



**FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

AGENDA

**Friendship Heights Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee Meeting – Teams Format
July 11, 2023**

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Staff Contact: Jim Carlson / (301) 318-0328
james.carlson@montgomerycountymd.gov

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- | | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| 8:30 | 1. Introductions/Agenda Review | Jim Carlson/All |
| | 2. Review of Meeting Minutes
Jan/March (©2a/2b) | All |
| | 3. Presentation TBD | |
| | 4. Metro Update | Gary Erenrich
MCDOT-Special Assistant to the Director |
| | 5. Employer TDM Annual Reports
Summary (©5) | Jim Carlson/All |
| | 6. Marketing Outreach Update | David Proctor
Shelley Monique Mann
TMD Outreach Staff |
| | 7. TMD/DOT/Other County Updates | Sandra Brecher
Jim Carlson |
| 10:00 | Adjourn
<i>Next meeting: September Joint TMD AC Meeting – date TBA</i> | |

Information Items

Commuter Connections Awards Employers for Innovation & Excellence in Commuter Benefit Programs
Metro Launching MetroMeter- Real Time Tracking Tool
Metro Opening Doors for Business, Opportunities at Metro Procurement Fair, July 15
MCDOT Seeks Bike Donations for BikeMatchMoCo
WMATA Income-Qualified 'Metro Lift' Fare Program Brings More Consistency to Fares

**Friendship Heights
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
January 10, 2023**

Voting Members

Bob Banach	Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights
Afua Ofori	Polinger Co./Large Employer
Elizabeth Demetra Harris	Friendship Heights Village

Non-Voting Members

Sandra L. Brecher	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services
Peter Fosselman	B-CC Services Center

TMD Staff

Jim Carlson	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services
Nakengi Byrd	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services

Absent

Chief John Fitzgerald	Chevy Chase Village Police
Ahkecia Payne	GEICO

Guests

Jennifer Coursen	Chevy Chase Land Company
Gary Erenrich	MCDOT
Larissa Klevan	M-NCPPC
Shelley Monique Mann	TMD Outreach
David Proctor	TMD Outreach
Tom Quinn	ANC-3
Andy Wexler	M-NCPPC
Jason Wynans	Chevy Chase Land Company

Items 1 & 2 – Introductions/Minutes/Comments: Members and guests introduced themselves and November's minutes were reviewed.

Jeffrey Slavin announced that Chair **Barbra Condos** has termed out a member of the Committee and recommends **Shannon Rovak** be selected as Board Member and Chair.

Item 3 – Metro Update: Gary Erenrich reported on Metro news announcing that there is a public hearing scheduled for the proposed budget which, if approved will be instituted in July. To the approval to MCDOT and some Metro board members the Red Line turn-backs will not be reinstated and are tabled from the proposed budget. **Mr. Erenrich** discussed why Metro decided to turn back trains prematurely at Grosvenor Station and not allowing them to continue to Shady Grove Station to service to the more condensed part of the Red Line. Also reported:

- Improved Red Line service from 10 to 8 minutes runtimes

- The Silver Line opening a week before Thanksgiving was a very well attended event
- Potomac Yards station will be opening by mid-year
- Rail base fare will remain at \$2, but the max fare will increase to \$6.50 from \$6.00- penalties for longer trips; however, smaller trips will benefit
- Before the Silver Line, Maryland trips made up the majority maximum fare trips, so Maryland jurisdictions will be impacted the most by fare increases
- \$2 evening and weekend fares
- Reduced fares for low-income riders who receive SNAP or Food Stamps (in DC only) - issues with implementation
- Discussion regarding how to leverage low-income program with transit benefits
- Metro is introducing a new strategic plan “Your Metro the Way Forward”-seeking public input through June 15th
- Metro’s Better Bus Network plan mirrors Ride On’s Reimagined Plan
- Metro bus ridership is out pacing rail with FY24 budget projections of 70% of pre pandemic levels
- Q route ridership up 40% and bus overall up 70% total
- The last of the Covid relief funds are being spent
- Preventive maintenance performed using FY24 capital funding but are line items in the operating budget- repairs for engines and bus overhauls; however, funds not available in FY25
- Debate over jurisdictions increasing the spending cap to increase contributions to cover Metro’s \$5 to \$7-million-dollar budget gap – infrastructure bill is for capital projects only, not operational
- Metro has implemented an aggressive construction plan using all funding sources such as three bus revitalization projects at transit centers and escalator upgrades
- DC mayor is against starting low-income program due to lack of involvement from Maryland and Virginia
- Maryland pays Metro average fare for the Kids Ride Free program, which is now \$1.85 but has been as low as .85
- Metro to start in March an all-door boarding pilot on the F4 route to increase service time- Smartrip will be at the rear door for rear boarding. Also being considered for BRT 29 route

