



**GREATER SHADY GROVE
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA
Greater Shady Grove Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee Meeting – Teams Format
November 1, 2023**

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

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

-
- | | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| 8:30 | 1. Welcome & Introductions | Jim Carlson |
| | 2. Minutes Review
July (©2) | All |
| | 3. Shady Grove Minor Master Plan Amendment - Update | Nkosi Yearwood
MC Planning Department |
| | 4. Metro Update | Gary Erenrich
MCDOT |
| | 5. Employer TDM Plans
Summary (©5) | Jim Carlson/All |
| | 6. Marketing Outreach Update | Jennifer Bolick
TMD Outreach Team |
| | 7. Updates: Police/TMD/DOT/Other County Updates | Sandra Brecher
Jim Carlson |
| 10:00 | Adjourn | |

~~~~~  
Information Items

*County receives \$2 million grant for bus rapid transit study*

*Virtual public meeting on Shady Grove Bikeway & Pedestrian Safety Improvements in Gaithersburg – Nov 6*

*FY25 Operating Budget forums – calendar*

*WMATA warns of drastic cut to services with upcoming \$750 million*

**Greater Shady Grove  
Transportation Management District  
Advisory Committee  
July 19, 2023**

---

**Voting**

**Steve Kelley** / NIH – National Cancer Institute  
**Benjamin Garcia** / Westside at Shady Grove Metro

**Ex Officio**

**Jake Adler** / Upcounty Regional Services Center  
**Greg Wims** / Upcounty Regional Services Center  
**Kirk Eby** / City of Gaithersburg  
**Michael Wahl** / Universities at Shady Grove

**Staff**

**Nakengi Byrd** / Montgomery County Commuter Services  
**Jim Carlson** / Montgomery County Commuter Services

**Absent**

**Sandra Brecher** / Representing MC Dept. of Transportation (MCDOT) Director  
**Paul Yanoshik** / RE/MAX Realty Services

**Guests**

**David Anspacher** / M-NCPPC  
**Jennifer Bolick** / Van Eperen  
**Gary Erenrich** / MCDOT  
**Gehmelle Johnson** / NIH-National Cancer Institute  
**Laura Van Eperen** / Fovndry

---

**Item 1 & 2 – Introductions/Minutes:** **Jim Carlson** called meeting to order. Introductions were tabled and March minutes were submitted for review.

**Item 3 – Montgomery County Bicycle Master Plan Update:** **David Anspacher**, Montgomery County Planning, briefed the Committee on findings of the 2021-2022 Bicycle Master Plan. The plan was approved five years ago by County Council, and progress is monitored by reports submitted to the County Executive. He explained that the findings are to assist in increasing biking by providing a low-stress equitable environment that is accessible for all.

- Trends from 2006-2021 show that biking is generally increasing; however, there is a slower increase in the years since the pandemic as it is difficult to compare pre- & post-pandemic results
- Biking increased slightly for the Shady Grove area, and elementary schools have the greatest increase due to location in residential low-stress neighborhoods
- The target for achieving low-stress biking and connectivity is 83 percent; the County is making slow, steady progress
- The report findings show greatest connectivity in areas where there is greatest investment

- Connectivity to transit is measured by the commuting growth of residential units that are within two miles of transit

**Mr. Anspacher** discussed measuring equity and equal access between high- & low-income residents as findings showed that higher income areas have about half the biking stress level of lower income areas; improving infrastructure funding in low-income areas will increase comfort levels.

- Bike fatalities were decreasing but saw a slight increase in recent years
- An overview of completed and planned bike projects was reviewed
- The bulk of bike project funding comes from the capital budget, as developer participation is gradually increasing – installing separated and on-street bikeways
- Some current and future projects include areas such as Bethesda, Montgomery Village and Olney with mostly capital funding
- Of the existing bike lanes that include separated and on-street, some are funded but not constructed, view <https://mcatlas.org/viewer/> to see bike plan

**Mr. Anspacher** discussed bike parking at facilities such as schools, parks, and other public places. Findings show that installing 8,000 bike racks and bike stations is needed for system improvements. Also reported were the finding recommendations:

- Twelve bike programs, including a wayfinding pilot planned for the White Flint area
- Some of the 22 recommendations included updating the road design standards, called “Complete Streets” and conducting travel surveys to monitor progress
- A system of prioritization for projects for equity standards
- Increasing equity by constructing more bike parking at Title 1 schools which are low income
- Building and operating parking stations at Glenmont Station to increase connectivity to outlying areas

Discussed in the Q & A:

- Construction of the Life Sciences loop planned to begin in FY25-FY26
- Future progress is accelerating as construction of projects become more skilled in rerouting utilities and removing curbs & lanes of traffic to put in biking infrastructure
- As developers are unclear on how to assist in constructing bikeways, Complete Streets provides examples of infrastructure
- The low rates of bike commuting in the Shady Grove area during the pandemic years could be due to the small sample size and lack of commuting during the period
- E-bikes are increasing in popularity and will play a part of future bikeways

**Item 4 – Metro Update:** Gary Erenrich was unable to attend today’s meeting. Jim Carlson shared WMATA briefing points to those in attendance.

