

**Silver Spring
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
January 9, 2020**

Item 1, 2 - Introductions/Chair Comments/Minutes: Chair Valerie Spencer called meeting to order. Minutes and introductions were tabled to allow Purple Line presentation.

Item 3 - Purple Line Construction Update: MCDOT Purple Line Project Manager **Maricela Cordova** updated the Committee on the Purple Line project. The Purple Line is a 22-mile, 11 station light rail that runs from Bethesda to New Carrollton, connecting Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties. MCDOT is working in conjunction with Purple Line Transit Partners PLTC who will be operating the system.

- Capital Crescent trail reconstruction is 25 percent complete and will connect the Capital Crescent and Metropolitan Branch Trail - new bridge construction
- Station features include some ground level, two elevated (aerial portion level with top level of Transit Center) and some underground
- Reconstruction of WMATA entrance and MARC rail and mezzanine will be relocated to the station's other side-3rd rail hazards call for full shut down to allow construction
- Detours will be provided to navigate construction and guides will be available to assist in direction (buses still operating)
- Discussion regarding full road closures expected to set steel beams and crane position in Colesville Road median resulting in traffic shifts-weekend closures between Glenmont – Takoma including MARC and CSX
- Discussion regarding the time needed for workers to construct parts of the project resulting overnight road closures

Ms. Cordova continued discussion with Ride On relocation plans during Purple Line construction and outreach efforts.

- Ride-On routes will be relocated around the perimeter of the Transit Center
- May 2, 2020 is the start of the BRT service as currently work is finishing up along Colesville Road
- Jan. 18, 31st and Mar. 6th are the planned weekend closures between Takoma - Glenmont stations with contingencies for inclement weather
- Outreach efforts are combined with Ride On and WMATA with notices posted in and around the downtown Silver Spring area
- Jumbo Tron notices, social media and the Silver Spring Red Shirts
- Saturday, Jan. 11th is a mobility walkthrough downtown Silver Spring
- Two Purple bus benches were stolen on Bonifant between Ripley & Georgia Avenue
- Permanent closing on Bonifant have been delayed until spring

Item 4 - WMATA Proposed Budget: Gary Erenrich presented Metro's 2021 proposed budget that was submitted by Manager Paul Weidefeld. The proposed bus cuts and changes will be deliberated by Metro's board as to what will be placed on the docket for a public hearing on the Capital and Operating budget. Mr. Erenrich explained that this is the 2nd year where there is a cap of 3 percent for operating costs. There are issues with calculating the 3 percent, however it is added to 2020 subsidy total. Also discussed:

- The Bus Transformation Study also further complicates figuring in budget cuts as the study is supposed to enhance Metro's efforts
- \$30 million proposed in budget cuts including bus routes
- Increase rail service to operate until 2 am Friday & Saturday - Metro program with Lyft and Uber offering \$4 toward ride if commuter shows proof of late night employment (only a handful of people ride during the late night hours)
- Adding more rail service on Sunday and changing fare structure to \$2 for weekend fares
- Issues regarding including Ride-On in discounted fare transfers as transferring from bus to rail does not include Ride-On a \$.50 discount

Mr. Erenrich commented that some of the bus service cuts are counterproductive due to Metro not considering the effects to Ride-On in the money saving programs and further discussed other proposed cuts such as the Z route alone Route 29. Metro's reasoning behind this elimination is redundancy of the new Flash however, the project was designed to manage capacity along Route 29. Also discussed:

- Additional service along New Hampshire corridor, Y and K routes
- First and last trips eliminations on some routes
- Starting service later at 5:30am-may be an issue for those that have early work hours
- Every route to be changed will be on the docket
- Cuts on the Q line between Rockville & Shady Grove stations as these can be supplemented with Ride-On service
- Prince Georges and Fairfax counties will be hit the hardest by the cuts due to a lack of a local bus system to take up the absence- also some of the lowest performing bus service areas

Discussion continued regarding the cost effectiveness of buses compared to rail however they are not time effective due to lack of running times and traffic congestion which rail does not have.

Also discussed:

- The need to modify bus routes when the Purple Line project begins service however PL off boarding payment system has not yet been established
- A letter can be submitted to Metro regarding maintaining the Flash service and other counter-productive measures- **Jim Carlson** will send presentation to the Committee

Item 5 – Employer TMP Annual Reports: Mr. Carlson presented TMP reports to the Committee. The Companies that meet the requirements were:

- Michaels, Eggspectation, Regal Majestic Cinema, Holiday Inn express, and Senior Service America

- Those that needed follow up and have been updated were-All Set Restaurant, Whole Foods, D&R international

The Committee agreed on approvals.

Item 6- Employer Outreach Update: Jenifer Bolick announced:

- Working with Employers to update annual reports
- Conducting Purple Line outreach and scheduling Commuter Information Days with companies
- COG Award nominations

Also announced:

- County Executive online conversation later today from 1-2pm on the County's website-submit questions online
- The joint TMD meeting with the County Executive went well
- County Council passed bill 36-18 NextGen TDM- effective March
- Reinvestment discussion of downtown Silver Spring businesses
- Chief Administrative Officer Andrew Kline forming Silver Spring Safety, Security, Placemaking effort to extend Police coverage and added security at Progress Place also the Red Shirts will a more visible presence

The Committee discussed the need to resurface streets on Colesville Road and a request to consider returning the AC meetings to 9 months of the year instead of meeting every other month.

Adjourn

Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee Attendance Sheet

January 9, 2020

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