



SILVER SPRING
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

November 12, 2020 / 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.
Teams Virtual Meeting

Chair – Valerie Spencer

Staff Contact: Jim Carlson / (240) 777-8382; (301) 318-0328
james.carlson@montgomerycountymd.gov

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- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Introductions/Agenda Review/Chair Comments | Valerie Spencer |
| 2. Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Plan
See separate agenda | Iftin Thompson
Multimodal Transportation Planner Coordinator/
Downcounty Master Planning |
| 3. Employer Outreach Update | TMD Marketing Staff |
| 4. Updates: Police/TMD/DOT/Other County Updates | Sandra Brecher
Sgt. Kerry Moore
Reemberto Rodriguez
Jim Carlson |

Adjourn / Next Meeting: Jan. 14, 2021

Information Items:

MCDOT Invites Public to Virtual Public Forum on Proposed Ride On Bus Service Changes

MCDOT Wins 2020 Voice of the People (VOP) Award Focusing on MCDOT's Efforts to Transform Mobility

Flash bus service began Oct 14 for Rt 29



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MCDOT Invites Public to Virtual Public Forum on Proposed Ride On Bus Service Changes

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, November 3, 2020



On Thursday, November 19 starting at 6:30 p.m., the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) will hold a virtual public forum about proposed Ride On bus service changes affecting the Watkins Mill Interchange and Black Hill Development areas. The public is encouraged to provide oral and/or written comments.

The service changes would begin January 2021. The affected route changes include:

- Watkins Mill Interchange:
 - Route 61 – Serve new Watkins Mill Interchange (between Clopper Road and Frederick Blvd (MD355) and replace service to Kaiser Permanente
 - Route 78 – Add midday service and replace Route 61 service to the MVA and the Metropolitan Grove MARC Station
 - Route 58 – Terminate service at the Lakeforest Transit Center all day
- Black Hill Development:
 - Route 83 – Provide service to the new development along Century Blvd

The public forum will use the Microsoft Teams online platform. Although using a computer to “attend” the meeting is recommended, those without computer access will be able to listen to and participate in the meeting using a mobile phone or device. Here are details for the virtual forum:

- [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Or call in (audio only) 1-443-692-5768
- Conference ID: 646 119 785#

Individuals who would like to speak at the public forum are requested to provide the following information by email to mcdot.rideonpublicforums@montgomerycountymd.gov before November 16:

- Name
- Home Address
- E-Mail Address
- Telephone Number
- Organization

Written comments may be submitted by 5 p.m. on November 23 to:

Division of Transit Services
Ride On Public Forum
101 Monroe Street, 5th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850



Phone: 240- 777-5800

Fax: 240- 777-5801

Email: mcdot.rideonpublicforums@montgomerycountymd.gov

Requests for special accommodations require five days advance notice.

For the most up-to-date service information, riders can follow @RideOnMCT on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, In addition, information is available at RideOnBus.com or by subscribing to MCDOT news releases.

For department updates, follow @MCDOTNow on Twitter, visit the department website at montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot, subscribe to MCDOT news releases or subscribe to MCDOT's 'Go Montgomery!' newsletter.

Release ID: 20-206

Media Contact: Hannah Henn 240-777-8389



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MCDOT Wins 2020 Voice of the People (VOP) Award Focusing on MCDOT's Efforts to Transform Mobility

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, November 3, 2020



Montgomery County has won a Voice of the People (VOP) Award for transformation in mobility from the National Research Center (NRC) at Polco and the International City & County Management Association (ICMA). The VOP Award is the only national award that honors local governments based on feedback from residents.

The award recognized the Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (MCDOT) shift over the past five years from an almost exclusive focus on congestion reduction to a balanced transportation system that provides a variety of travel options for residents, businesses and visitors.

According to the NRC at Polco, this year's VOP Awards were very competitive and Montgomery County's application demonstrated a commitment to best practices in moving the community forward.

"Montgomery County's future prosperity depends on a first-rate, multi-modal transportation system that supports expanded opportunities for walking, biking and transit use and a more efficient road system," said MCDOT Director Chris Conklin. "That is why MCDOT is developing the fresh, creative solutions that will help us build the best transportation network possible for our County. I'm very proud that the VOP Awards have highlighted how our residents see and appreciate the transformation that is the focus of MCDOT's efforts. Let's keep moving forward together."

Montgomery County's award recognizes its accomplishments on The National Community Survey™ (The NCS) and its intentional, data-informed decisions. The NCS provides a comprehensive and accurate picture of resident perspectives on local government services, policies and management. Results draw from the largest resident opinion database of its kind, representing more than 30 million Americans. The NCS compares local results with benchmarks compiled from surveys conducted across the U.S.

