Bus Riders Find Inconveniences "Nothing To Become Upset About!"

By Lori Grier **Post Staff Writer**

There used to be a time when the square was the gathering place in uptown Charlotte, Bus riders, who traveled near and far. could be seen anxiously awaiting the arrival of the buses from dawn to dusk on the square.

All that has changed with the construction of the Tryon Transit Mall Project.

Bus riders no longer have to tackle the cold wind on the square as they wait for their bus to pull to the curb. **College and Church Streets** are the newly designated bus routes.

We randomly selected five bus riders who depend upon the Charlotte Transit System to get them to their jobs. We asked them several guestions about the Transit Mall and its effect on them as bus riders.

Ms. Nerfetti Ellis, 17, employed at T&M Grocery, 415 North Caldwell Street, has been a bus rider for three years. She approves of the Charlotte Transit System because, "It's transportation for those who don't have a car or any other means of getting around."

Ellis supports the Tryon Transit Mall Project. "I really think it's going to work out," she said. Although she couldn't think of a disadvantage in having the Mall, she felt that an advantage would be a better looking downtown.

The construction of the Mall has affected her. because "I have to make a 10-minute walk from Church Street to College Street to catch the bus." The two- to three-block offered her inconvenienc-20 or 30 minutes for anplained.



bus riders.

help me get to my job so.

were her reasons.

Nerfetti Ellis

the new bus route. "They (constructors) haven't gotten it together yet. It's

messed up." Through all of the incon-veniences, Ellis pointed out, "I think they (City Council) made an improve ment for downtown Charlotte by building a Transit Mall. Charlotte will look more like a city now."

Anthony Wells, 22, employed as a cook at Hardees, Kings Drive, has been a bus rider for four or five years. He approves of the Charlotte Transit System, because "It's the cheapest, most economical way to get around. I don't

have to worry about park-ing, especially downtown." Wells hasn't kept up with the Tryon Transit Mall Project but is sure that "it will be a faster way to get to your destination." He couldn't think of a disadvantage in having the Mall, but he says that its advantage would be ad-vancement in the city.

The construction of the Mall hasn't affected him, because "Now that I know where the new bus location on time." The two- to threeblock walk for a transfer hasn't offered him any inconveniences either. I usually get off work at 3 p.m.," he mentioned.

two- to three-minute inconveniences he now has to reach his destination is

inconveniences for a while," said Wells.

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Tony Wells Restaurant, has been a bus ule, because they can't read." Reed is neither pleased nor displeased with the new bus route," she rider for approximately 18 years. She admits that she has to approve of the Charlotte Transit System,

declared. Sanford Smith, Jr., 20, because "It's my only because "It's my only means of transportation." Reed calls the Transit Mail Project "technolo-gy, and people can't stand in its way." She is another who couldn't think of any employed as a loader at United Parcel Service, has been a bus rider for two months. He approves of the Charlotte Transit System, because "It saves you disadvantages in having the Mall and adds that its money in the long run."

Smith is confident that Smith is confident that the Tryon Transit Mall Project is a good idea. "A lot of people complain about what they don't know about the system, but this project will help them learn what they need to know," he confirmed. He couldn't think of one dis-advantage in having the Mall and counts on -its expansion and more money advantage will hopefully be quicker transportation for The construction of the Mall hasn't affected her, and she doesn't mind the two-to three-block walk for a transfer "as long as the uses continue to run and that I can make money," expansion and more money being spent as its advan-Reed shops downtown

every week between her tages. transfer period, so the closing of the street level The construction of the Mall and the two- to threestores hasn't affected her shopping. "I have to walk block walk for a transfer

hasn't affected him. Smith doesn't shop down-town until the Christmas holidays, so the closing of street level stores doesn't both the bin with the stores doesn't anyway to get to the stores," she responded. It took her three days to bother him. When he shops, it's between his transfer period.

The record breaking December capped the year's sales at 971 for 1983 a record breaking year. That compares to 684 sales in 1982.



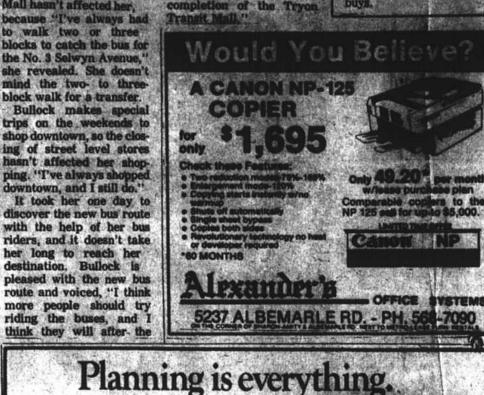
anford Smith, Jr. his father, and it takes him about the same time to reach his destination. Smith is pleased with the new bus route. "The new bus route is closer for me to walk to after I get off my job," he stated.

Mrs. Joan Bullock, 44, employed as a Child Care Worker in a private home, gave the concluding statements. She has been a bus rider for four years and approves of the Charlotte Transit System. "It's so dependable and economic-al. I own a car, but I ride

the bus to work everyday." Bullock is looking forward to the completion of the Tryon Transit Mall Project "because of the bus shelters we'll have on the square. We need them." She makes it unanimous with thinking of no disadvantage of having the Mall, but believes the shelters will be an advantage with more bus riders and improved bus sched-

The construction of the

Mall hasn't affected her, because "I've always h because "I've always had to walk two or three blocks to catch the bus for the No. 3 Selwyn Avenue," she revealed. She doesn't mind the two- to three-block mail to the twoblock walk for a transfer. Bullock makes special trips on the weekends to trips on the weekends to shop downtown, so the clos-ing of street level stores hasn't affected her shop-ping. 'I've always shopped downtown, and I still do.' It took her one day to discover the new bus route with the help of her bus riders, and it doesn't take her long to reach her her long to reach her destination. Bullock is pleased with the new bus route and voiced, "I think



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