Item 4 – Marketing Outreach Update: David Proctor announced:

- Collecting response to the Commuter Survey from GEICO & WTOP- clarifying teleworking is working and responses are still required
- In person events for the survey went well as paper copies, computer tablets, and a QR code was provided to for employees to fill out the form
- Commuter Information Days (CID) conducted to promote transit use
- The Walk & Ride challenge went well
- Looking for nominations for the COG Employer Recognition Awards

Discussion continued regarding having a member of the Friendship Heights Alliance join the Advisory Board as the organization functions as a business improvement district (BID) for the Friendship Heights area.

Item 5 – Remembering Bob Joiner: The Committee discussed the passing of **Bob Joiner** and his many accomplishments as a journalist in the Friendship Heights area covering local events and also his consistent reporting and attendance to the FHTMD Advisory meetings. He was 85.

Item 6 – TMD Performance Report: **Jim Carlson** discussed the annual commuter report stating that the report will include FY23 survey results and a review of the NADMS goal of 39% which has been achieved in past years. **Tom Quinn** commented that biking is not referenced in the report but presents an opportunity in achieving mode share goals. Also discussed:

- The Bike Master Plan infrastructure construction is based on biker's comfort level
- Lane reduction on Western Avenue for protected bike lane installation presents dangers for cyclist and vehicles
- **Pat Shepard** has retired, and **Matt Johnson** is filling in until her position is filled

Item 7 – Updates: Announced:

- The COG Climate Report notes a reduction of Greenhouse Gas level for 2020- report posted on website
- IRS has raised the Commuter Tax benefit to \$300 per month
- Pending DC demolition of the Mazza Gallery and the Lisner home on Western Ave NW
- Planning bike lane construction on Western
- Western bus garage relocation to the current Lord & Taylor site by 2030
- 5333 Wisconsin redevelopment of Maggiano's for a 250-unit apartment complex

Bob Banach expressed concern regarding the depositing of scooters on Wisconsin Avenue blocking the public right of way. **Mr. Erenrich** suggested a future discussion on scooter readiness.

Adjourn: Next meeting March 14, 2023

**Friendship Heights
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
March 14, 2023**

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Voting Members

Bob Banach	Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights
Afua Ofori	Polinger Co./Large Employer
Elizabeth Demetra Harris	Friendship Heights Village

Non-Voting Members

Sandra L. Brecher	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services
Peter Fosselman	B-CC Services Center

TMD Staff

Jim Carlson	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services
Nakengi Byrd	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services

Absent

Chief John Fitzgerald	Chevy Chase Village Police
Ahkecia Payne	GEICO

Guests

Rachel Davis	Walnut Street Creative
Thomas Dant	Bethesda Urban District
Gary Erenrich	MCDOT
Larissa Klevan	M-NCPPC
Atara Margolies	M-NCPPC
Shelley Monique Mann	TMD Outreach
David Proctor	TMD Outreach
Tom Quinn	ANC-3
Shannon Rovak	Town of Somerset
Andy Wexler	M-NCPPC
Jason Wynans	Chevy Chase Land Company

Item 1 & 2 – Introductions/Agenda Review/Minutes: Jim Carlson called meeting to order, and introductions followed. The meeting minutes were tabled.

Item 3 – Presentation, Friendship Heights Alliance: Rachel Davis presented to the Committee information about the Friendship Heights Alliance organization. Councilmember Friedson introduced a bill to establish the Friendship Heights Alliance, which began out of a technical assistance panel recommendation to increase collaboration between the Maryland & DC sides of Friendship Heights. Property owners formed the Friendship Heights Alliance, a 501(c)(6) organization. During the first year of its inception, they have conducted community engagement consisting of a survey, focus groups and presentations to stakeholders resulting in community events such as Open Streets closure of Wisconsin Avenue, history exhibit and pop-up events in the area which encompasses Oliver to Fessenden Streets-the commercial core of Friendship Heights. Also reported:

