

**Silver Spring
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
February 20, 2014**

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Abbreviations:

BRT = Bus Rapid Transit
DDOT = District Department of Transportation
IOS = Interim Operating Site
MSHA = Maryland State Highway Administration
PLD = Parking Lot District

Items 1, 2 & 3 – Introductions/Minutes/Chair’s Comments: Chair Samantha Mazo called the meeting to order. Minutes review was tabled for lack of quorum.

Ms. Mazo introduced **Wendy Melis** to the Committee as a prospective Small Business Representative; **Ms. Melis** works for SWANA, downtown Silver Spring.

Item 4 – DDOT Streetcar Project: **Andrew Wexler** explained that the District is constructing a streetcar line and is proposing a terminus in either Takoma Park or Silver Spring. Due to Silver Spring’s role as a major transportation hub with major employers, **Mr. Wexler** said the project would be of greater benefit in downtown Silver Spring than Takoma Park and suggested the Committee draft a letter encouraging **County Executive Leggett** to invite the District to extend its planning efforts into Silver Spring. The multi-modal transit center would be the logical northern termination point for the streetcar line.

The purpose of the letter will be to urge the County Executive to coordinate with DDOT planners to study the project’s feasibility in regard to rights of way and topography of the Silver Spring area and to endorse a termination point in the transit center if approved. The Maryland State Highway Administration (MSHA) will also need to provide analysis for the study.

Other areas of discussion on the streetcar:

- The high ridership of Metrobus route 70 and 79 that terminates in Silver Spring – the streetcar project is a needed mode of transit that will augment these crowded bus routes
- The District Dept. of Transportation (DDOT) is hosting another round of public meetings for the project which will determine a project timetable for feasibility
- Interfacing the project with the future Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system
- Completion of the East-West corridor environmental study
- Adding the streetcar project to the County Executive FY15 budget priority list
- Invite **Gary Erenrich** from the MC Dept. of Transportation Director’s Office and **Jamie Henson** from District Dept. of Transportation to provide further information on the project development process
- Using the study to iron out coordination issues with MSHA and integrating with the Transit Center and bus rapid transit (BRT)

VOTE: The Committee voted to draft a letter urging the County Executive to invite the District to study the feasibility of a streetcar terminus in Silver Spring.

Item 5 – FY15 Budget Priorities: The Committee reviewed last year’s budget priorities list for the upcoming meeting with the County Executive. Some changes discussed by the Committee:

- Providing funding to upgrade the Interim Operating Site (IOS), since there is continuing uncertainty regarding the opening date of the Transit Center
- Improvements and/or modifications of IOS way-finding signs as construction conditions change
- Advocating that the County Executive maintain its strong position that Metro take ownership of the transit center from the County when construction remediation is complete
- Foulger-Pratt Construction not proceeding with development of the transit center surrounding area – set aside for green space
- The Committee decided to move the IOS issue to top priority in the FY15 list
- Support funding for expansion of the Capital Bikeshare system
- Funding to improve the VanGo –
 - Improved, distinctive branding
 - Conducting a circulation and mobility study involving all transportation providers in Silver Spring
 - Continue to use three buses after the transit center opens
- Keep funding to secure the Purple Line and BRT projects
- Improving on the consistency of parking options on street and in garages payment systems – possibly bring in Rick Siebert and Jeremy Souders to a future meeting – and continuing the fiscal health of Silver Spring Parking Lot District (PLD)
- Continue to expand and promote carsharing and use services such as Car2Go which provide a point to point return system (similar to bikesharing)

There was additional discussion regarding:

- Discovery Communications survey of its employees coinciding with the County's Commuter survey – may delay sending the commuter survey to avoid confusion
- Querying **Commander Donald Johnson** (District 3) for **Sgt. Tom Harmon's** replacement

Item 6 – Updates:

- Employer Outreach Seminar with Metro was rescheduled due to bad weather to February 27th at Friendship Heights, and March 12th in Silver Spring.
- Bike to Work Day – Friday, May 16, 2014; Blairs afternoon pit stop/Discovery morning pit stop

Adjourned

Next meeting date: April 10 (skip March meeting)

**Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee Attendance Sheet
February 20, 2014**

Voting Members (12)			
Name	Affiliation	Present	Absent
Chamber Members (3)			
Arnetta Haines	Social and Scientific Systems		X
Michael Meszaros	Digital Industry, Inc.	X	
Samantha Mazo / Co-chair	Linowes and Blocher LLP	X	
Citizens Advisory Board Members (3)			
Jim Bunch	Kemp Mill, Four Corners, East SS	X	
Phil Olivetti	North & West Sector Plan Area		X
Andrew Wexler / Co-chair	CBD Resident	X	
Employers less than 50 employees (3)			
Vacant			
Everton Latty	iDeal Decisions, Inc.		X
Valerie Spencer	MayaTech	X	
Employers with 50 or more employees (3)			
G. Michael Price	Discovery Communications	X	
Molly King	The Blairs		X
Vacant			
Non-Voting Members (3)			
Sandra Brecher, DOT Transit Services	DOT Director or Designee	X	
Matthew Folden	M-NCPPC		X
Reemberto Rodriguez	Silver Spring Regional Center		X
Vacant	Montgomery County Police		
Staff			
Nakengi Byrd	DOT, Commuter Services	X	
Jim Carlson	DOT, Commuter Services	X	
Beth Dennard	DOT, Commuter Services	X	
Guests			
Amy Federman	MC Resident	X	
Michelle Goldman	MC Commuter Services	X	
Wendy Melis	MC Resident	X	
Peter Tantisunthorn	Silver Spring, Inc.	X	