

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Vincent C. Gray
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: OCT 16 2008

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "Washington Metropolitan Area Transit
Commission Composition Amendment Act of 2008"

REFERENCE: Bill 17-704 – Draft Committee Print¹

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation.

Background

At present, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission (WMATC) Compact requires that the District be represented by a member from the District of Columbia's Public Service Commission (PSC). However, as stated in the Council's Emergency Declaration Resolution on this matter, "PSC has ceased to have responsibility for any of the business regulated by WMATC."

The proposed legislation is intended to allow the Mayor of the District of Columbia to select the agency to be represented by the Commissioner representing the District of Columbia on WMATC. An amendment offered by Councilmember Jim Graham, dated October 6, 2008 and assumed to be incorporated into this bill, would provide that the WMATC Commissioner

¹ The basis of this fiscal impact statement is the introduced version of B17-704. In addition, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) assumes that an amendment, as identified in the background section of the fiscal impact statement, will be incorporated into the bill before first reading.

representing the District of Columbia would be required to be "...from a District of Columbia agency with oversight of matters relating to the Commission."

The proposed bill also allows the Commonwealth of Virginia to change the agency represented by its Commissioner on WMATC to Virginia's Department of Motor Vehicles. In addition, the proposed legislation provides that changes to the composition of WMATC would not result in the removal from office of any current Commissioners before the expiration of their terms.

Any amendments to the Compact must be approved by the legislatures of all three members of WMATC (the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland, and the Commonwealth of Virginia), and the United States Congress before they can take effect.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation. Implementation of the proposed legislation would not have an impact on the budget and financial plan.