- Funding is provided by Department of Small Mobile Business Development DSLBD, Montgomery County and private contributions from board members
- This is the first urban district to cross state lines; the BID & urban district model has been proven to mitigate the legislative complications of the differing jurisdictions- this will create the funding structure
- The organization is being built at the same time as programs are being implemented as well, thus “building the plane while flying it.”
- Planters and chairs were planted on the DC side to create a welcoming space as funds were only available from DC, now that MC funding is available, these types of measures are becoming available on the MC side as well
- The community engagement has been well received with 50% open rate
- The vision for Friendship Heights according to the Community is having a welcoming place where people want to come to - pop up galleries and neighborhood website and social platforms where suggestions and changes are welcome
- Market report tracks changes in FH overtime- instituted a 3-year business plan that details programs and funding
- Funding rates are 16 ½ ft per sf for commercial and \$120 for per multi family unit- not included are condos, income restricted housing and less than 10 units residential
- The Board has one more member from MC because of the larger property in the area- an advisory committee that meets quarterly
- The MC side does not need a petition due to its urban district legislative status- hearing this afternoon
- With legislation passed this summer a MOU between the Urban District and the Alliance to provide services- staffing by fall
- Upcoming events on the website- bookstore pop up, Robin Bell studio
- Addressing security concerns, presentations and newsletter sign up

The Q & A discussed the importance of mitigating mobility, transportation, trash pickup and retail re-tenanting, the long & short-term goals to create mobility in the area focusing on the wide roads

- There are no plans with the Alliance for a streetcar trolley; however, there is ample transit infrastructure- suggestion made to provide access from DC to the northern part of Montgomery County
- Metro coordination regarding the Western garage access-extending the #30 bus route to Bethesda- a suggestion to provide comments to Metro’s board due tomorrow @ 5pm-Metro and Pepco are on the board and receive updates regarding the Western garage relocation and to mitigate overgrown vegetation and clean up on the DC side, and the Chevy Chase Metro building issues meeting set up for the MD side
- Addressing internal circulation with micromobility but not extended to the Friendship Heights area due to community pushback and look forward to collaboration to achieving mode share goals- Bike to Work Day support
- The Urban District Advisory Committee on the Montgomery County side is the only operating Committee for the Alliance and covers both jurisdictions

Item 4 – Metro Update: Gary Erenrich reported:

- Metro budget hearings are complete and the deadline for testimony is 5 pm tomorrow (3/15)
- The Fare simplification will eliminate the off-peak fare, raises the max fare from \$6 to \$6.50 and reconfiguring milage based fares - issue w/ off-peak riders in MoCo will face significant increases in fare cost, except for Friendship Heights riders who will save \$.05 for peak riders. Shady Grove will raise fares from \$3.85 to \$6.50, a 70 percent increase

- Proposed alternatives to the fare increase are:
 - Limiting increases year over year to a fixed percentage, such as 10 percent and not 70 percent at once
 - Low-income fare program eligibility such as SNAP
 - Accelerating the electric fleet change over end date saving money moving off diesel- buses last 15 years

The Q & A consisted of the following-

- Is Metro still purchasing diesel fuel buses- bus contracts are not in place for EV purchasing; the priority, however, is to have them in place
- \$15 million grant to pilot non diesel/ hydrogen fuel buses- EV buses have travel limitations due to charging
- DC's bus order is 50 percent diesel & 50 percent hydrogen

Item 5 – Employer TDM Annual Reports: Mr. Carlson submitted two reports for view. The Committee recommended approval by MCDOT

Item 6 – Marketing Outreach Update:

- The Bike To Work Day is May 19th and campaign is going well – the pit stop is in front of the Shops at Wisconsin Avenue. **Tom Quinn** will get word out to DC side
- They are working with the Friendship Heights Alliance
- CID @ Friendship Heights Community Center
- Starting up Bicycling classes hosted by WABA

Item 7 – Remembering Leonard Grant: Mr. Carlson announced the passing of **Len Grant** and discussed some of his accomplishments.

- With the National Geographic for 40 years and at a time served as its VP
- He was 95 years old
- Served on the Friendship Heights Village Council- Chair of the Centennial Committee
- **Jefferey Slavin** mentioned that **Mr. Grant** was also Board President of their apartment building

Sande Brecher announced that the County's Climate Plan provides quarterly updates and is now posted on the County's climate webpage. Also announced:

- Ride On reimaged study that details how the bus system interfaces with other modes of transit and commuter's means of travel is ongoing- 2 years in length
- The FareShare program is in effect allowing cost offsets to employers for employee commuter costs- asked to get the word out to area Employers

Bob Banach asked that the Alliance consult with the CCFH organization at their community meeting.

