

**Friendship Heights
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
July 10, 2018**

Voting Members

Barbara Condos (Vice Chair)	Town of Somerset
Charles Crerand	CBRE Asset Services/Wisconsin Place
Elizabeth Demetra Harris	Friendship Heights Village
John Mertens	Friendship Heights Village
Afua Ofori	Polinger Co./Large Employer

Non-Voting Members

Katie Mencarini	M-NCPPC
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TMD Staff

Sandra L. Brecher	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services
Nakengi Byrd	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services
Jim Carlson	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services

Absent

Tiffany Anderson (Chair)	Chevy Chase Land Company
Joe Dixon	GEICO
Chief John Fitzgerald	Chevy Chase Village Police
Kenneth Hartman	B-CC Services Center
Christopher Itteilag	Somerset House Management Association
Manuel Ochoa	Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights

Guests

Morgan Bassford	Sharp & Co.
Fred Craig	Purple Line Transit Partners
John Undeland	Purple Line Transit Partners
Stephanie Webber	Sharp & Co.

Item 1 & 2 - Introduction/Agenda Review/Minutes: Members and guests introduced themselves.

Item 3 – Purple Line Update: Fred Craig, Purple Line Transit Partners CEO, updated the Committee on the Purple Line project. Points discussed:

- The Purple line will expand transit to University of Maryland’s campus improving preexisting parking issues.
- The vehicle to be used for the project is made by Spanish train maker CAF, which will be light rail with cars like Metrorail.
- The system will help to preserve roads by reducing approximately 80,000 daily trips.
- Contributes to redevelopment around stations; also increasing rents by 25 percent within a ¼ mile radius.

- Purple Line Transit Partners has a 35-year contract with Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) for the upkeep of the system, after which ownership will be returned in good repair to MTA.
- Utility relocations are being done ahead of infrastructure construction of the 1500-volt electrical system.
- Arching trees hanging overhead and in proximity to the rails will be cut providing separation for safety due to the 1500-volt system arcing across the tree tops - batteries power the AC & heater only and are sufficient to move the vehicle.

Mr. Craig said the Purple Line system will be built in parallel phases. Segment Four contains the tunnel, which is part rock and soft earth under a neighborhood. Special construction measures are underway for tunnel erosion and water mitigation:

- Lining tunnels to prevent water damage – Metro’s Red line tunnels are not lined, causing leaks.
- Erosion control of sediment as level of protection against dust during construction phase – the connection to Bethesda is in densely populated area making erosion control important.
- The usual construction blasting is not permitted due to vibrations that could damage nearby homes.
- Rods are used to hold back earth when digging, and an alarm will sound if two meters of earth moves; steel cages also in place.

Mr. Craig explained that the Lyttonsville detour due to bridge replacement was not correctly implemented, causing significant push-back from the community. Corrective action took two months of community meetings to rectify. Going forward, the Purple Line team is committed to open and continuous communication with stakeholders. **Mr. Craig** encouraged calls to his office directly when there is a problem, so he can address it in a timely manner. Also discussed:

- Safety measures taken during construction – workers remaining behind barricades when working, everyone wears gloves and there is a six-hour safety training program.
- Communicating with businesses and the community regarding construction utility cut-offs via Community Advisory Teams.
- SmarTrip will be allowed on the Purple Line for seamless integration with other systems.
- MTA handles all Purple Line revenue, **Mr. Craig’s** team are the operators.
- There is a strong mitigation plan for tree replanting.
- As Metro was designed to transport commuters to work in the District, the Purple Line system is designed to connect the surrounding suburbs.

More information on the Purple Line: <http://www.purplelinetransitpartners.com/>

Item 4 – NextGen TDM: Jim Carlson briefly explained the County’s plans for the “NextGen” Transportation Demand Management TDM process, designed to reduce road capacity by promoting greater use of alternative modes of transit at development and employer sites:

MCDOT will be introducing a bill to Council that would provide for the expansion of Project-based TDM measures to all new developments, employers and multi-family residential projects County-wide based on area density, proximity to Metro and other transportation infrastructure and project size.

There are three Project-based TDM Program Levels:

- Level 1: TDM Basic Program

- Level 2: TDM Action Program
- Level 3: TDM Results Program

The Project-based TDM Program Level to which a project is subject is dependent upon the size of the project and the Subdivision Staging Policy Area in which it is located. Areas under consideration for Project-based TDM have been designated by the color codes Red, Orange and Yellow, with the following size thresholds:

The County has been working closely with the development community and other stakeholders in the

Subdivision Staging Policy Area	No Requirements	Level 1: Project-based TDM Basic Program	Level 2: Project-based TDM Action Program	Level 3: Project-based TDM Results Program
Red Areas	<25K GSF	25K – 100K GSF	Not Applicable	>100+K GSF
Orange Areas	<50K GSF	50K – 100K GSF	>100-200K GSF	>200+K GSF
Yellow Areas	<75K GSF	75K – 150K GSF	>150K GSF	TDM Results Program not required – May be used upon Applicant request

formulation of the plan. If approved by Council, roll-out is expected in July 2019 (FY2020).

Item 5 – Committee Chair/ Vice Chair Vote FY19:

VOTE: The Committee elected Barbra Condos as Chair, replacing Tiffany Anderson, and elected John Mertens as Vice Chair

Ken Hartman, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center Director, announced that his office was working with the District and Montgomery County to generate new economic development in Friendship Heights, which has lost a few businesses. **Derrick Harrigan** is the new contact for urban concerns in the Bethesda area and will attend future Committee meetings.

Item 6 – Marketing Outreach Update: Sharp & Co, TMD staff outreach, introduced new team member **Morgan Bassford**. Other announcements:

- Planning meetings and outreach efforts underway promoting the fall Walk & Ride Challenge
- Bike to Work Day 2018 was a success despite the rain.

Item 7 – Updates: Mr. Carlson announced that the Commuter Survey will be sent out this fall to selected employers. He encouraged everyone to participate in the survey if they receive one.

Item 8 – Around the Room:

- Issues at the intersection of Wisconsin Circle and Wisconsin Avenue
- Suggestion of free transit if attend sporting events
- The need for enforcement of Pedestrian activated signals

Adjourn: Next meeting date: Sept. 11, 2018