**Item 5 – Employer TDM Plans:** Members reviewed employer TDM plan summary and recommended approval.

**Item 6 – Marketing Outreach Update:** Jennifer Bolick reported:

- Continued work with employers to submit their TDM plans
- Getting the word out regarding Metro’s new Lift Program that offers 50 percent reduced fare for low-income SNAP recipients

- Conducting Commuter Information Days (CIDs) with area businesses- NIH
- Advertising the upcoming Walk & Ride Challenge to Businesses

**Item 7 – Updates: Mr. Carlson** reported that Commuter Services won an award for providing transit marketing to business in the region.

**Adjourn: Next joint meeting in September TBD**

**Greater Shady Grove TMD  
Employer Transportation Demand Management Plan Summary  
November 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*

| <b>Employer</b>                                 | <b>Employee Total</b> | <b>Status</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>Recommend to MCDOT</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| American Custom Contractors<br>(voluntary plan) | 12 FT<br>25PT         | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telework – 3 participating</li> <li>• Flexible schedules</li> <li>• Carpool matching</li> </ul>                                              | Yes                       |
| CRB                                             | 72 FT<br>1 PT         | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telework – 35 participating</li> <li>• Employees can bring bikes inside</li> <li>• Carpool matching</li> <li>• Flexible schedules</li> </ul> | Yes                       |
| Rose Financial Solutions, LLC                   | 55 FT<br>5 PT         | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telework</li> <li>• Flexible schedules</li> </ul>                                                                                            | Yes                       |
| United Business Technologies                    | 30 FT                 | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telework – 20 participating</li> <li>• Flexible schedules</li> <li>• Carpool matching</li> </ul>                                             | Yes                       |
| Access Intelligence                             | 200 FT                | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-tax deduction – SmartBenefits</li> <li>• Carpool matching</li> </ul>                                                                     | Yes                       |
| Cartridge Technologies LLC (CTI)                | 48 FT                 | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telework – all employees</li> <li>• Carpool matching</li> </ul>                                                                              | Yes                       |
| CCACC Academy                                   | 30 FT                 | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carpool matching</li> </ul>                                                                                                                  | Yes                       |

|         |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |     |
|---------|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| DrFirst | 375 FT | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-tax benefit</li> <li>• Telework – all employees</li> <li>• Bike racks / lockers</li> <li>• Flexible schedules</li> </ul> | Yes |
| Giant   | 83 FT  | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bike racks / lockers</li> <li>• Flexible schedules</li> </ul>                                                                | Yes |

# Press Releases - Department of Transportation

MCDOT Home » Press Releases » Release

## Montgomery County Receives \$2 Million Grant to Conduct Bus Rapid Transit Study That Will Serve as Blueprint for Washington Metropolitan Region

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, October 25, 2023



The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) has been awarded a \$2 million grant by the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Regional Infrastructure Accelerators (RIA) program to support the expansion of the Flash Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) network in the County through a new research partnership with the University of Maryland.

Administered by the USDOT Build America Bureau, RIA provides funding for research of best practices in project planning, studies and analysis, preliminary engineering and design. The project will serve as a blueprint for the region.

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) systems are part of a national movement toward upgraded bus systems focused on faster, more convenient and reliable bus services. BRTs are known to have limited-stop bus service implemented along set routes in metropolitan areas across the U.S. and worldwide. Flash is Montgomery County's BRT system and includes plans for a network of eight fixed routes.

The high-frequency service is designed to get people to their destination faster, and less expensively, than by car. Flash corridors spur development as businesses and housing tend to spring up along BRT routes creating or fortifying vibrant mixed-use communities. The lines will support a high level of mobility, connecting communities throughout the County.

