



February 14, 2023

Mr. Randy Clarke
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
300 7th Street SW
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Clarke,

On behalf of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, I would like to express support for the Strategic Transformation Plan. The Chamber strongly believes Metro to be a crucial element in a strong Arlington economy. A reliable, dependable, and safe metro is essential to our workforce and our residents to go to their place of work or leisure.

The Chamber supports the Plan's focus on promoting service excellence, retaining and attracting excellent staff, promoting regional opportunity, and extending sustainability. We are hopeful that projects such as the reimagining of the Metrobus networks will serve to better extend the ability for Arlington residents to use reliable, convenient, and enjoyable transit service.

The Chamber is especially pleased that the Plan emphasis regional opportunity and partnership. Arlington is home to eleven Metrorail stations and dozens of Metrobus stops. Metrorail in particular serves as the backbone of Arlington's transportation management program and as a primary driver of economic development not only in Arlington, but throughout the Washington, D.C. metropolitan region. Fostering strong relationships with all the counties and cities of the metropolitan area will be key to ensuring that Metro is equipped to handle the ongoing growth of the region.

We wish that greater regional partnerships will encourage Metro to move forward and lead with project that would greatly benefit Northern Virginia, such as the second Metrorail tunnel to Rosslyn, the West Entrance to the Ballston Metro station, and the second entrance to the Crystal City Metro station.

We hope that the Strategic Transformation Plan guides long-term decision making with WMATA over the years to come. We look forward to continued collaboration with WMATA in the near future on topics such as the future of the bus network, strengthening infrastructure, and promoting enjoyable and safe service to customers throughout the metropolitan area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Bates". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kate Bates
President & CEO