Montgomery County was recognized for the following accomplishments:

- MCDOT's significant expansion of public transit offerings like limited-stop, premium bus service, circulators and demand-responsive services.
- The opening later this year of the first line of the Flash bus network, a Bus Rapid Transit concept that maximizes use of dedicated transit lanes and strives to make the routes as efficient as possible. Design is also underway for two more corridors and planning is about to start for two more.
- Improvements in a modern transit fleet, station improvements, service enhancements and improved Real Time information to make riding easier and more convenient and boost reliability.
- Broadening the network of personal mobility alternatives like bicycle facilities and shared bicycle and e-scooter options.
- Focus on enhanced pedestrian facilities and safety throughout the County.
- Master Plans to facilitate economic development at Metro stations and to improve the Countywide transit network.
- Establishment of Bicycle and Pedestrian Priority Areas (BiPPA's) that focus lower-cost, high impact investments in pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.
- Strategic investments in the roadway system to reduce congested bottlenecks and improve access from regional highways to activity centers.
- Vision Zero philosophy that is aimed at eliminating serious and fatal collisions by 2030.



- New “NextGen” legislation to expand programs that encourage public transit, walking, and bicycling.
- Robust efforts to communicate information on travel options, including enhanced websites and heightened social media outreach.

“We recognize these amazing communities that are shining examples of how to engage residents to improve quality of life and deepen trust and transparency,” said Nick Mastronardi, CEO of Polco.

“During this difficult year especially, local government leaders are rolling up their sleeves and working tirelessly to guide their communities forward,” said Damema Mann, Director of National Engagement for Polco. “We are honored to be able to recognize these deserving communities nationally.”

For transportation information, follow @MCDOTNow on Twitter, visit the department website at montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot, subscribe to MCDOT news releases or subscribe to MCDOT’s ‘Go Montgomery!’ newsletter.

For transportation updates related to COVID-19 health crisis, visit MCDOT’s transportation resource page for COVID-19.

Release ID: 20-207

Media Contact: Hannah Henn 240-777-8389



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Reopening Montgomery: Phase 2 & 3 Guidelines



Department of Transportation - Transit Services



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See new schedules, effective Sunday, September 27, 2020.



Face coverings are required.

[+ More in Flash](#)

About Flash

[View the Flash Service Map](#)

Service began Wednesday, October 14, 2020.

Flash is a new bus service that gets you where you need to go quickly. It operates on Colesville Road/ Columbia Pike (US 29) and Lockwood Drive, with destinations including downtown Silver Spring, Four Corners, White Oak, Fairland, and Burtonsville. With Flash, you can hop on and off along the route to get to places in your community or make easy connections that will take you throughout the region.

- Frequent, reliable service.
- Large vehicles with free WiFi and USB charging ports.
- Unique station design with weather protection, pre-payment stations, and real-time transit information.
- Level boarding (no steps on or off the bus) allows for easy on, easy off.
- Wheelchairs, bikes, and strollers are welcome on board.
- Premium service, but same price as the regular bus. Pay with Smarttrip, all discounts apply.





Features

- **Frequent, reliable service:** Never wait more than 15 minutes for a bus on the Orange Route. Buses come every 7.5 minutes during rush hour where the Orange and Blue routes overlap.
- **You don't need to plan or look at a bus schedule.** You can walk out your door and know the Flash will be here when you need it. If you want more specific information, **real-time information** is available online and on screens at every station.
- **Large vehicles with free WiFi and USB charging ports.** The colorful 62' Flash buses are the longest in the MCDOT fleet and come fully equipped with all the amenities.
- **Faster boarding** through three doors. All three doors open when bus arrives, and riders can enter or exit from any door without waiting in one line.
- **Level boarding** (no steps to get on or off bus) allows for faster, easier boarding for riders with disabilities, bicycles or strollers. Just roll on in..
- **Unique stations** are easy to find and have weather protection, pre-payment stations, and real-time transit information.
- **Automated wheelchair securement system** provides improved experience and independence for wheelchair and scooter users. With the Quantum automatic system, passengers can safely secure themselves without assistance from bus operator (unless requested).
- **Bring your bike inside the Flash.** Roll it on through the back door, and secure it inside the bus. Flash is the first in the region to have bike racks inside of the bus
- **10 new Capital Bikeshare stations** installed along the corridor to help people access Flash.
- Flash stations are located at **3 existing Park & Ride lots**, so you can also drive or carpool and then get on the bus and relax for the rest of the ride.
- **Premium service, regular price.** SmarTrip is accepted and all discount fares (Senior Smartrip, Kids Ride Free, transfers) apply.

Lose an item on a Ride On bus? [Contact our Lost & Found.](#)

