



Madison Park Community Council

President: Maurice Cooper
 1st Vice President: Megan Walton
 2nd Vice President: John Madrid
 Communications: Hunter Robbins
 Treasurer: Doug Berry
 Executive Member at Large: Carol Loe
 Past President: Gene Brandzel
 Board Members: Betty Bottler, Bob Edmiston, Guy Falskow, William Franklin, Christopher Lewis, Bob Minnott, Al Olson, Tucker Orr, Andy Piro, Shane Skinner, Bob Steedman, Solveig Thomson, Jackie Jensen, Karen Kane

September 5, 2015

Mike Beck
 Acting Supervisor of Service Planning
 King County Metro Transit
 KSC-TR-0426
 201 South Jackson Street
 Seattle, WA 98104-3856



Dear King County Metro,

The Madison Park Community Council appreciates the opportunity to comment on King County Metro's proposal for improved transit service to and from Madison Park, made possible by the opening of the Capitol Hill Link Light Rail station in early 2016. In particular, we commend the August 15, 2015 proposal for updating the #11 Metro bus route as a healthy compromise between our residents' local interests and the need to incorporate the new light rail service. The substantive difference between the proposed routing versus the current 11 route is, of course, the use of East Thomas, East John and East Olive instead of East Pine St.

Over the past year, both our community council and King County Metro have engaged our residents in a number of different outreach and feedback gathering activities. From the data collected, it became clear that people use the #11 bus for a variety of scenarios that involve shopping, employment and recreation. We provided Metro planners with a comprehensive list of goals that we would like to see the updated #11 bus route achieve.

Neither of the originally presented options (Madison St water-to-water vs no change) achieved the goals Madison Park residents, employees and visitors needed from the #11 bus route. Fortunately, Metro used our feedback to devise a new route which achieves our most important goals:

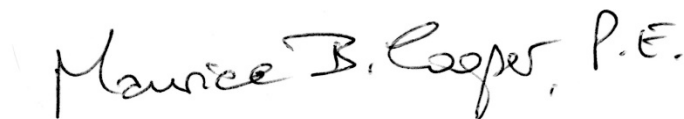
1. Jobs: By integrating with Link, employees can avoid the traffic jams west of Broadway and get to work on time, whether their jobs are downtown, at the University of Washington or in Madison Valley or Madison Park.
2. Commerce: Our community fiercely fought to keep a one-seat ride from Madison Park to the Pike/Pine shopping district downtown.
3. Connecting Communities to Parks and Community Centers: The new 11 bus routing provides one all-ages-and-abilities ride to the Miller Community Center, Washington Park Arboretum and Madison Park beach. The routing changes will soon make these city assets more accessible to people from anywhere served by Link Light Rail.
4. Healthy Neighborhood Business Districts: The new 11 bus routing from Link may bring needed additional customer streams to the neighborhood business districts along Broadway E, 15th Ave, 19th Ave, and along E Madison St (Central District, Madison Valley and Madison Park).
5. Vision Zero: If more of our visitors from outside the neighborhood arrive by transit and leave their cars at home, this can make our streets safer by reducing the overall number of cars driving on our residential streets. An additional benefit would be freeing up needed parking for businesses and visitors to our homes.

While we fully recognize that not every individual or every scenario can be perfectly achieved with any one bus route, we feel that the proposed #11 route changes will do the most good for the most people.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your proposed service changes. We look forward to continue working with you as this conversation evolves.

Sincerely,

Madison Park Community Council

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maurice B. Cooper, P.E." The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible font.

Maurice Cooper, President

cc: Mayor Ed Murray
Seattle City Councilmembers
King County Councilmembers

References: Updated 11 route <http://metro.kingcounty.gov/programs-projects/link-connections/pdf/011-info-08-15.pdf>