



**FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA
May 14, 2019**

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. @ Wisconsin Place Community Center
5311 Friendship Boulevard, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

Chair: Barbara Moir Condos Vice Chair: John Mertens
Staff Contact: Jim Carlson / (240) 777-8382 (301) 318-0328
james.carlson@montgomerycountymd.gov

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|-------------|---|--|
| 8:30 | 1. Introductions/Agenda Review (additions/deletions) | Barbara Condos |
| | 2. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes
March (©2) | All |
| 8:35 | 3. Dockless e-Bike & e-Scooter Pilot Expansion | Sandra Brecher
Chief - DOT Commuter Services |
| 9:05 | 4. Employer Traffic Mitigation Plans & TMP Annual Reports
Summary (©4) | Jim Carlson/All |
| 9:10 | 5. Employer Outreach Update | Stephanie Webber
Sharp & Co. TMD Outreach |
| 9:20 | 6. Updates: TMD/Police/DOT/Other County Updates
Bike To Work Day, May 17 @ Wisconsin Place Plaza | Sandra Brecher
Chief John Fitzgerald
Derrick Harrigan
Jim Carlson |
| | 7. New Business / Around the Room | |
| | 8. Adjourn
Next meeting date: July 9, 2019 | |

Information Items

Montgomery County Activated Newest HAWK Beacon to Improve Pedestrian Safety
Ride On Schedule Changes Beginning Sunday, May 12
MCDOT Sponsors Spring WABA City Cycling Class – June 1, Bethesda
Construction Activity Inside Medical Center Metro Station Begins May 14
MCDOT to Install Pop Up Bike Lane for Bike to Work Day on May 17

**Friendship Heights
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
March 12, 2019**

Voting Members

Barbara Condos (Chair)	Town of Somerset
Elizabeth Demetra Harris	Friendship Heights Village
John Mertens (Vice Chair)	Friendship Heights Village
Manuel Ochoa	Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights
Ahkecia Payne	GEICO

Non-Voting / Ex Officio

Derrick Harrigan	B-CC Services Center
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TMD Staff

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

Absent

Sandra L. Brecher	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services
Charles Crerand	CBRE Asset Services/Wisconsin Place
Chief John Fitzgerald	Chevy Chase Village Police
Christopher Itteilag	Somerset House Management Association
Katie Mencarini	M-NCPPC
Afua Ofori	Polinger Co./Large Employer

Guests

Bob Joiner	The Agenda News
Jason Mumford	AECOM
Stephanie Webber	Sharp & Co.

Item 1 &2 – Introductions/Minutes: Members and guests introduced themselves. January’s minutes were approved.

Item 3 – Presentation-Washington Area Bus Transformation Project: Jason Mumford from AECOM discussed the Bus Transformation Project, a proposed regional reorganization of the bus system by reconfiguring bus routes and rethinking bus usage to remedy congestion, improve bus service and reliability. Some facts mentioned about bus service were:

- 600,000 daily bus riders in region of network & coordination of routes
- The purpose of the project is to add value to trips not taken by car
- Using data to look at the psychology of the different modes of transit and usage
- Some of the challenges of busing are declining ridership, not a profitable investment and traffic congestion causing 1 mile an hour to be lost every year increasing bus travel times

Mr. Mumford discussed the ways his team is working to achieve the goal of the project by first identifying the problems with the system, then redesigning routes. Other factors include:

- Keeping up with, and anticipating new technologies
- A system to maintain costs
- Monitoring the system's function and maintenance
- Holding public meetings, conducting survey and various Committee groups for community and stakeholder input
- The four Committees involved in decision making for the project include the Executive Committee, Strategic Advisory Committee, Technical Team and WMATA Leadership Team
- Survey for the project was conducted region-wide; 5,679 responses were received
- Survey results reported that 80% of commuters who already ride once a week are trending toward riding more; and 67% who tend to ride less than once a week are riding less now, citing the need for bus service that is more frequent, reliable and direct

The presentation continued with participation from the Committee regarding:

- The role of traffic signal priority (TSP) in speedier bus service
- Vision Zero and the responsibility of pedestrian safety with more buses on the road
- Other questions for consideration for the project include coordination between jurisdictions
- Microbus transit – an on-demand bus service that services neighborhoods with little or no bus access which brings commuters to the corridors
- Providing circulator buses that stand out for corridors and providing bus only corridors with TSP
- Security concerns with late night service-enforcement and monitoring
- Discussion regarding Friendship Heights Metro police for loitering, panhandling and rowdy kids/teens on subways
- The project should not be revenue-based as transit systems do not pay for themselves and are heavily subsidized

Mr. Mumford explained the next steps of the project involve completing recommendations and analysis of the key questions raised during the survey process by conducting stakeholder & community meetings as a recognition of important public investment.

Jim Carlson will distribute the online presentation.