"This RIA grant will enable the County to speed the delivery of its ambitious bus rapid transit system and establish a regional model for moving projects forward more quickly and efficiently using innovative methods of project delivery and financing," said Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich.

Funding from the grant will be used to research and establish best practices in financing and project planning for the expansion of the Flash BRT corridors in Montgomery County. In a new partnership between Montgomery County and University of Maryland, MCDOT will partner with the Build America Center at the University of Maryland to create AccelerateMC, an essential transportation planning research center, to conduct these studies.

Findings from the AccelerateMC studies will be used to establish a blueprint for implementing bus rapid transit systems throughout the region.

The Flash BRT network will serve as an innovative and economical way to meet the growing transportation needs of County residents, help reduce reliance on automobiles and move people around the County faster. Plans for the eight-route bus service network will connect Montgomery County transit hubs, commercial centers and public services.

"MCDOT envisions a 102-mile Flash BRT network to serve the transportation needs of its over 1 million residents, provide equitable access to jobs and educational opportunities, and help eliminate transportation-generated carbon emissions by 2035," said MCDOT Director Chris Conklin. "This grant will allow us work to closely with the University of Maryland's Build America Center to accelerate this important project. I am grateful for the partnership MCDOT has with our state, regional and municipal partners and our labor representatives that helped support this project."

AccelerateMC will focus on developing strategies to further the development of the BRT projects already in progress along Veirs Mill Road, MD 355 and US 29. The first Flash corridor, on Route 29, is currently in service with advancements such as portions of dedicated bus lanes planned. Flash 355 is in the implementation phase and Flash Veirs Mill is in the final design phase. AccelerateMC also will assist in the buildout of a new bus depot to support the County's expanded fleet of zero-emission buses. The bus depot will include charging stations for electric buses and on-site hydrogen production.

"I want to thank U.S. Senator Ben Cardin; U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen; the Maryland Congressional Delegation; Paul Wiedefeld and the Maryland Department of Transportation; Randy Clarke and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Reuben Collins and the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board; Montgomery County Council President Evan Glass; D. Wade Yost, the town manager of Poolesville; Qingbin Cui and the University of Maryland Build America Center; Gino Renne and UFCW Local 1994; and Bill Tompkins and the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation for their unwavering support of this project," County Executive Elrich said.

For information on MCDOT programs and services visit [montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot), follow @MCDOTNow on X, Facebook, and Instagram and subscribe to MCDOT's "Go Montgomery!" newsletter.

