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March 10, 2010

TO:

Honorable William D. Euille, Mayor, City of Alexandria (& WMATA board member)
Vice Mayor Kerry Donley
Councilman Redella "Del" S. Pepper
Councilman Rob Krupicka
Councilman Paul Smedburg
Councilman Frank Fannon
Councilman Alicia Hughes
City Manager James K. Hartmann

Your main concerns should be with:

PEOPLE:

Who live here;
Who work here;
Who visit here;

SAFETY:

Where we live;
Where we work;
Where we travel;

1. SAFETY PROVIDERS -- those who protect us, rescue us should have adequate compensation (POLICE/FIRE/EMS).

They are at their best when we are at our worst -- we expect that from them. They cannot maintain that level of professionalism if they are worrying about families being provided for. They are NOT "whiners" as one person in the *Alexandria Times* newspaper suggested. They are highly trained professional people.

2. TRANSIT SERVICES:

We need ALL of our transit services.

We need SAFE EQUIPMENT -- safe trains and safe buses (replaced or refurbished).

We need to KNOW that the equipment is SAFE.

We need FAIR FARES for every rider, no matter their income level.

We need BUSES running at NIGHT to get us to our NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY ZONE (where we feel safe to walk).

We need for buses and trains to be OPERATED in a SAFE MANNER. Operators need to be trained in safety.

We need DASH drivers to be adequately compensated -- they have to put up with us and our various transit/life woes and still be polite, professional -- for Driving us Alexandrians Safely to and from Home and wherever else we need to go.

ALEXANDRIA is SUPPOSED TO BE an ECO-CITY.

HOW ECO-FRIENDLY IS KILLING OUR BUS SERVICE?

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS?? (OVER)

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:

1. \$10 (cost of \$5 + fare value of \$5) City *Smartrip* cards (with Alexandria landmarks) for tourists to be sold at Visitors Center, Lyceum, Torpedo Factory, etc. (proceeds to go to transit);
2. \$3.50? BUS/RAIL Day Pass (like fare card from machine) good on all systems (Baltimore has this);
3. \$12 Metrobus weekly pass (instead of \$15) for lower-income riders;
4. Personal Income tax for single-unattached people who make over \$60,000 a year (property taxes hit families hardest, this is for people who have no family responsibilities) to help provide for those who don't have and need (rent, food, medical, transit subsidies for work, job interviews, medical, etc.);
5. If you must take the AT4, then substitute the Loop going down Slaters Lane instead of Pendleton (which already has service).
6. 9A stops (north and southbound) at Powhatan and Barnard for residents of Mason Hall, et al. and the little shopping center at Potomac Greens.

FROM:

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