Item 4 – Employer Traffic Mitigation Plans & TMP Annual Reports: **Mr. Carlson** explained that the companies on the summary handout meet the eight requirements under the Code for employers with 25 or more employees.

The Committee voted to recommend Companies for approval by MCDOT's Director

Item 5 – Updates:

- The County Executive **Marc Elrich** to participate in an online discussion on March 14 – questions can be submitted online
- Preparations are underway for Bike To Work Day, May 17
- Earth Day celebrations
- Green Fest @ Brookside Gardens on April 26

Item 6 – New Business/Around the Room:

- **John Mertens** reported that scooters seem safer than he first thought now that he experienced them while vacationing in San Antonio
- Committee discussion regarding scooters and how they should be classified such as riding in bike lanes or on roads- motorized vs. non-motorized
- A pedestrian activated signal is in the works for the crosswalk at Willard Avenue in front of the Whole Foods

Item 7- Adjourn

Next Meeting Date: May 14, 2019

**Friendship Heights TMD
Traffic Mitigation Plan & TMP Annual Reports Summary
May 2019**

TMP 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 fairs 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 TMP activities and submit Annual Report*

Employer	Status	Recommend to MCDOT
GEICO	Meets all required elements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New hire information provided • Free parking for CP/VP at preferred locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 189 CP/VP spaces • Bike racks, lockers, showers • Telework & flexible/compressed schedules • Direct transit benefit - \$110/mo • Pre-tax deduction • Employees pay to park - \$10 	Yes

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Montgomery County Activated Newest HAWK Beacon to Improve Pedestrian Safety in Aspen Hill on Friday, May 10

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, May 8, 2019



Montgomery County notched one more achievement in its drive to keep pedestrians safe at noon on Friday, May 10, when it activated its newest high intensity activated crosswalk (HAWK) beacon on Aspen Hill Road between Georgia and Connecticut Avenues. County Executive Marc Elrich joined MCDOT Deputy Director Chris Conklin and Councilmembers Sidney Katz and Evan Glass to kick off the activation.

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) installed the pedestrian beacon in response to community concerns about the safety of pedestrians crossing Aspen Hill Road between two busy shopping centers to the north and south, each with heavy turning vehicular traffic.

This is the fourth pedestrian beacon of its kind constructed by MCDOT in the County. HAWK beacons flash yellow when a pedestrian presses the signal button, then turn solid yellow and finally red to stop oncoming motorized vehicles; pedestrians are then given a walk signal.

HAWK beacons are an attractive and cost-effective option to meet pedestrian safety needs at mid-block crossings or where the traffic volume at the site is too low to warrant a full signal. In evaluating sites for a HAWK beacon installation, MCDOT considers the volume of pedestrian traffic, the type of roadway, traffic speeds and sightlines. The new beacon, a routine MCDOT improvement to traffic signal infrastructure, aligns with the County's Vision Zero initiative to improve pedestrian safety.

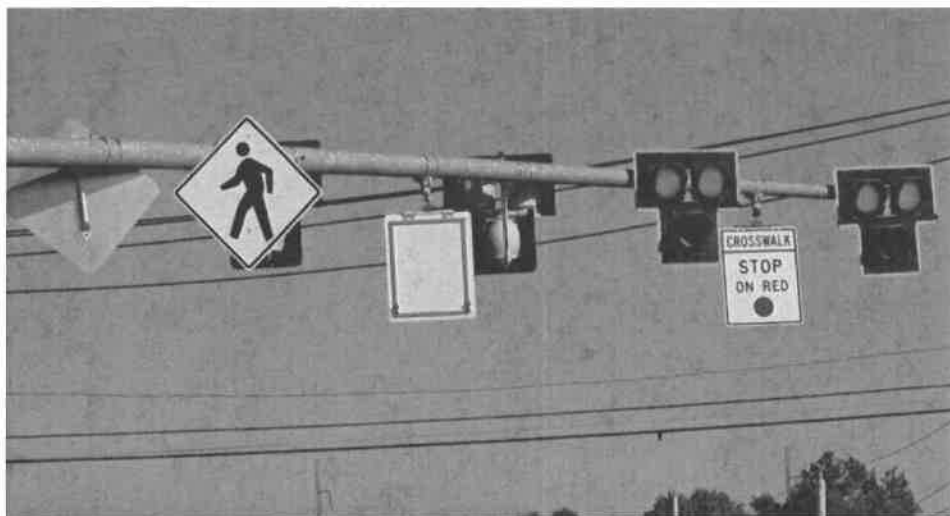
"This represents the latest milestone in our efforts to increase the walkability of our communities," said County Executive Elrich. "Our residents have a right to safe crossings as they move around the neighborhood, shop and run errands."

