



Isiah Leggett, Montgomery County Executive

## ***DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING***

Arthur Holmes, Jr., Director, Department of Transportation

AUGUST 2010

# DEDICATED BUT UNMAINTAINED COUNTY ROADS

Department of Transportation  
Division of  
Transportation Engineering

100 Edison Park Drive  
4th Floor  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
Phone: 240-777-7220  
Fax: 240-777-7277

Bruce E. Johnston, P.E.  
Division Chief

Holger Serrano, P.E.  
Deputy Chief

Sogand Seirafi, P.E.  
Transportation  
Planning & Design Chief

Tom M. Reise  
Property Acquisition Chief

Timothy H. Cupples, P.E.  
Transportation  
Construction Chief

For alternative formats of this newsletter, please contact the Division of Transportation Engineering at 240-777-7223. This information is available in alternative formats by calling 240-777-7220 (voice), TTY users call Maryland Relay.

This newsletter is published by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) Division of Transportation Engineering.

### PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NEWSLETTER

Dedicated but Unmaintained (DBU) County Roads refer to the local roads that are dedicated to public use, but have never been legally accepted by the County for maintenance because the roads do not meet the County's design standards and specifications. The County developed the DBU County Road program and its policy to respond to and assist the property owners on DBU roads who are interested in modifying the roads to be in compliance with the County's current design standards and specifications. Once in compliance with County standards, the County would allow a transfer of the responsibility of maintenance of the roads from the property owners to the County.

The purpose of this newsletter is to notify the property owners on DBU roads of the upcoming two public information meetings regarding the DBU program and to invite you to attend either of the two meetings scheduled for:

**Public Meeting No. 1**  
Wednesday, September 22, 2010  
7:00-9:00 pm  
Sligo Middle School  
1401 Dennis Avenue  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20902

**Public Meeting No. 2**  
Tuesday, October 12, 2010  
7:00-9:00 pm  
Auditorium at Executive Office  
Building  
101 Monroe Street  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Please note that the two public meetings will be redundant. There is no need to attend both meetings. If you will not be able to attend either of the two public meetings, but would like to obtain information about the DBU program, please check out the County's website at:  
<http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-DTE/common/home.aspx>  
and click on Dedicated but Unmaintained (DBU) County Roads or please contact:

**Rebecca Park, P.E.**  
Project Manager 240-777-7263  
[rebecca.park@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:rebecca.park@montgomerycountymd.gov)

## IMPROVEMENTS OF DBU ROADS

As the DBU Policy outlines, there are following three approaches that the property owners of DBU roads can take in improving their roads:

### Self Build/Self Maintain

First, the property owners have to submit and receive an approval of their petition for an abandonment of the right-of-way to change the status of their road from DBU to private road. Upon receiving the approval from the County, the affected property owners can hire an engineering consultant and a construction contractor to design and construct the subject road to the County's current standards and specification at their cost. The affected property owners must obtain all the necessary permits from the County. Upon completion of the construction, the affected owners would maintain their private road.

### Self Build/County Maintain

Like the above scenario, the affected property owners hire an engineering consultant and a construction contractor to improve their road to the County's current standards and specifications. It is the affected property owners' responsibility to obtain all the necessary permits for the design and construction. Upon completion of the construction and acceptance of the work by the County, the County will take over the responsibility of maintenance of the road.

### County Build/County Maintain

Montgomery County's Department of Transportation (MCDOT) would design and construct the DBU road according to the County's current standards and specifications through Capital Improvement Program funding. The

following is a brief process of this scenario.

MCDOT will evaluate and prioritize applications for the DBU program from the affected property owners. **An application for the program is a petition signed by at least 60 percent of the total affected property owners as households on the DBU road.** The applications will be evaluated by MCDOT based on the following factors: Community Support, Public Safety Issues, Number of Affected Property Owners, Cost Per Affected Property Owners and Complexity of Implementation. The selected DBU roads based on the above criteria will then compete with other transportation projects for the Council's approval of the project funding.

The Council approved DBU roads will be designed and constructed by MCDOT. Please be advised that the County will fund only up to 10 percent of the total project cost of each the Council approved DBU road projects. The affected property owners are required to reimburse the County for the 90 percent of the project cost over a period of time, through a special assessment or other financial mechanism after the completion of the construction.

The DBU policy outlines the above process more in detail and the policy can be found on project website.

## SCHEDULE

Applications must be submitted to the Director of MCDOT at the following mailing address by December 31, 2010:

Arthur Holmes, Jr., Director  
Department of Transportation  
101 Monroe Street, 10th Floor  
Rockville, Maryland 20850



Department of Transportation

Division of Transportation Engineering  
100 Edison Park Drive, Fourth Floor  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Phone: 240-777-7223

Fax: 240-777-7277

## DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING

The Division of Transportation Engineering (DTE) is responsible for planning, engineering, and constructing Montgomery County's infrastructure to the highest safety and performance standards possible while paying close attention to citizen's input, environmental and economic concerns. Today, DTE is responsible for more than 2,000 miles of primary and secondary roads and more than 253 bridges. DTE has three main sections: Planning, Design and Construction.

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
Division of Transportation Engineering  
Transportation Planning and Design Section  
100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878

Attention: Rebecca Park

Website Information

For information on this, and other transportation projects in the County, please visit our website at:  
<http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-DTE/common/home.aspx>