# # #

*Release ID: 23-114*

*Media Contact: Emily DeTitta, 240-372-2282*

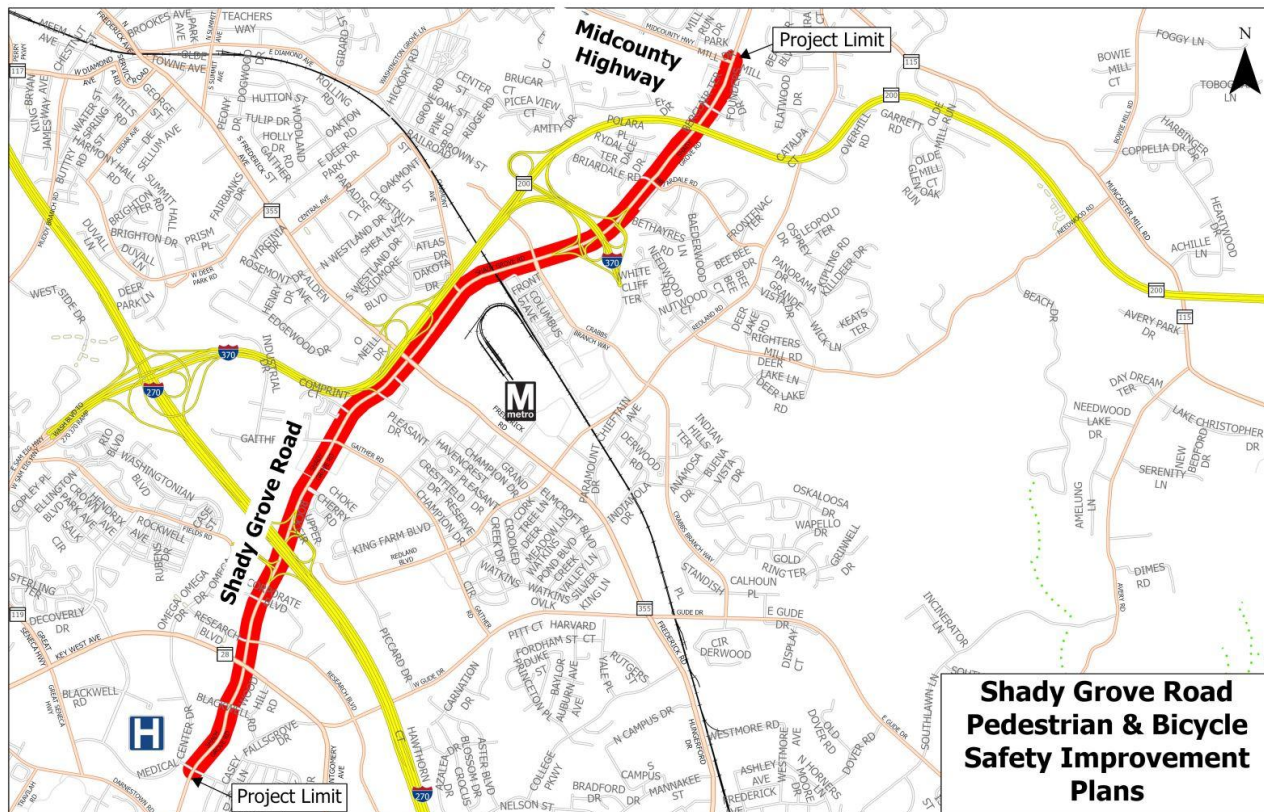


# Press Releases - Department of Transportation

MCDOT Home » Press Releases » Release

## Virtual Public Meeting on the Shady Grove Road Bikeway and Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project in Gaithersburg to be Held on Monday, Nov. 6

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, October 25, 2023



On Monday, Nov. 6, at 6:30 p.m., the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) will hold a virtual public meeting to discuss the project scope, details and projected schedule of the Shady Grove Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Improvement project in Gaithersburg.

The public will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments.

The Shady Grove Road Bikeway and Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project provides for a facility planning study to enhance safety for pedestrians, bicyclists and people with disabilities as they travel to nearby schools and facilities. The project will also address intersection safety and traffic calming using signage and pavement markings as well as side paths, separated bike lanes and other traffic calming methods. The project limits are from Darnestown Road to Midcounty Highway. Public input is encouraged and may influence the design of this project.

Online registration is required to attend virtually. On the morning of the meeting, an invitation to participate in this meeting will be emailed to registrants.

Prior to the meeting, the public is encouraged to review the project files on the project website.

Questions and comments may be submitted by email to [Cameron.McAllister@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Cameron.McAllister@montgomerycountymd.gov) or via the online comment form. All information provided to MCDOT, including questions and comments, will become a matter of public record.

Interpreter services will be provided upon request, with five business days advance notice, by contacting Lori Main by email at [Lori.Main@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Lori.Main@montgomerycountymd.gov).

For more information on MCDOT programs and services visit [montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot), follow @MCDOTNow on X, Facebook and Instagram and subscribe to MCDOT's "Go Montgomery!" newsletter.

# # #

Release ID: 23-116

Media Contact: *Emily DeTitta*, 240-372-2282

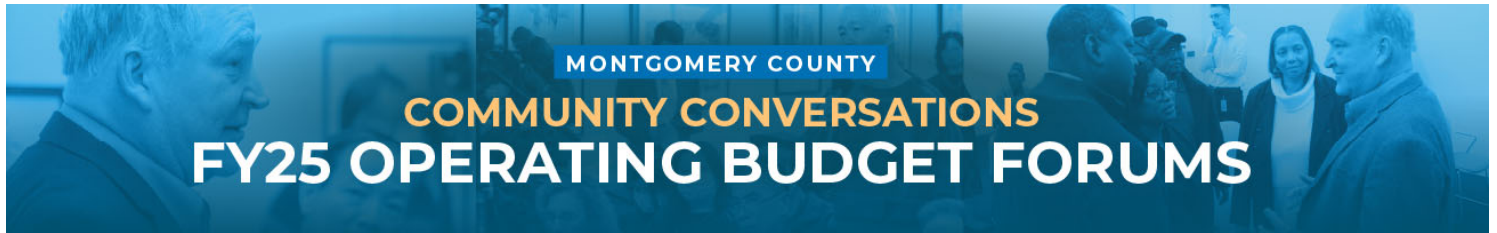


Sign up for

Go Montgomery

Ride On Alerts

# Community Conversations Calendar - FY25 Operating Budget Discussions



The conversations will be televised live on the County cable station County Cable Montgomery, which can be seen on Comcast (Channel 6 and High-Definition Channel 996), RCN (Channel 6 and HD 1056) and Verizon (Channel 30). The forum also will be available on cable channels Takoma Park City TV (Channel 13), Montgomery Municipal (Channel 16, 997 Comcast), Corona Montgomery (Channel 10), and Montgomery Community Media (Channel 21), MCPS-TV 34/1071 HD Comcast, 36 Verizon, and 89/1058 HD RCN.

