



Kirkwood Neighbors Organization
PO Box 170010, Atlanta, Georgia 30317
www.historickirkwood.org

December 10, 2024

To: MARTA NextGen Bus Network

Re: NextGen Bus service to the Kirkwood community

While MARTA's NextGen Bus Network is overall a step in the right direction towards building a smarter, faster & better transit experience, the draft network presented at the September 12 board meeting and currently undergoing public comment proposes a significant service degradation to Kirkwood and the surrounding communities. The proposed changes include:

- Elimination of route 24, which isolates the Kirkwood business district from the larger network impacting patrons and employees of local businesses
- Rerouting and maintaining 30 minute headways on route 21 despite promised 20-minute headways as part of the More MARTA program
- Elimination of route 2, which replaces direct service to major commercial centers such as Ponce City Market and Midtown with a bus-train-bus transfer from route 34
- No introduction of frequent bus service to Kirkwood to compensate for the reduction in coverage
- No on-demand zones within Kirkwood to compensate for the loss of coverage

We understand the transition to a more ridership-focused network requires some coverage trade-offs, however it should be possible to achieve the redesign's objectives without cutting off an entire community from the larger network. Therefore, we request that by **January 31, 2025**, MARTA will engage directly with the Kirkwood Neighbors Organization's transportation committee and the transportation committees of adjacent neighborhoods to rework the proposed network in a way that maintains or improves transit accessibility to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mathew George". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mathew George,

President, Kirkwood Neighbors Organization

CC: Jennifer Ide, Vice Chair

Sagirah Jones

Jacob Tzegaegbe