Adjourn

Friendship Heights TMD
Traffic Demand Management Plan Summary
July 2023

Code Requirements:

1. *Contact person designated to receive and distribute commuter information to employees*
2. *Information on transit and other commute alternatives distributed/ posted regularly (furnished by Commuter Services/CSS)*
3. *Facilitate CSS/TMD staff presentations and commuter information events for employees and HR/administrative staff. This could include benefits fares and other employer-sponsored events*
4. *Guaranteed Ride Home Promotion (free regional program offering emergency rides)*
5. *Annual Commuter Survey distributed to employees (short survey of transportation– supplied by CSS/TMD)*
6. *ADA information provided (transportation services for people with disabilities)*
7. *Permanent display area for bus schedules and other transportation information*
8. *Compile information on yearly TDM activities and submit annual report*

Employer	Employees	Status	Recommend to MCDOT
Bank of America	37 FT	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct benefit - \$300 • Pre-tax deduction • Vanpool benefits • Telework • Bike lockers / racks • Carpool matching • Alternative work schedules 	Yes
Durable Capital	47 FT	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telework – all employees work 2 days remote • New hire information • Bike racks / lockers 	Yes
Microsoft (voluntary plan)	12 FT	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telework – all employees work 2 days remote • Flexible schedules 	Yes
Washington Eye Physicians & Surgeons	62 FT 1 PT	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-tax & direct benefit - \$270 • Capital Bikeshare membership subsidy • New employee info • Flexible schedules 	Yes

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NEWS RELEASE

Commuter Connections awards employers for innovation and excellence in commuter benefits programs

Jun 30, 2023

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 30, 2023) – The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' (COG) Commuter Connections program proudly recognized five local employers and organizations today for their outstanding commute alternative programs at the 26th annual Employer Recognition Awards ceremony at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

Commuter Connections recognized George Mason University (GMU), Fairfax County, VA, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Company (Freddie Mac), Fairfax County, VA, and Abt Associates, Montgomery County, MD, with awards for their incentives, marketing, and telework programs, respectively. In addition, COG's signature commuter program honored Montgomery County Commuter Services with the 2023 Employer Services Sales Team Achievement Award and Reston Town Center Association (RTCA) with the 2023 Employer Services Organization Achievement Award.

"The employers we are honoring today have implemented innovative and successful commuter and telework programs. We hope that through their example, other organizations will embrace similar initiatives, creating more opportunities to maximize the efficiencies of shared commutes and telework," said Reuben B. Collins II, Esq, Chair of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at COG and President of the Charles County Board of County Commissioners.

Commuter Connections received nominations from employers throughout the region, all of which focused on improving their employee morale and reducing carbon footprint through innovative commute alternative programs. A selection committee evaluated these nominations and chose the winners based on their dedication and capability to reduce gasoline consumption and greenhouse gas emissions through fewer vehicle trips and miles traveled —while creating measurable and sustainable commuter benefits for employees. By incentivizing and marketing these commute alternative programs, employers have contributed to the improvement of regional air quality and the reduction of traffic congestion.

"We are thrilled to honor George Mason University, Freddie Mac, Abt Associates, Montgomery County Commuter Services, and the Reston Town Center Association – some of which are now repeat winners of Employer Recognition Awards – for their implementation of innovative commute alternative programs and their ongoing commitment to reducing air emissions and traffic congestion in the region," said Nicholas Ramfos, Director of Commuter Connections. "I look forward to seeing how these organizations continue to grow their programs, while serving as a model for other employers throughout the region who are looking to develop their own commute alternative programs."

The 26th annual Employer Recognition Awardees are listed below, along with a summary of their efforts to improve employee commuting and advocate for commuting alternatives.

