ACBP Recommendation on Proposed GUTS Outsourcing
October 23, 2025

In light of the financial constraints presented by COO David Green and the data within the RFP presented to the ACBP, the Committee recognizes the need for Georgetown University to partner with Abe's Transportation or another private service to meet DC emissions standards. We understand that it is the conversion to and upkeep of a new fleet of buses—not the cost of driver wages—which represents a significant economic burden to the University.

We also understand that the drivers currently employed by Georgetown to drive GUTS buses, who are among its most loyal and beloved employees, strongly object to having their direct employment with the university severed and believe that doing so will compromise the level of commitment that subcontracted drivers feel to serving the Georgetown community. And, finally, we sense that the Georgetown community at large feels a strong attachment to these drivers and would also prefer that they not have their direct employment status severed.

Therefore, the ACBP advises the COO to, by any means necessary, retain any of the eighteen GUTS drivers who wish to remain as direct employees of Georgetown University in the capacity of GUTS drivers, regardless of whether the buses themselves are outsourced to an independent contractor.

Such a compromise appears to us to be negotiable under the terms of the RFP Georgetown issued in 2024, under which Georgetown reserves the right to a say over who drives buses for its contractor. Moreover, we view this compromise as offering the best way to navigate the trying economic uncertainties that our University faces, while preserving the dignity of community members employed by Georgetown and maintaining GUTS as a cultural pillar that contributes to Georgetown's unique identity.