

**Greater Shady Grove
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
September 6, 2017**

**Johns Hopkins University
Montgomery County Campus
9601 Medical Center Dr., Rockville MD 20850
Academic & Research (A&R) Building / Room 107**

Voting

- John Brandt** / Universities at Shady Grove
- Steven Kelley** / NIH-National Cancer Institute
- Ellen Poltilove** / Johns Hopkins University
- McClellan Quinn** / EYA
- Randy Scritchfield** / Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber

Non-Voting

- Joseph Allen** / Neighborhood Representative – Gaithersburg

Ex Officio

- Sandra Brecher** / Representing MC Dept. of Transportation (MCDOT) Director
- Catherine Matthews** / Upcounty Regional Services Center
- Alyssa Roff** / City of Gaithersburg

Staff

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

Absent

- Ed Axler** / M-NCPPC
- Dr. Antoine Banks** / Westside Neighborhood
- Capt. Thomas Didone** / Montgomery County Police
- Jordan Snow** / 1788 Holdings

Guests

- Gehmelle Johnson** / NIH – National Cancer Institute
- Will Kenlaw** / MCDOT – Ride On
- Laura Van Eperen** / Van Eperen & Co.

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

Item 3 – Ride On extRa Limited Stop Service: Will Kenlaw, MCDOT-Ride on, discussed the new Ride On extRa bus service starting October 2nd that will travel the MD 355 corridor from Lake Forest Mall to Medical Center Metro Station.

The Ride On system, with 850 employees and over 3,500 stops, is one of the largest suburban bus systems. Ride On serves neighborhoods and feeds into the Metrobus system that services main arteries. Ride On also provides service to seniors and disabled low income residents.

Mr. Kenlaw said the MD 355 corridor is the most congested in the county, and that an attempt to reduce traffic by adding five more buses to the route was unsuccessful. County Council funded the extRa service to increase seating capacity along the corridor and as a precursor to the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system:

- ExtRa will service 12 out of the 80 stops along the MD 355 corridor
- Buses will have signal priority and complete the route in 52-58 minutes vs. 1 ½ hour current runtime-buses run every 10 minutes
- Buses equipped with Wi-Fi and USB ports
- Buses will travel inside Montgomery College for safety and not inside Twinbrook & Shady Grove stations
- Shelters are equipped with extRa signage, inlaid artwork and monitors showing runtimes-no backs on benches
- No loading of SmarTrip cards on buses for speedy service - \$2.00 fare
- Free rides during month of October
- No changes to 46 & 55 routes
- Marketing outreach included dispatching teams, newspaper and TV advertisements, social media and presentations.
- Buses are equipped with extra padding and green branding on outside front of bus

Mr. Kenlaw explained that extRa's route runs parallel to Metro as an added transit alternative to accommodate future economic and population growth; also as an alternative (not substitute) to the discontinued J7 & J9 Metrobus routes.

Sandra Brecher discussed the status of bikeshare station installations, explaining that there are none currently at Lake Forest but coming to Twinbrook, and the challenges with Medical Center Station installation. EYA was key to station installation at Shady Grove Metro.

Item 4 – Marketing Outreach Update, Van Eperen:

- Walk and Ride Challenge registration is open from Oct. 9th-27th; 3-5 members to sign up, rules on website

Item 5 – County Updates:

- Park(ing) Day September 16th - to bring awareness to the impact of vehicles on shrinking green space
- Car Free Day September 22nd
- Purple Line construction to begin as \$900 million for funding was given – Georgetown Branch Trail closed for construction
- Senior's ride free program has been extended Sat. 8:30-4pm

- Dockless bikeshare pilot program in Silver Spring - bike usage accessed via smart phone application
- Two bikeshare stations added in Gaithersburg -The Crown and Rio

Joe Allen announced:

- Potomac Bridge Crossing – starting metrics and design on project
- Organizing a transportation debate for the upcoming Gaithersburg elections
- Other announcement details regarding MTA I-270 Commuter Bus - Rt. 200-rumors of discontinuing service
- Finding funding for a shuttle service study

Item 6 – New Business/Around the Room:

- JHU construction starting in October for new lab facility – parking changes and closures starting September 8th / June 2019 projected completion date

Adjourn

Next meeting date: November 1, 2017