

Comments from Friends of Bus Transit (FoBus)—Chevy Chase DC to WMATA Board of Directors/Department of Planning on Proposed Additional Bus Service Improvements in Washington, DC

April 6, 2026

On behalf of Friends of Bus Transit (FoBus)—Chevy Chase DC, we submit the following comments on WMATA’s proposed DC bus service changes.

D70: Chevy Chase Circle to Farragut Square

- **Support:** We fully endorse the proposed 24-hour service to support late-night users and shift workers.
- **Request:** We urge WMATA to implement **10-minute peak headways** to make the D70 a viable alternative to driving for downtown commuters.

While the **C81, C83, and C85** routes are not currently slated for modifications, addressing their service levels is essential to meeting the evolving transit needs of our community.

C83: Friendship Heights to Barnaby Woods

- **Weekday Request:** Current 30-minute intervals discourage ridership; we request increased frequency, during morning and evening rush hours, to better sync with Metrorail and the D70 line.
- **Weekend Request:** We urge a move to **30-minute midday frequency** and a formal review of the C83’s weekend reliability. Current service on weekends is affected by inconsistent arrivals and missed trips that must be resolved.

C85: Pinehurst Circle to Foggy Bottom

- **Request:** Since the transition from the M4, gaps remain. We request expanded frequency to better serve students and residents commuting to Tenleytown and Foggy Bottom.

C81: Military Road (Sibley Hospital-Fort Totten)

- **Request:** We recommend relocating or adding a C81 bus stop in closer proximity to the **Tenleytown Metro Station entrance**. This adjustment will enhance accessibility and facilitate more efficient transfers between bus and rail for all passengers.

Rider Safety

Safety is the foundation of a functional transit system. We call on WMATA to promptly address concerns regarding passenger conduct on routes like the D70, as well as security at bus stops and shelters. Unless passengers feel secure, the system risks eroding ridership as passengers will inevitably seek alternative transportation.

Thank you for considering the needs of the Chevy Chase DC, Barnaby Woods, and Hawthorne communities.

Friends of Bus Transit—Chevy Chase (FoBus)

FoBus

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