

**Silver Spring  
Transportation Management District  
Advisory Committee  
April 8, 2021**

**Item 1 & 2 – Introductions/Minute review:** Valerie Spencer opened the meeting – members and guests introduced themselves.

The March meeting minutes were tabled.

**Item 3 – Metro Update:** Gary Erenrich reported that the Metro Board will meet later today on the current Covid recovery actions in congress. He said Metro was saved from drastic budget cuts by Federal funds of \$1.5 million, keeping service levels stable. Also discussed:

- Metro’s platform improvement program will be shutting down portions of the Green & Yellow lines as shuttle buses will provide service beyond Ft. Totten station
- Ride On has received CARES related funding of \$50 million – no farebox collection continuing through June 30th
- 2,000 pages of comments were received from the public hearing to maintain current service levels
- Ridership projections have been revised to allow time for service to rise to pre-pandemic levels
- Congress earmark negotiations for funding of transportation projects and future infrastructure is underway. Earmarks are a way Congresses can secure future funding for projects and initiatives-  
**Representative Anthony Brown** is coordinating Maryland’s response.

Discussion:

- How the infrastructure bill will affect mitigation for the Beltway/I270 expansion, and should there be a public/private investment, since there may be Federal funds – project phasing is confusing
- A decision to be made on the recommended alternative such as the placement of the I-270/I-370 location
- Board of Public Works request to change implementation of the environmental document
- The Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board is opposed to expansion
- Discussion regarding continuing no-fare collection on Ride On buses

**Item 4 – Presentation-Silver Spring Regional Center Update:** Reemberto Rodriguez explained the role of the Silver Spring Regional Service Center and how it functions as part of the Silver Spring TMD, stating that the Silver Spring area is smallest in terms of geography but also the densest and most diverse in the County. Also discussed:

- Ample transportation availability and access adds a transformative element to the area
- Providing a robust local economy and how the area links & informs the community are some of the efforts of the Regional Service Center by working with advisory groups, civic organizations & non-profits, and the business community
- There is serious dialog regarding replacing the Urban District with a Business Improvement District (BID) to better market the area – issues with gentrification and union contract negotiation for the Silver Spring Clean and Safe Team (Red Shirts)
- Improving walkability in the downtown area

Q & A discussion included:

- An explanation of the BID that is set up by property owners who vote to tax businesses to market the area and keep it clean and safe
- BIDs seen as agents of gentrification in that it is implemented in areas already inhabited by diverse populations that are usually displaced
- Introducing a BID in Silver Spring is further complicated because the Silver Spring Urban District already provides most of the services of a BID and, with adequate funding, would be able to provide more services such as marketing
- The County Council will revisit the BID issue in the Fall
- Walkability in the Downtown Silver Spring area is robust with greater density within a 30-40-minute walk which is why micro-mobility is very successful in the area

**Item 5 – Employer TDM Plans:** Jim Carlson reported that the employers who submitted TDM plans, and annual reports met requirements and recommended that the Committee recommend approval to the MCDOT Director.

**The Committee recommended that MCDOT Director approve TDM Plans**

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

- Outreach to employers regarding TDM plans and submitting annual reports
- E-blasting transportation related information
- BTWD 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – May 21<sup>st</sup>
- Swag Bag contest – new trail featured every week
- WABA Learn to Ride Classes, funded by CSS, are booked

**Item 7 – Updates:** Sande Brecher announced:

- Front door boarding has restarted on Ride On buses – masks are available
- 14 Bike To Work Day pitstops at area bike shops
- Operating budget public hearings - last one tonight @ 7pm (virtual)
- The White Oak TMD that was established five years ago has received funding for outreach
- Working to finalize the Climate Action Plan draft

**Adjourn next meeting May 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee Attendance Sheet**

**April 8, 2021**

<b>Voting Members (12)</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Chamber Members (3)</b>			
Chris Kabatt	Wells + Associates	X	
Julie Statland	Statland & Katz, Ltd.		X
Vacant			
<b>Citizens Advisory Board Members (3)</b>			
Harriet Quinn	Kemp Mill, Four Corners, East SS	X	
Vacant	North & West Sector Plan Area		
Chris Perry	CBD Resident	X	
<b>Employers less than 50 employees (3)</b>			
Valerie Spencer	MayaTech	X	
Dar Maxwell	Panagora Group	X	
Vacant			
<b>Employers with 50 or more employees (3)</b>			
G. Michael Price	Discovery Communications	X	
Vacant			
Vacant			
<b>Non-Voting Members (3)</b>			
Sandra Brecher, DOT-Commuter Services	MCDOT Director or Designee	X	
Iftin Thompson	M-NCPPC	X	
Reemberto Rodriguez	Silver Spring Regional Center	X	
Sgt. Kerry Moore	Montgomery County Police	X	
<b>Staff</b>			
Nakengi Byrd	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
Jim Carlson	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
<b>Guests</b>			
Jennifer Bolick	Van Eperen & Co.	X	
Jay Elvove	SS Citizens Advisory Board	X	
Gary Erenrich	MCDOT	X	
Christine McGrew	M-NCPPC	X	
Laura Van Eperen	Van Eperen & Co.	X	