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Testimony by DC Sustainable Transportation
DC Council Committee on Transportation and the Environment
Roundtable on DC Circulator Operations & Maintenance Services Contract
June 18, 2018


Dear Chairperson Cheh and members of the committee,

DC Sustainable Transportation (DCST) is a nonprofit organization that works to make DC a global leader with frequent, rapid, safe, affordable, and reliable transportation to, from, and around DC job centers. DCST brings together business, advocacy, and government entities around shared priorities for DC transportation.

DCST has worked closely with the District Government on the Circulator bus system since it was launched and has helped monitor service, plan changes, and promote the service. In recent years we have been closely following the Circulator's challenges with maintenance and reliability, its recent route changes, and other issues. Our organizations include members who are riders and businesses whose employees and customers depend on the Circulator, and more. We strongly hope that the Circulator is able to improve its maintenance, safety, and reliability to provide the kind of high-quality bus service which was initially envisioned.

We fully support DDOT's efforts to improve the Circulator system and urge the Council to ensure that DDOT has the ability and resources to manage the Circulator as it proposes. We believe that DDOT now has the in-house capacity to manage the Circulator contract and we look forward to seeing improvements under a new contractor. Finally, we encourage the Council and DDOT to keep these goals in mind when evaluating future contracts for this service.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Alpert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Alpert" clearly distinguishable.

David Alpert
Executive Director
DC Sustainable Transportation