

Agenda Item #4

Network Redesign

Dear TPPB Members, Alder Myadze and President Abbas:

As we go forward with the redesign of the Metro system, a massive task not undertaken for about 20 years now, please make sure that valuable public engagement occurs on Madison's north side.

To date, we have *not had any focus groups (ZERO)* with Northside residents who ride the buses. We have above average rates of supported housing on the north side, according to the city's Fair Share report, and many bus riders who live in low-income apartments. Many Northside residents do not necessarily have internet access or can complete the survey using their phones.

Better sharing of the route change information to Northside bus riders is important and necessary. Perhaps 8.5x11 copies of the proposed route change map, with a mail it back postcard to collect comments on area buses might be one way to collect rider information. Actual *meetings* at area community learning centers to share the route information map and ask bus riders how they will impact them. When looking at events, let's make sure that the events are more than a tabling event. People need the information shared and discussion of the impacts needs to occur. The input gathered and incorporated into the redesign. Can we get large copies of the proposed route map from the draft plan on foam core board and put up in area libraries and at area community centers, Warner Park, all locations with pre-paid comment post cards that could be mailed or put into a drop box? Data to be collected and compiled by your consultants.

Please make sure that the final routes impacting Northside bus riders only make improvements on the entire system, rather than forcing the loss of service to one area over another.

It is my hope that as we look to increase revenues through increased ridership, that we focus on creating improvements overall, throughout the system. If shifting service times from 7.5 minute routes to 15 minute routes will allow for a different level of service that improves *all* areas, then let's get creative.

If you are truly prioritizing low-income people and the BIPOC community, then why have you not asked Northsiders yet?

We can do better.

Thanks

Beth Sluys

District 18, Alder Myadze