If you can't make it to one of the Community Conversations but would like to participate in the process, submit your question for County Executive Marc Elrich.



  [Subscribe](#)  [My Events](#)

## NOVEMBER 2023

| When                    | Event                                                         | Location                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| November 13, 7:30 – 9pm | <a href="#">FY25 Operating Budget Forum: Silver Spring</a>    | Silver Spring Civic Building (Spring Room).<br>1 Veterans Pl.,<br>Silver Spring, MD 20910                                                                                   |
| November 15, 7 – 8:30pm | <a href="#">FY25 Operating Budget Forum: East County</a>      | White Oak Community Recreation Center<br>1700 April Lane, Silver Spring (White Oak), MD 20904<br><a href="#">teams.microsoft.com...</a>                                     |
| November 27, 7 – 8:30pm | <a href="#">FY25 Operating Budget Forum: Chinese Language</a> | Chinese Culture and Community Service Center,<br>美京华人活动中心 (美京艺廊)<br>9318 Gaither Road, Suite 215, CCACC Art Gallery, Gaithersburg<br><a href="#">teams.microsoft.com...</a> |

## DECEMBER 2023

| When                    | Event                                                | Location                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| December 11, 7 – 8:30pm | <a href="#">FY25 Operating Budget Forum: Seniors</a> | Leisure World, Clubhouse 1, Crystal Ballroom,<br>3701 Rossmore Blvd., Silver Spring.<br><a href="#">teams.microsoft.com...</a> |



Events calendar powered by Trumba

## eSubscription



Sign up for a newsletter or update your subscription preferences.

## Stay Informed

[Awards](#)

[Contact Us](#)

# WMATA warns of drastic cuts to Metro services amid \$750 million budget gap

By Tom Fitzgerald | Published October 26, 2023 4:23PM | Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority  
| FOX 5 DC |

## WMATA could be facing cuts to service amid budget shortfall

Metro officials are warning folks that if they can't close a massive hole in their budget, bus routes could be scrapped, Metrorail hours could decrease, stations could close, and they may even have to stop hiring.

---

**WASHINGTON** - Metro officials are warning folks that if they can't close a massive hole in their budget, bus routes could be scrapped, Metrorail hours could decrease, stations could close, and they may even have to stop hiring.

A combination of factors have created the current situation for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

Ridership is still rebuilding after the pandemic and the emergency funding from the pandemic that helped Metro afloat is coming to an end.

The result?

A \$750 budget hole that could come at the expense of riders and Metro workers.

At a Metro Board meeting Thursday, officials laid out the possibilities. Close to 95 of WMAT's 134 bus routes may be cut, wait times could climb 20–30 minutes, and all service could end at 9:30 p.m. during the week.

Plus, ending metrorail services entirely on Saturdays or Sundays is being considered.

WMATA General Manager Randy Clarke says that right now, these are options – not plans. But they speak to how serious the budget deficit is.

"We're showing the board and the public options around fare and service," Clarke said Thursday. "All the service options are bad. Even the stuff that's targeted and smaller, everyone dislikes those as well, because they actually impact people and therefore they impact the community."

"We have to think about what the region looks like in 2040, 2050 at the same time we have to think about how we keep the lights on next year and keep that going," he continued. "That's kind of why we're looking at it that way. It's not like we're out saying we're going to build a Georgetown Metro next week."

It's not clear right now if the \$750 million dollar budget gap will remain this high or if Metro will be able to avoid these cuts in 2025.

The general manager says that they have completed a third of an efficiency review aimed at reducing costs, and discussions are ongoing with officials from D.C., Maryland, Virginia, and the federal government to secure additional funding.

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. ©2023 FOX Television Stations