Incentives Award

George Mason University received the 2023 Employer Recognition Award for commuter incentives. Since last winning an award in 2006, GMU has developed a unique incentives program centered around a robust bicycle commuting initiative, online tools to connect employees to transit options, and a modern work environment for teleworking. The University has invested in online resources to encourage employees to explore alternative forms of transportation and to make alternatives more accessible. Of those employed on campus, 822 use alternative transportation methods to and from campus. There are 1,764 staffers who telework, and an additional 1,467 faculty members telework informally based on class schedules. Among many benefits offered for non-traditional commuting, GMU has a Bike Commuter Choice Program that offers financial support and benefits based on biking frequency. The University also offers free shuttle services with wi-fi, connecting riders to transit stops. A pre-tax benefit of up to \$300 per month is available to help cover the cost of public transit or vanpools. Flextime and compressed work weeks are made available, as are bike racks and showers, and preferred parking is available for carpools and vanpools, along with rebates for formal carpools. GMU has produced online resources to inform faculty of their transportation options. In 2022, these incentive programs have led to an estimated reduction of 9,876,600 vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and saved about 448,900 gallons of gas.

Marketing Award

The Federal Home Loan Mortgage Company (Freddie Mac) received the 2023 Employer Recognition Award in marketing. Since 2015, their Commuter Benefits Program has offered a transit/vanpool subsidy of up to \$300 per month, a direct shuttle to and from the McLean Metro station, preferred parking for vanpools, and bike racks, showers, and lockers for cyclists. Freddie Mac uses a variety of internal communications platforms to promote commuter benefits to employees. Its marketing tactics include messages in a daily employee newsletter, in-person presentations, advertisements on digital signage across the campus, and easy-to-access content on the company's

intranet. Freddie Mac has also promoted apps that help employees make decisions about commuting alternatives, which offer live tracking of the shuttle service. In 2022 the Freddie Mac commuter and telework programs reduced employee vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by nearly 250,000 miles.

Telework Award

Abt Associates received the 2023 Employer Recognition Award for the telework offering of its commuter benefits program. Since winning the Incentives Award in 2020, Abt has responded to the pandemic and changes in work conditions with a robust hybrid and remote work strategy. As a result, of the 530 people employed by Abt at its work site in the Washington metropolitan region, 60 percent of the staff work fully remote (five days per week), and 40 percent are either hybrid (three or four remote days per week) or primary on-site (up to two remote days per week). Abt also introduced a two-week flextime schedule and compressed work weeks for additional support and employee well-being. Abt has enhanced its virtual private network, digital collaboration tools, and file storage capabilities to improve and ease remote collaboration. Monthly public transit subsidies for staff who commute on-site, and home technology and ergonomics stipends for hybrid and fully remote employees are also provided. New employees receive Quick Start Guides on the program during onboarding, and the benefits are outlined on the Abt intranet and internal chat platform. The telework program has led to the reduction of nearly 1,720,330 vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and saved nearly 78,200 gallons of gas annually.

Employer Services Sales Team Achievement Award

The Montgomery County Commuter Services received the 2023 Employer Services Sales Team Achievement Award, a recognition given to the Commuter Connections Employer Services sales team that most successfully met its goal of partnering with employers to develop and expand commute benefit offerings. During this past year with six sales representatives, the team made over 13,300 contacts and held over 200 meetings with employers in Montgomery County. Selection of the award recipient was based on information provided by the sales teams as part of their required monthly reporting to COG and through on-going database verifications. Montgomery County Commuter Services is in the Office of Transportation Policy of the Montgomery County Department of Transportation and appreciates the support of its contractors with outreach and related efforts, including Bethesda Transportation Solutions, North Bethesda Transportation Center, Fovndry by Van Eperen, Sharp & Company, and McAndrew Company.

Employer Services Organization Achievement Award

The Reston Town Center Association received the 2023 Employer Services Organization Achievement Award for bringing transit services to those who work, live, and spend time at the Reston Town Center, a transit-oriented hub of community, cultural, and economic development in the Dulles Corridor. Since its launch in fall 2022, the Reston Town Center's free shuttle service, linkRTC has become a new way to travel for the approximately 10,000 workers within its circulation route. Running Monday through Friday from 7:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M., at 10-minute intervals, the route has six stops, including the Reston Town Center Metro Station. This convenient and reliable service is funded by Reston Town Center properties under a cost-sharing agreement. The shuttle is gaining fast momentum. During its fifth month of service, linkRTC reported a 42 percent increase in total boardings over the previous month. The service includes two 14-passenger vans and a mobile app that allows passengers to track the shuttle's whereabouts and arrival time. linkRTC is operated by Reston Limousine under the authority of the association's board of directors.

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Tags: [Awards](#), [Commuter Connections](#)

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Related News

TPB NEWS

March 2023 TPB meeting recap: FY 2024 Work Programs and Environmental Justice analysis

May 10, 2023

The TPB approved work programs for the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board and Commuter Connections. Other agenda items included the Visualize...