Montgomery County typically installs HAWK beacons where traffic speeds are 35 mph and lower. The County's first HAWK beacon, installed in 2010 on Gude Drive in Rockville, is slated for conversion to a full signal given the length of the pedestrian crossing. Another HAWK beacon, to be installed in Chevy Chase at Willard Avenue and the Hills Plaza, is currently in the design phase.

"MCDOT is implementing pedestrian safety improvements all around the County in the form of new and repaired sidewalks, crosswalks, accessible pedestrian signals, pedestrian and traffic safety and engineering studies at schools, and improvements like this one at high priority sites for pedestrian safety," said MCDOT Deputy Director Conklin. He thanked Maryland DOT SHA Administrator Greg Slater for his leadership in lifting the prohibition on HAWK beacons.

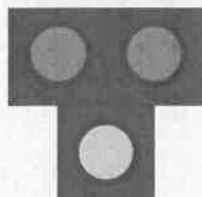
MCDOT is working with the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) to encourage assessment of unsignalized crossings on state roads in the County based on MCDOT's practices. MDOT is currently reevaluating its signalizations to address pedestrian safety concerns.

View the County Report This Week coverage.



What drivers see

What pedestrians see



**High-intensity
Activated
crossWalk
(HAWK)
signal**



Release ID: 19-075

Media Contact: Maureen McNulty 240-777-7199



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Ride On Schedule Changes Beginning Sunday, May 12

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, May 7, 2019



Ride On regularly assesses the need for service improvements and makes those changes seasonally. Beginning Sunday, May 12, 2019 several changes have been made for bus routes 1, 4, 9, 10 (Sunday only) 16, 20, 24 and 34 (Saturday only).

In addition, several routes will have time changes so that the schedule reflects the actual travel time along the respective routes. Those updated schedules are for bus routes 43, 48, 57, 58, 60, 63, 66, 67, 70, 71, 74, 78 and 79. There is no longer a bus route 63X; this service has been added to bus route 63.

Find more information about Ride On online at RideOnBus.com. Sign up for email alerts or text alerts by texting MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311, or follow Ride On on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Release ID: 19-074

Media Contact: Maureen McNulty 240-777-7199

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MCDOT Sponsors Spring WABA City Cycling Classes

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, April 10, 2019



This spring, in conjunction with the Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA), MCDOT is sponsoring two opportunities for residents to take Adult Learn to Ride Classes. These City Cycling classes are a fun way to feel more confident about using bikes as a regular form of transportation in urban settings.

The classes in Montgomery County will be held on:

Saturday, May 4: Silver Spring/M-NCPPC Parking Lot on Spring Street. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, June 1: Bethesda/BCC Rescue Squad Parking Lot at 5020 Battery Lane. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

These classes are designed to help residents learn skills and techniques to ride comfortably, confidently and effectively on county streets and to use bikes to get around for transportation, recreation and fitness. Beginners and long-time riders are encouraged to attend. Cyclists will learn specific bike handling skills before hopping on their bikes for a ride. Instructors will discuss situational tips for riding on busy roads, bike paths and trails. The cost is \$10, and free for WABA and Capital Bikeshare members.

Learn more at www.waba.org/adult-education. For questions, email education@waba.org or call 202-518-0524 extension 221.

Release ID: 19-056

Media Contact: Maureen McNulty 240-777-7199



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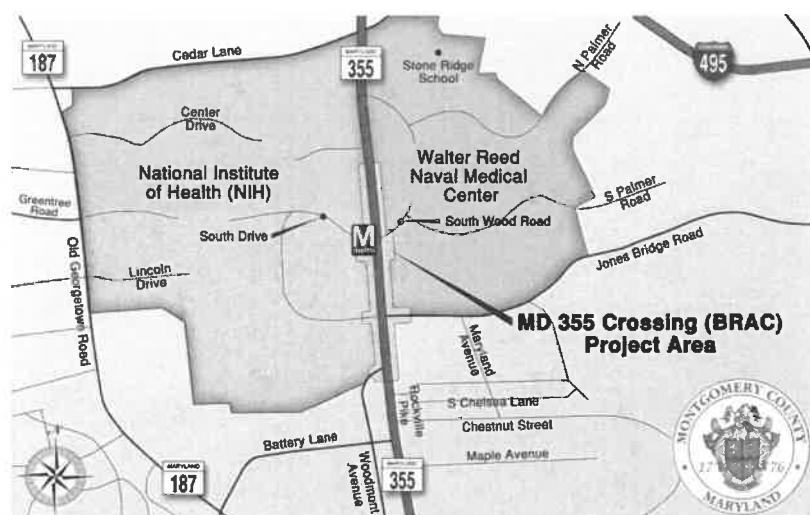
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Construction Activity Inside Medical Center Metro Station Begins May 14

For Immediate Release: Friday, May 10, 2019



As part of the MD 355 (Rockville Pike) Crossing Project, construction activity inside the Medical Center Metro Station will begin on or about May 14, weather and work conditions permitting. A portion of an exterior wall on the mezzanine level of the Station will be replaced with a partition. The automatic fare collection machine will be relocated closer to the station entrance escalators to accommodate a new connecting passageway leading to two new elevators which will serve passengers entering the station from Walter Reed Military Medical Center and Naval Support Activity Bethesda.

