

Shockoe Bottom Neighborhood Association

John Lewis, CEO
Greater Richmond Transit Company
101 South Davis Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23220

Dear Mr. Lewis:

This letter is to express the Shockoe Bottom Neighborhood Association's unanimous and formal opposition to GRTC's current plan to use the train shed behind Main Street Station as its downtown transfer center.

In our letter to you dated July 10, 2008, we expressed optimism that our neighborhood could work together with GRTC to improve the initial draft of a plan for a downtown transfer center. We specifically requested to be included in the planning process during our June 2008 meeting and in the subsequent letter (see attached copy of letter). As you know, we have not yet received any formal response to that letter from you or anyone else with GRTC. At today's presentation there were no changes to the overall plan. As we have continued to research your proposal without the benefit of a role in its planning, we have discovered a number of other aspects of the plan that we believe to be absolutely incompatible with our neighborhood.

Because GRTC is now pushing for an expedited approval of a plan that we continue to believe is unacceptable in many ways, we have no choice but to publicly announce our opposition to the current plan. We will be forwarding copies of this letter to local, state, and federal government offices as well as area media outlets.

We understand the importance of a modernized transit system for GRTC, and we would have liked to have been able to play a role in planning such a system in a way that does not destroy one of Richmond's oldest and most historic neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

David Napier, President
Shockoe Bottom Neighborhood Association

Enclosed: 07/10/08 letter



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