TPB NEWS

February 2023 TPB meeting recap: Visualize 2050, TPB and Commuter Connections Work Programs

March 15, 2023

TPB approved the TPB's Technical Inputs Solicitation document to kick off Visualize 2050 and received briefings on the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Unified...

NEWS HIGHLIGHT

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Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

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For immediate release: June 30, 2023

Metro launching MetroMeter, a new real-time rail service tracking tool

Metro is launching a new tool to give customers better access to Metrorail performance information. Late next week, MetroMeter will be available to the public providing information similar to MetroHero, a third party application that has become popular with customers since its launch in 2015. The developers of MetroHero recently announced that the application will no longer be updated after July 1.

MetroMeter, a new web application, will provide easy access to real-time data on headway adherence, schedule adherence, the number of trains in service, and more.

“MetroHero was popular with customers for good reason, and Metro is excited to provide our customers with a similar tool to track our performance in real time and bring more transparency to our operations,” said Metro General Manager and Chief Executive Officer Randy Clarke. “Metro thanks the creators of MetroHero for their years of service to our customers, and we’re proud to continue their work to shine light on our progress providing excellent service to the region.”

MetroMeter will complement other performance tracking tools available at wmata.com, including quarterly reports and scorecards detailing on-time performance and customer satisfaction. A recent survey of active Metrorail customers found 84 percent were satisfied with their Metro experience, an increase of 16 percent compared to one year ago. Metro is now running more train service than at any other time in our 47-year history, with 58 percent more trains in service on weekdays compared to last July and 73 percent more train trips.

Metro is also working on real-time performance tracking tools for Metrobus and MetroAccess, and will continue to refine reporting tools available to the public based on feedback from customers.

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For immediate release: June 30, 2023

Metro is opening doors for business, opportunities for companies large and small

Metro is open for business and looking to expand its regional opportunities and partnerships. With more than 18,000 purchase orders awarded annually, qualified vendors support a wide range of departments, including information technology, construction, facility maintenance, real estate, and inventory for day-to-day operations. Companies interested in doing business with Metro are invited to [register](#) now to attend Metro's Procurement Fair, Tuesday, August 15.

The event will give business leaders an opportunity to meet with Metro's procurement team, network with other vendors and government contractors, and attend workshops geared toward business growth and expansion.

"Each year we award an average of \$2.2 billion in contract awards. We have large prime contractors and sub-contractors for major construction projects, service contracts, and opportunities for small, minority and disadvantaged businesses," said Senior Vice President and Chief Procurement Officer T. Suzette Moore. "We welcome companies large and small around the region to see what Metro has to offer."

During the one-day fair, Metro expects to have up to 40 vendor booths from both the private sector and government contracting. Workshops will include break-out sessions on how to get your foot in the door, building your business, bonding, and opportunities across Metro's different program areas.

Metro's popular speed networking session will return to help match prime contractors with small businesses through 15-minute match-making meetings.

The Procurement Fair will be held Tuesday, August 15, from 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. at:

The Hotel at the University of Maryland
Calvert Ballroom
7777 Baltimore Avenue
College Park, MD 20740

Participants must register by **Saturday, July 15, at 5 p.m.** Space is limited to 400 attendees.

Small, minority and disadvantaged business enterprises (DBE) are encouraged to attend. Metro recently implemented a new Women and Minority Business Program (WMBE) and maintains a robust DBE program. Last year Metro's annual DBE spend overwhelmingly exceeded the target goal of 25 percent with over 33 percent of contract dollars going to DBEs.

Contracting opportunities are available as part of Metro's six-year, \$12 billion Capital Improvement Program, in addition to Metro's annual operating budget.

Learn more about doing business with Metro at wmata.com/business

METRO'S FY2024-2029 SIX-YEAR CIP IS \$12.4 BILLION.

Join us at Metro's Procurement Fair

Learn about Metro's exciting upcoming procurement opportunities, workshops, hot topics, and matchmaking, while networking with your peers.

- Growing Your Business with Metro
- One-on-One Matchmaking Sessions
- Procurement Opportunities with New Socioeconomic Programs
- Vendor Workshops

Tuesday, August 15, 2023 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Hotel at The University of Maryland
Calvert Ballroom
7777 Baltimore Avenue
College Park, MD 20740

**Space is limited. Register by
Saturday, July 15 by 5 p.m.**



Meet Metro's General Manager/Chief Executive Officer Randy Clarke and hear about the vital role D/MBEs play in making the Metro vision a reality.



