWG held its first meeting on May 28, 2024
- The TSWG surveyed ANC 3/4G residents in the summer of 2024 receiving 131 responses identifying specific safety concerns for residents
- The TSWG survey results identified pedestrian safety as the main concern, especially:
  - Intersections and pedestrian crossings on Connecticut Avenue and the HAWK light at Northampton and Connecticut Avenue near the Avalon Theater
  - A lack of sidewalks on roadways including Chevy Chase Parkway (noted as a hazardous crossing for pedestrians) and Military Road
  - The pedestrian crossing at McKinley Street and Connecticut Avenue as a major safety concern for many respondents

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- The concerns of many parents of school-age children about their children's safety to walk or bike to school due to the erratic driving behavior of motorists

## Bus Transit Working Group (BTWG)

- The BTWG held its first meeting on April 27, 2024 and met 16 times in 2024. The focus of its activities in 2024 was to resist the bus transit service cuts proposed by WMATA in its "Better Bus" plan.

## BTWG Paid Attention to the Continuing Loss of Bus Service in ANC 3/4G and Spoke Up

### Actions in 2024 on Bus Transit

- WMATA presented its [revised 2025 Better Bus Network](#) Draft Redesign in spring 2024.
- The BTWG developed an action plan to offer feedback to WMATA in response to its revised 2025 Better Bus Network Redesign (BBNR) proposal. The BTWG spent many hours working to educate and instruct residents of ANC 3/4G how to offer feedback on the proposed changes and service reductions to the E4, M4, and L2, the main bus lines serving residents living in Chevy Chase DC, Barnaby Woods, and Hawthorne. The results of these efforts included dozens of comments submitted through WMATA's interactive comment map and written comments tool, with bus riders expressing concern about the elimination of the E6 and changes to the E4, M4, and L2 routes.
- Cal Simone prepared a comprehensive analysis of the potential implications of WMATA's proposed BBNR plan for metrobus lines that offer service within ANC 3/4G in May 2024. He shared this analysis with the ANC, Councilmembers Frumin and Lewis George, area residents, and local social media outlets.
- Commissioner James Nash testified on WMATA's proposed elimination of the E6 and M4 bus routes at WMATA's February 27, 2024, public hearing on its FY 2025 proposed budget before the official establishment of the BTWG (see Youtube video time 27.52 and 31.14 minutes to view Commissioner Nash's testimony)
- Michaela Platzer testified at WMATA's in-person hearing No. 659 on June 12, 2024
- Meghan Gibbons testified at WMATA's in-person hearing No. 661 on June 20, 2024
- Cal Simone testified at WMATA's hearing No. 662 on June 24, 2024
- Commissioner Jim Nash testified at WMATA's hearing No. 662 on June 24, 2024
- Meghan Gibbons, Bernadette Gibbons, Michaela Platzer, and Commissioners James Nash and Lisa Gore voiced their concerns on the BBNR plan at CM Janeese Lewis George's (JLG) Better Bus Town Hall Forum on June 27, 2024
- Cal Simone, Meghan Gibbons, Michaela Platzer, and Commissioner James Nash participated in Councilmember Matt Frumin's Better Bus Forum on July 9, 2024
- WMATA's Board of Directors unanimously approved the [2025 BBNR](#) on **November 21, 2024**
- Cal Simone prepared and distributed his extensive analysis of the approved BBNR to the ANC, Councilmembers Frumin and Lewis George, and on social media platforms, including the [Chevy Chase Listserv](#) and Chevy Chase News in **November 2024**
- **WMATA's revised 2025 BBNR provides evidence that the efforts of the BTWG were fruitful. The revised plan calls for partial restoration of the E6, and service enhancements of other bus new bus lines that will affect ANC 3/4G residents.**

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## BTWG's Earned Media

- [D.C.'s Bus Blues](#), a letter to The Washington Post by Michaela Platzer/Meghan Gibbons published online and in the print edition of the Washington Post on July 29, 2024

## Other Activities

- BTWG members have participated in the Riders' Advisory Council meetings to learn more about bus transit efforts in DC.
- BTWG is working to expand the working group through a "Friends of the BTWG" effort for interested community members who seek to participate episodically.
- The TC/BTWG welcomes support from all Commissioners. All forms of transportation, including bus service, affect all residents of DC Chevy Chase no matter the mode.

## Transportation Committee Members

Commissioner James Nash, Chair; Cal Simone, Co-Chair; Michaela Platzer Co-Chair; Meghan Gibbons; Bernadette Gibbons; Joshua Rising; Liz Nagy; Allison Fitzsimmons; Andrew Aurbach; Maria Sims; Matt Ossolinski; Ron Eichner; Ronald Kahn; John Wheeler; and Michael Katzmann