

METRO: Service Changes on the Blue and Yellow Line

Metro has approved service changes on the Blue and Yellow Lines which will affect our neighborhood. Starting in June 2012, three (3) Blue Line trains per hour during the AM and PM rushes will be shifted to operate over the Potomac as if they are Yellow Line trains. By running 3 fewer trains per hour through Rosslyn, Metro will be able to add trains on the Orange Line and relieve train conflicts and backups in the tunnel between Rosslyn and Foggy Bottom (as well as pave the way for future Silver Line service to Tysons and Dulles).

For people who commute from Pentagon City or Crystal City, this will mean increased service for those going to L'Enfant Plaza and points east and north but decreased service for those commuting to the western part of DC (Farragut West, Foggy Bottom) and points on the Orange Line in Arlington and Fairfax. ARCA is concerned that this will mean decreased service into Pentagon City and Crystal City from points west on the Orange Line at a time when the County is proposing significant increases in office density in our neighborhood. The service cut could discourage people from using transit resulting in even larger traffic increases on our streets than the County has predicted as a result of office development.

Metro plans a full scale communication blitz over the next few months with new schedules and maps. More information is available at the following: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/r/2010-2019/WashingtonPost/2011/10/12/Development-Transportation/Graphics/BlueLineSplit10112011.pdf>