All construction activities within the station will take place behind or within partitioned areas on the platform and mezzanine levels and will not impede access to or inside the Station. All major impactful activities will be performed during non-service hours.

View map of the Rockville Pike/Jones Bridge Road/Woodmont Ave Intersection.

About the Crossing Project:

This work is part of the ongoing construction of the Crossing Project at the Medical Center Metro Station, which will build: 1) A shallow, pedestrian underpass connecting the National Institutes of Health and the bus/commuter transit center on the west side with the Naval Support Activity Bethesda/Walter Reed National Military Medical Center on the east side of Rockville Pike; and 2) Deep elevators on the Navy side of MD 355 to the Metrorail mezzanine. When completed by the end of 2021, the Crossing will provide a safer environment for people and vehicles in this heavily trafficked area.

- Details about the MD 355 Crossing Project visit md355crossing.com
- View map of the Crossing Project construction area.
- View pictures of the construction and of signs for safe pedestrian/cycling detours.
- View video to see what's happening underground.

A Safety Reminder:

As construction of the Crossing Project at the Medical Center Metro Station continues, residents are reminded to exercise caution as they walk, bike or travel near the construction zone. Pay attention to all posted signs, walk or bike only on designated crosswalks, sidewalks and paths, and do not walk in the road or in the construction zone.

Release ID: 19-076

Media Contact: Maureen McNulty 240-777-7199



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MCDOT to Install Pop Up Bike Lane for Bike to Work Day on May 17

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, May 8, 2019



MCDOT will be creating Montgomery County's second pop-up bike lane on Bike to Work Day, May 17 in downtown Bethesda. Pop-up bike lanes are temporary, protected bike lanes that create a low stress biking environment. The lane will begin at the traffic circle at Cheltenham Drive and Tilbury Street, extend west on

Cheltenham Drive, cross Wisconsin Avenue, continue onto Norfolk Avenue, and then head south on Woodmont Avenue past Bethesda Avenue to Miller Avenue. The pop-up bike lane will provide access to the entrance to the Capital Crescent Trail at the location of downtown Bethesda's Bike to Work Day Pit Stop (see map).

The pop-up bike lane will be available from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m. for both morning and evening bike commuters. Staff will begin setting up the lane in the early Friday morning hours. Montgomery County Police will assist with traffic control. Barrels, cones and special bike lane markings will designate the bike lane, and some parking restrictions may be implemented along the route. Motorists are asked to exercise caution when driving through the designated area, particularly at intersections.

"MCDOT is committed to expanding transportation choices for everyone and the pop-up bike lane is a great way to preview the department's plans to construct permanent, protected bike lanes on Woodmont Avenue," said MCDOT Director Al Roshdieh. "MCDOT welcomes the opportunity to partner with the community on ideas to enhance pedestrian, bicyclist and traffic safety."

The advocacy group Bethesda BIKE Now encouraged creation of the pop-up bike lane for Bike to Work Day, a concept that MCDOT has considered pilot testing in several areas of the County.

Bike to Work Day is an ideal time to create a pop-up bike lane because the event attracts large numbers of less experienced cyclists who may not be as familiar or comfortable with riding in traffic lanes. In addition, the temporary closure of the Georgetown Branch Trail for Purple Line construction eliminated a low-stress option that many Bike to Work Day participants have used in the past.

Later this summer, MCDOT plans to begin construction of a permanent protected bike lane along Bethesda Avenue and Willow Lane from Woodmont Avenue to 47th Street. Beginning in 2020, MCDOT will construct a permanent protected bike lane on Woodmont Avenue, from the intersection with Montgomery Lane south to Bethesda Avenue, as part of a future low stress protected bike lane network called the Bethesda Loop. The Loop will include bicycle infrastructure improvements along Woodmont Avenue, Montgomery Lane / Montgomery Avenue, Pearl Street and Cheltenham Drive/Norfolk Avenue.

MCDOT sponsors six of the 15 Bike to Work Day pit stops in Montgomery County, including one hosted by Bethesda Transportation Solutions at the intersection of Woodmont and Bethesda avenues. Everyone is encouraged to register for a Bike to Work Day pit stop. In addition, MCDOT partners with the Washington

Area Bicyclist Association to sponsor City Cycling classes at various County locations to help less experienced cyclists feel more comfortable riding in different environments.

Release ID: 19-069

Media Contact: Maureen McNulty 240-777-7199



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