

Veirs Mill Road Flash BRT: October 21, 2025, Public Meeting Summary

Overview

On October 21, 2025, Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) held a public meeting to discuss the Veirs Mill Road Flash BRT project. Approximately 75 people attended to review maps and posters, listen to the presentation, and ask questions. Key topics of interest expressed in participant feedback included safety, property acquisition, and transit access.

Meeting Details

The meeting was held at Albert Einstein High School in Kensington, MD, from 6:30pm-8:30pm. The purpose of this meeting was to inform the public of the final design for the corridor, explain the property acquisition process, and provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions and engage directly with the project team.

The meeting was structured in an open-house format with display boards and large roll maps, allowing participants to review detailed project information at their own pace. Approximately 30 minutes into the event, the Project Manager, Pam Destino, provided a formal presentation to share project updates and context for the final design. Following the presentation, there was a question and answer session with approximately 20 public questions and comments, followed by an opportunity for individuals to engage directly with project staff.

All public-facing meeting materials were available in both English and Spanish and were posted on the project website in advance of the meeting. Spanish interpretation was provided simultaneously during the presentation to ensure accessibility for Spanish-speaking attendees. Spanish interpreters were available to support attendees and staff at the display boards and roll maps.

Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2025, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Albert Einstein High School Cafeteria, 11135 Newport Mill Rd, Kensington, MD 20895

Number of Attendees: 75

Comments and Participation

In addition to the Q&A session following the presentation, there was a physical comment box, and written comment forms were available for attendees to provide feedback during the meeting. Attendees were encouraged to visit the [project website](#) to share their thoughts on the project via

the project email or to sign up for one-on-one sessions offered the week following the public meeting.

The summary of feedback below reflects the key themes raised by participants during the meeting.

Key Themes of Public Feedback

Safety

Feedback centered on reducing vehicle speeds, improving pedestrian infrastructure, enhancing crossings and signals, and ensuring agency coordination. Key points included:

- **Pedestrian Safety:** Requests for safer, more frequent pedestrian crossings, particularly on Veirs Mill Road at Centerhill Street. Interest in prioritizing sidewalks near schools and where residents cross to go to school.
- **Speed Reduction and Enforcement:** Interest in accelerating implementation of lower speed limits and increased enforcement, including coordination with MCPD on enforcement.
- **Sidewalk and Infrastructure Improvements:** Requests to prioritize sidewalk infill where gaps currently exist, particularly near Schoolhouse Road, Pendleton Drive, and Newport Mill Road.
- **Traffic Signals and Coordination:** Requests for new traffic signals at Galt Avenue, Pendleton Drive, and Centerhill Street and improved timing at existing intersections.
- **Interagency Collaboration:** Desire for clearer coordination among SHA, MCPD, and County departments (MCDOT and MCPS) on safety planning and implementation.

Property Acquisition

Feedback included concerns about the property acquisition process and related communications.

Key points included:

- Questions regarding **timelines** for property acquisition and construction.
- Requests for clear, accessible information on **whether and how individual properties may be affected**.
- Desire for clear, inclusive, and frequent **communication**.
- **Language accessibility** needs that extend beyond English and Spanish.

Transit Access

Feedback highlighted the importance of transit access in the corridor. Specific comments included:

- Questions about **interaction between local buses and the new Flash service**.
- Requests for **Ride On ExtRa express service** in the interim, until Flash service is available.
- Requests for **Ride On 40 buses to continue to Downtown Silver Spring**, similar to the WMATA routes that previously served the corridor.

Other

- Importance of **sustained, transparent communication** throughout the design and construction phases and during service.
- Requests for **coordination with MCPS** to address student safety and transportation impacts.
- Importance of the **existing walkability studies and school-related safety considerations being reflected** in the Veirs Mill Road Flash BRT project design, particularly near Albert Einstein High School and Newport Mill Elementary School.

Next Steps/Action Items

- The project team conducted virtual one-on-one meetings for those who could not attend the meeting or had additional follow-up questions.
- The project team will continue outreach and coordination with residents, property owners, the business community, and other stakeholders as property acquisition and construction progress.
- The project team will continue engagement with local HOA and civic associations to share updates.
- The project team will continue informal engagement in the community meeting people where they are: libraries, community-based organizations, and local events.

Meeting Photos





