Concerns on the Redevelopment of Five Points MARTA Station

Mr. Collie Greenwood and MARTA Board of Directors,

We are the Atlanta Downtown Neighborhood Association (ADNA) Board of Directors and want to voice our concerns on the vision and direction of the station redevelopment at Five Points Station. We share issues that have been brought up by several stakeholders with the project cost, pedestrian experience, and lack of transparency in community feedback and metrics to define the benefits of the latest design of the street level of the station. We believe that this project should not be rushed, just to fit completion for the coming World Cup matches, but should be thoroughly vetted to create the highest level design and function that we can all be proud of for our system’s preeminent station for residents, commuters and visitors.

Key areas of concern are:

**The Canopy** - Replacing one canopy for another that adds no new value, needs more consideration in what it will bring to the table especially considering cost concerns and possible delays in construction. Maintenance and cleanliness of the current facility is an ongoing issue, and the life cycle of a glass canopy is of concern.

**Bus Bays** - The inclusion of bus bays on their own does not improve the pedestrian experience and is not in line with Vision Zero for Downtown streets and will hamper the connection between the station and the upcoming development in South Downtown with a layer of idling buses, just angled. We would like to see what Bus Network Redesign brings to justify the need and placement of these bays.

**Broad St. Reconnection** - Reconnecting Broad Street is key to the project in promoting seamless pedestrian experience and sightlines from north to south Broad St. and the aforementioned idling buses are not in line with that vision. It is also important that any design incorporates a safe pedestrian connection on Broad Street with the planned Summerhill BRT station on MLK Jr. Drive.

**Greenspace & Active Uses** - We support the inclusion and continuation of both Station Soccer and the Five Points Community Garden - but at least for the garden, there’s been no input on what that is. Issues such as security, adequate sunlight, number of plots, storage shed, and greenhouse are just a few things necessary to make it a viable addition to the project needed to ensure highest and best use of the street level spaces.

We hope to see this station reach its highest potential for a truly transformative project for Downtown Atlanta and want to continue to work with MARTA to create projects that we can all be proud of.

Sincerely,

Robyn Jackson
President, ADNA

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Transportation Committee Chair, ADNA

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