A Resolution Urging DOTS and UMD to Explore Subsidizing WMATA Metro Fares

WHEREAS the Residence Hall Association (RHA) is the governing body for all on-campus students, and

WHEREAS the RHA has priority influence with the Department of Transportation Services (DOTS) through the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), and

WHEREAS many students utilize the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Metro mass transit services, including Metrorail and Metrobus, to access academic internship and other scholarship opportunities, and

WHEREAS access to Washington, D.C. via Metro mass transit services enhances or complements the Maryland academic and residential experience, and

WHEREAS increased use of mass transit alternatives aligns with the university’s and RHA’s commitment to sustainability, and

WHEREAS construction of the Purple Line will help to connect students with the College Park Metro station, and

WHEREAS the price of WMATA rail and bus fares may present a challenge for students and limit their ability to seek opportunities, and

WHEREAS American University is piloting the University Pass program, which provides “unlimited rides throughout the semester on Metrorail and Metrobus (including express and airport shuttle buses) for trips to school, work, internships, cultural events, and entertainment,” and

WHEREAS the University Pass pilot program is financed by a flat student fee of $130 per semester,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that RHA and TAC encourage DOTS and relevant senior administrators to explore implementation of a similar program at the University of Maryland, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that TAC and other appropriate individuals present an overview of these conversations at each RHA Senate meeting.

Authored by: Steve Chen
Approved by: Helen Liu
President Public Relations and Outreach Officer
Residence Hall Association

http://www.american.edu/finance/transportation/Metro-University-Pass.cfm