

**Council of the District of Columbia**  
**COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE**  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004

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**COUNCILMEMBER CHARLES ALLEN, CHAIRPERSON**  
**COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION & THE ENVIRONMENT**

**ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE ON**

**The Upcoming Termination of the DC Circulator Service, Possible  
Replacement Service for Riders, and a Transition Plan for Operators**

**Thursday, September 26, 2024, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Roundtable in Room 412 and via Zoom**  
**To Watch Live:**

On Thursday, September 26, 2024, Councilmember Charles Allen, Chairperson of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, will convene a public oversight roundtable to consider the topic of the Upcoming Termination of the DC Circulator Service, Possible Replacement Service for Riders, and a Transition Plan for Operators. This is a hybrid format roundtable, with witnesses appearing virtually via the Zoom platform and in-person in Room 412 of the John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Live testimony will be limited to witnesses who have been invited by the Committee, though members of the public are still encouraged to submit written testimony for the record.

Since 2005, the District Department of Transportation (“DDOT”) has managed the DC Circulator bus system (“DC Circulator”) through a partnership with private transit services. The DC Circulator was managed by First Transit until 2018, when RATP Dev assumed operations for the system. The DC Circulator currently operates six routes: (1) Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn; (2) Georgetown – Union Station; (3) Eastern Market – L’Enfant Plaza (4) Woodley Park – Adams Morgan – McPherson Square Metro (5) Congress Heights – Union Station; and (6) National Mall. In 2023, the DC Circulator served nearly 450,000 riders, with an average daily ridership of over 5,200 passengers.

The Mayor’s proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024 would have eliminated one-half of the DC Circulator routes in operation. While the Council was able to identify one-time funding to maintain service in FY24, future funding for the DC Circulator was uncertain and the Council anticipated that the next fiscal year’s budget would propose even more drastic cuts to the system. The Council, accordingly, encouraged the Executive to form a transition plan for winding down DC Circulator

operations to minimize the impact on riders and operators. The transition plan would consider, among other things, whether the Washington Metrorail Transit Authority (“WMATA”) could either absorb the DC Circulator and maintain service or offer alternative routes through its own Metrobus service.

As anticipated, the Mayor’s FY25 Budget proposed phasing out all DC Circulator routes over the fiscal year, completely terminating service by Spring 2025. Unfortunately, as became clear during DDOT’s budget oversight hearing, the agency had not developed a transition plan with WMATA or other potential partners. Even after requiring that DDOT submit monthly reports on the development of a transition plan, no clear plan has been provided to the Council. Now, with service cuts to the DC Circulator scheduled to begin as soon as October 1, 2024, riders who rely on the service for transit, and operators who rely on the service for their livelihoods, will begin experiencing the negative impacts resulting from the termination of DC Circulator service.

The Committee is convening this public oversight roundtable to discuss how DDOT, WMATA, and RATP Dev are planning for the upcoming termination of the DC Circulator, including any efforts to mitigate the impact on riders and operators.

Live testimony will be limited by invitation, but the Committee invites the public to provide written testimony. Public witnesses seeking to submit testimony must thoroughly review the following instructions for using the Council’s Hearing Management System at <https://lms.dccouncil.gov/hearings/>. HMS is a universal, centralized way to find out about upcoming hearings, register to testify, submit testimony, download testimony, and see how many witnesses have registered. **The hearing record closes at 5:30pm on October 11, 2024, after which you will be unable to submit written testimony.**

- Once you have identified the hearing for which you want to submit testimony on the Hearing Management System, read the Hearing Notice at the bottom of the page for additional details on the hearing.
- Click the “Register to Testify” button at the upper right of the page to register to testify at the hearing. If the deadline to sign up for a hearing has already passed, or if there is no public testimony at the hearing, the button will not be available.
- If there are multiple topics to be considered at a hearing, select which one you would like to speak to by placing a checkmark next to the relevant topic or legislation. If you are testifying on behalf of an organization, select “Organization” and include your title and the organization’s name. If you are testifying on your own behalf, select “Individual.” There may be additional fields included by a Committee to gather further details.
- Select “Live Testimony” or “Record Testimony.” Select “Live Testimony” if you previously registered to testify at the hearing. If your testimony is only for the written record, choose “Record Testimony.” Please use the same name, organization information, and email address that you used if you registered to testify.
- If you are trying to submit testimony, click the “Submit Testimony” button in the upper right on the hearing page. If the deadline to submit testimony for a hearing has already passed, the button will not be available.
- You can upload testimony in either Adobe PDF, Microsoft Word, Apple Pages, or a plain text file by clicking “Upload My Testimony.” You can also type your testimony from this page by selecting “I will type my testimony here.”

- After completing the web form, you should receive a confirmation email from [noreply@dccouncil.gov](mailto:noreply@dccouncil.gov). Prior to the roundtable, you will receive an email from [noreply@dccouncil.gov](mailto:noreply@dccouncil.gov) from the Committee with additional details on testifying, including the access link.
- The Committee will also determine the order of witnesses' testimony.
- Representatives of organizations and ANCs will be allowed a maximum of five minutes for oral testimony, and individuals will be allowed a maximum of three minutes. If more than one witness is testifying on behalf of the same organization, the first witness will have five minutes, and all subsequent witnesses will have three minutes. To accommodate additional public witnesses, the Committee may reduce witnesses' allotted time for testimony but will inform witnesses if it plans to do so.
- Witnesses are not permitted to yield their time to or substitute their testimony for the testimony of another individual or organization.
- Witnesses who anticipate needing language interpretation, including ASL interpretation, are requested to inform the Committee as soon as possible, but no later than five business days before the roundtable. Please include this request in the additional field for this purpose when you register to testify. The Committee will make every effort to fulfill timely requests; however, requests received fewer than five business days before the roundtable may not be fulfilled.