

COMMISSION ON SENIORS RECOMMENDATION 20171011-4C

Date: October 11, 2017

Subject: Capital Metro's Connections 2025 Plan

Motioned By: Commissioner Grampp Seconded By: Commissioner Hauser

Recommendation

When approving the Proposed June 2018 Service Changes under Connections 2025, the Commission on Seniors recommends the Capital Metro Board include the following:

- Prioritize retaining routes and stops that serve the needs of seniors and of those
 workers who serve the needs of seniors, many of whom are lower income and/or
 dependent on transit;
- Prioritize retaining routes and stops that serve the needs of seniors to access providers of health care and social services;
- Prioritize retaining access to medical and emergency and crisis services;
- Extend the grandfathering period for displaced Metro Access clients beyond 90 days, and have staff continue to work with displaced Metro Access customers to ensure they continue to have access to transit;
- As the service changes are implemented, make efforts to expand outreach regarding customer education on using Cap Metro system to help seniors and others overcome perceived barriers to using the fixed route system.

Rationale:

Capital Metro has made several presentations to the Commission on the Connections 2025 service changes and the impact on Metro Access. The Commission commends Capital Metro for their outreach to affected communities and riders. Nonetheless, the Commission identified route changes that may negatively impact seniors, and those workers who serve the needs of seniors. The Commission recommends the Board pro-actively extend the 90 day grandfathered period for Metro Access riders who are displaced by the route changes. Finally, while Capital Metro currently has programs to teach seniors and others how to use the bus system, the Commission recommends these programs be expanded and better promoted to increase ridership by seniors.

Vote: 12-0-1

For: Chair Briesemeister, Vice-Chair Varteressian, Commissioners Grampp, Hauser, Bordie, Cagle, Garcia-Pittman, Jackson, Lugo, De Maria Nicola, Serna, Van Sickle

Against: None

Abstain: Commissioner Kareithi

Absent: Commissioner Guillen, and Commissioner Angel off the dais

Attest: Janee Briesemeister, Chair