

To Chairperson Stokes and Members of the Education, Workforce, and Youth (EWY) Committee:

Hi my name is Roslyn Johnson. I am the grandparent of Lemia Johnson. She is a student at Baltimore School of designs.

I'm here today to share how public transportation has impacted her education. The MTA should run more buses more frequently and I hope you'll take quick action to improve the buses.

I chose to testify today because public transit influenced where Lemia goes to school. Lemia gets out of school at 3:40 but isn't usually home until 6:30pm. One - two - three buses pass her and she is still waiting for a bus! A lot of times she is waiting at a bus stop when it is dark.

The MTA should take City Schools student riders into account when developing regular bus service, not just supplemental service.

Also, Lemia adds more time to her travel to avoid blocks, bus stops, or corners with vacants and also areas where people harass her and make her feel unsafe. I worry everyday until she comes in the door.

I wish Baltimore City schools could have buses waiting outside their doors like they do in other districts.

Lemia sometimes gets home so late that she does not have a lot of time to complete her school assignments and does not participate in after-school activities because she already gets home so late.