Press Releases - Department of Transportation

MCDOT Home » Press Releases » Release

Montgomery County Department of Transportation Seeks Bicycle Donations for Bike Match Program

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, June 14, 2023



The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) is asking residents to donate extra or unused bicycles in good condition to the County's BikeMatchMoCo program.

The free Bike Match program, which launched in June 2020, matches donated bicycles with requests from individuals in need who live or work in Montgomery County. BikeMatchMoCo has distributed more than 500 bicycles so far, but demand is still high. The program currently has a list of more than 200 adults hoping to receive bikes.

"By donating your unused bicycle, you can provide someone locally with a means of transportation, which can improve their access to employment, education, healthcare and other essential services," said County Executive Marc Elrich. "A donation also can help you reduce clutter at your home, put your unused bike to use and boost the quality of life for someone else in our community."

The bike match program also accepts donations of and requests for children's bikes. Donated bikes must be in ready-to-ride condition and should be cleaned and sanitized before drop-off.

"We have seen an incredible demand for adult bicycles," said MCDOT Director Chris Conklin. "More people are choosing to use bicycles for recreation, fitness and transportation. The expanded network of bicycle lanes, and safety improvements implemented as part of Vision Zero have made bicycling a viable alternative to cars when running errands or commuting. The bike match program is instrumental to getting bicycles in the hands of people who otherwise could not afford one."

Residents who wish to donate or receive a bike can do so by filling out the online form on MCDOT's BikeMatchMoCo website. Once a donated bike has been matched to a recipient, a MCDOT representative will facilitate the donation and pickup. The bike donation deliveries are conducted separately, and all information is confidential.

For information on MCDOT programs and services visit montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot, follow @MCDOTNow on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram and subscribe to MCDOT's "Go Montgomery!" newsletter.

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Para Difusión Inmediata: miércoles 14 de junio de 2023

El Departamento de Transporte del Condado de Montgomery busca donaciones de bicicletas para el programa Bike Match

El Departamento de Transporte del Condado de Montgomery (MCDOT, por sus siglas en inglés) está pidiendo a las personas que donen bicicletas adicionales o sin usar en buenas condiciones al programa BikeMatchMoCo del Condado.

El programa gratuito Bike Match, que se lanzó en junio de 2020, combina bicicletas donadas con solicitudes de personas necesitadas que viven o trabajan en el condado de Montgomery. BikeMatchMoCo ha distribuido más de 500 bicicletas hasta el momento, pero la demanda sigue siendo alta. El programa actualmente tiene una lista de más de 200 adultos que esperan recibir bicicletas.

"Al donar una bicicleta que usted no use, puede proporcionarle a alguien localmente un medio de transporte, lo que puede mejorar su acceso al empleo, la educación, la atención médica y otros servicios esenciales," dijo el Ejecutivo del Condado Marc Elrich. "La donación también puede ayudarle a reducir el número de artículos sin usar en su hogar, poner en uso su bicicleta sin usar y mejorar la calidad de vida de otra persona en nuestra comunidad."

El programa Bike Match también acepta donaciones y solicitudes de bicicletas para niños. Las bicicletas donadas deben estar listas para ser usadas y deben limpiarse y desinfectarse antes de dejarlas.

"Hemos visto una demanda increíble de bicicletas para adultos," dijo el director del MCDOT, Chris Conklin. "Más personas eligen usar bicicletas para recreación, ejercicio y transporte. La red ampliada de carriles para bicicletas y las mejoras de seguridad implementadas como parte de del programa Visión Cero han hecho el andar en bicicleta una alternativa viable cuando se hacen recados o se desplazan al trabajo. El programa Bike Match es fundamental para poner bicicletas en manos de personas que de otro modo no podrían pagar una."

Las personas que viven en el condado y que deseen donar o recibir una bicicleta pueden hacerlo completando el formulario electrónico en el sitio web BikeMatchMoCo de MCDOT. Una vez que una bicicleta donada se haya asociado con un destinatario, un representante de MCDOT facilitará la donación y la recogida. Las entregas de donación de bicicletas se realizan por separado y toda la información es confidencial.

Para obtener información adicional sobre los programas y servicios de MCDOT visite montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot, siga a @MCDOTNow en Twitter, Facebook e Instagram y suscríbese al boletín "Go Montgomery!" de MCDOT.

