
From: Drew Beier
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 1:13 PM
To: comments@baltometro.org
Subject: Charm City Circulator Comments

Good afternoon,

I recently read an article in the "Getting There" blog in the Baltimore Sun and saw that your office is accepting public comments/feedback on the Charm City Circulator. It seems that these are to be specific to the proposed extension to Fort McHenry, but I would like to offer a couple of thoughts in addition to that particular item:

Extension to Fort McHenry

I am fully in favor of this proposal as a concept (pending details). This would provide free, reliable transportation to a large population in Locust Point and further help to connect the disparate neighborhoods of our city.

Purple Route Comments

Having ridden the Purple Route several times now for both work and pleasure, I have some general thoughts regarding the route and stop locations:

1. Given the close proximity of the North/Southbound lanes of Light Street, it does not make much sense to run this route Northbound on Light Street. Modifications to this portion of the route could be:
 - a. Stops 301 & 320 could both be served by stop 320 only as they are directly across the street from one another.
 - b. The same can be said for stops 322 & 327, as this is an especially narrow part of Light Street.
 - c. Stop 302 at the Galleria seems to be the main reason that the Circulator follows this odd route onto Calvert Street. Stop 220 on the Orange Route is directly across Pratt Street and serves the same purpose. A northbound stop could be created at Pratt/Charles to get within 2 blocks of this destination- not an inordinate distance to walk from mass transit.
 - d. A better route, in general, would be to continue the Purple Route northbound on Charles Street past Montgomery Street in order to serve a large residential area in Otterbein and Sharp/Ledenhall.
2. Stops 310 and 311 at either end of Penn Station are ineffective as sequential stops. One of two changes could be made to this part of the route:
 - a. A new stop could be added on Lanvale Street between the two Penn Station Stops.
 - b. The route could continue north to Lafayette Avenue, turn east on Lafayette, and then turn back south on St. Paul Street.

Either of these would aid in serving an up-and-coming neighborhood in the Station North Arts & Entertainment District. Between these two options, "b" would be better in the short term as there is not much in terms of destination on this part of Lanvale.

Thank you for taking the time to consider these thoughts.

Sincerely,

Drew

Drew Beier