

Arlington Town Meeting — Motion to Amend

ARTICLE NO. 66 RESOLUTION / MBTA SERVICE

Dated: May 13, 2024

I, Eugene B. Benson, do hereby submit the following Motion to Amend Article 66:

To amend the recommended vote of the Select Board by making the following changes to Article 66: 1) to add former bus routes 79 and 84 to the reductions MBTA has made to bus service in Arlington, 2) to note that the MBTA proposes to reroute the 67 bus so that there is no longer bus service on Pleasant Street to and from the MBTA Alewife Station; 3) to ask that bus service to/from the MBTA Alewife Station on Pleasant Street not be eliminated, and 4) to transmit a copy of the resolution to the Chair of the MBTA Board of Directors in addition to those already listed.

So that Article 66 is amended as follows (additions are underlined):

Add two additional Whereas clauses after the third Whereas clause:

Whereas, the MBTA eliminated the 84 bus route and the 79 bus route, reducing the number of bus routes between Arlington and the Alewife MBTA Station and eliminating the only one-seat ride to and from the Alewife MBTA Station for 1 ½ miles on Massachusetts Avenue, and

Whereas, the MBTA Better Bus Project reroutes the 67 bus off Pleasant Street, eliminating the only one-seat ride to and from the Alewife MBTA Station on Pleasant Street, and

Add one additional Resolved clause after the first Resolved clause:

Be it also resolved that the Town of Arlington asks the MBTA for assurance that there will continue to be bus service on Pleasant Street for a one-seat ride to and from the Alewife MBTA Station, and

Add one additional person to whom the resolution is transmitted by adding to the final “Be it also resolved” clause, after Transportation Secretary Monica Tibbits-Nutt, the following name and office:

Thomas P. Glynn, Chair, MBTA Board of Directors

Comment:

I think this resolution is an important and necessary statement. To protect and expand MBTA service to Arlington, we need to make our views known to our elected representatives and to those persons responsible for the MBTA. I attended and commented during the MBTA public hearings for its so-called Better Bus Project. I was one of the very few voices from Arlington to speak up against the reductions in service. We must do better or we will continue to suffer the consequences of inadequately making our public transit needs known.

This amendment provides a more complete recitation of the MBTA's current and proposed bus service cuts affecting Arlington.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugene B. Benson

Eugene B. Benson, Precinct 10

Date Voted: _____

Action Taken: _____