From: Thomas J. Mertz
To: Mymetrobus

Cc: <u>Evers, Tag; Mayor; Transportation Commission</u>

Subject: Feedback/Plea - Madison Metro Adjustments, Route O

Date: Monday, September 25, 2023 6:29:53 PM

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I am going to keep this very short.

Please consider making the O route 2 ways, south of Park & Erin.

I don't drive. Over 25 years ago we purchased our house in part because the location had good access to public transportation. This remained true until very recently; through various changes we have always had proximity to at least hourly two way service, most times half hour, two way service at peak times (the 13, and before that the Q), and often half hour peak one way service via another route (the 44 and before that the M).

Now we have hourly one way service, via the O route. Hourly one way service is barely service at all. You may be able to get some places, but you can't get back home in any efficient way. We would not have purchased a home here with this level of service. If you want to induce people to find alternatives to riding the bus, one way hourly service is a great way to do it.

What prompted me to write was the recent change to the O route that added insult to injury. Now the route is essentially divided in two parts, with the part north of Park & Erin having 15 minute, two way service, and the part south of Park & Erin still having one way hourly service. See here: https://www.cityofmadison.com/metro/routes-schedules/route-o

It should be added that the area north of Park & Erin is in proximity to a variety of frequent routes, while the area south is less well served by other routes. The (transit) rich get richer....

I ask again, please consider making the O route 2 ways, south of Park & Erin.

TJM

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