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WMATA's Income-Qualified 'Metro Lift' Fare Program Brings More Consistency to Bus Fare in the Washington Metro Region

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, June 21, 2023



**Now offering 50% off
Metro Bus and Metro Rail
for SNAP recipients.**

 **Lift**
Income-Qualified Fare Program



**POINT YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA ABOVE AND
TAP YOUR SCREEN**

Metro Lift fare program is consistent with MCDOT's reduced Ride On Fare of \$1 for all riders.

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA, or Metro) will begin offering reduced fares to low-income riders through its new "Metro Lift" program, which launched on June 20. The program offers a 50 percent discount for travel on Metrorail and Metrobus for customers in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia who are enrolled in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP).

The reduced fare for Metro buses will be \$1 per ride, matching the post-COVID-19 rate charged for Montgomery County's Ride On buses.

"We are pleased to work with WMATA to help promote SNAP beneficiaries and ensure that public transportation is accessible and available to our most vulnerable citizens," said Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich. "With the new Metro Lift program, economically disadvantaged customers will be able to ride any bus in the County for only \$1. By keeping fare costs to a minimum for those who can least afford it, we can ensure more people are able to travel for employment opportunities, medical care and other essential services."

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) commissioned a study in 2021 to examine the Ride On bus fare structure with the goal of improving access to the Ride On transit system, particularly among low-income and economically vulnerable residents after the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ride On Zero & Reduced Fare Study found that most riders would benefit from reduced fares, but that developing and maintaining a program for low-income riders was not cost-effective. With County Executive and Council support, MCDOT reduced rates to 50 percent of the pre-pandemic \$2 fare for all riders. The \$1 reduced fare was implemented on Aug. 1, 2022.

Online enrollment information for the program can be found at [wmata.com/Metro Lift](https://wmata.com/MetroLift). In-person enrollment, allowing for immediate access to the program for those qualified, will begin at designated locations in Montgomery County and at three sites in Washington area starting on Monday, June 26.

The fare discount will be valid for one year after enrollment and will be available up to 48 hours after online enrollment. In addition to reduced fare, enrolled customers will receive a free SmartTrip® card.

Approved by Metro's Board of Directors in its Fiscal Year 2024 budget, the program advances transit equity and affordability in a region considered one of the most expensive in the nation and where low-income households face the greatest economic disparities.

"We know that public transportation plays an instrumental role in equity," said MCDOT Director Chris Conklin. "Working together to ensure that we have an affordable and well-integrated transportation network is one of our highest priorities. Metro Lift brings fare to \$1, matching our current reduced fare. This consistency is important for riders; they need to know what to expect when traveling in the region."

Metro will continue to refine the program based on customer feedback and is working to expand enrollment locations over time, including within Montgomery County. Currently, County residents who qualify for the program and wish to enroll can do so online here. Online enrollment will take up to 48 hours to activate.

Enrollment Information:

Needed to Enroll

- If you have one, bring your SmartTrip® card for you and each member of your household enrolled. SmartTrip cards will be provided if you do not already have them.
- Active SNAP EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) card.
- Copy of your SNAP proof of benefits (if you are applying for members of your household).
- Current photo identification (ID) card issued by the U.S., D.C, Maryland or Virginia.
- Phone number.

How to Enroll:

Online (now available)

- Go to wmata.com/MetroLift.
- Complete the enrollment form for you and/or members of your SNAP household.
- Discount will be loaded to SmartTrip card up to 48 hours after enrollment.
- Use your SmartTrip card and go.

In-person (starting Monday, June 26)

- Schedule an appointment to visit one of WMATA's in-person enrollment centers. Appointment booking is now available:
 - Online at wmata.com/MetroLift; or

◦ By Phone at 1-888-SmarTrip (888-762-7874).

- In-person enrollment will be available at the following locations:
- Metro Center Metro Station. 12th & F Street NW Entrance. Mezzanine Level.
- Metro Headquarters. 300 7th Street SW, Washington, D.C.
- New Carrollton Metro Office. 4100 Garden City Dr, Hyattsville
- Bring the required materials for you and/or your SNAP household members.
- Use your SmarTrip card and go.

For information on MCDOT programs and services visit montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot, follow @MCDOTNow on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram and subscribe to MCDOT's "Go Montgomery!" newsletter.

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