

Montgomery County **RAPID TRANSIT**

BRT CORRIDOR STUDIES



CAC Kickoff Meeting – 2.28.15

- CAC Kickoff Meeting held on February 28, 2015 (snow date)
- All five CACs together for general session
 - Held at EOB
 - About 130 attendees
 - Opportunity to review display boards and meet project team members, County and State officials and other CAC members



CAC Kickoff Meeting Speakers

- BRT Vision
 - County Executive Leggett
 - Councilmember Marc Elrich
- Agency Roles
 - MTA – Kevin Quinn
 - SHA – Greg Slater
 - MCDOT – Al Roshdieh
- Keynote Presentation: Cliff Henke, BRT Specialist
- Montgomery County RTS: Joana Conklin



CAC Kickoff Meeting – Individual group meetings

- All five CACs held first meeting after the general session
 - MD 355 South
 - MD 355 North
 - MD 586 (Veirs Mill Road)
 - US 29 South
 - US 29 North



MD 355 South CAC Meeting #1



Veirs Mill Road CAC Meeting #1

CAC Meeting #1 Agenda

- Introductions
- Review of Opening Session
 - Item that was noteworthy, interesting or important
- Review of Corridor
 - Focus on Transportation and Transit
- Mission Statement and Ground Rules
- Meeting Logistics
- Q & A
- Homework Exercise
 - Locations within corridor that are viewed as strengths and weaknesses
- Meeting Summaries
 - Reviewed by CAC members
 - Posted on website

CAC Meeting #1 Map Exercise

- Please answer the following questions and indicate locations where possible on the map:

Blue

- How do you/people you know use transit?
 - Your/their bus stop, metro station, route to get there, etc.

Yellow

- How do you see BRT making the corridor more attractive?
 - Increasing travel choice, economic development, beautification, etc.

Pink

- For what purpose do you use the corridor?
 - Commute to your job, shop, recreate, build your vision, etc.

- What would make taking transit more attractive?
 - Locations of issues, opportunities

Purple

- What concerns do you have?
 - Locations of impact

Green



US 29 South CAC Meeting #1 Map Exercise montgomerycountymd.gov/rts

CAC Meeting #1 Common Themes

- Interested in BRT's potential as more than a commuter system, for nighttime and weekend use
- Access to transit; people shouldn't have to walk 20 minutes to get there, need circulator to get to the BRT
- Need to consider how to involve (partner with) other jurisdictions (such as Howard County) since their residents will take advantage of the BRT
- Whatever solution is chosen, access for those with bicycles must be considered
- The project should examine lines running East/West through the County; there are many riders who have a hard time getting to the North/South roads and transit lines

CAC Meeting #1 Common Themes

- How would a new BRT service affect the existing bus service? Would the Ride On service be in competition with the new BRT service?
- Are the station locations shown in the Master Plan set?
- BRT needs to be seen as part of an integrated system. The objective of the system should be focused on total transit throughput
- More discussion on the economic development impact of BRT is needed
- What is the cost of this system? How will it be paid for?
- Questions about the composition and role of CACs:
 - How were CACs formed?
 - Is this a done deal? Do you really care about our input?
 - Why advisory and not a decision-making group?

CAC Meeting #2

(all meetings 6:30-8:30pm)

- **Veirs Mill Road (MD 586) CAC**
 - Wednesday, March 25
 - EOB Auditorium
 - Future meetings to be held at EOB Auditorium
- **US 29 North CAC**
 - Thursday, March 26
 - East County Regional Service Center
 - Future meetings at East County RSC
- **US 29 South CAC**
 - Tuesday, March 31
 - Silver Spring Civic Center (Fenton Room)
 - Future meetings at Silver Spring Civic Center and White Oak Community Center
- **MD 355 North CAC**
 - Tuesday, April 14
 - EOB Auditorium
 - Future meetings to be held at Upcounty RSC
- **MD 355 South CAC**
 - Thursday, April 16
 - EOB Auditorium
 - Future meetings to be held at Bethesda RSC
- **Meeting #2 Agendas**
 - Future Meeting Topics
 - Project Development Process (including role of Functional Master Plan)
 - Introduction of Purpose & Need

Veirs Mill Road (MD 586) CAC

- Veirs Mill Road (MD 586) CAC will follow different path than US 29 and MD 355
- Veirs Mill Road BRT study began prior to the development and approval of the Countywide Transit Corridors Functional Master Plan
- After Council approved Master plan, they required Corridor Advisory Committees (CAC) for each corridor
- Although CAC for Veirs Mill Road starting at a later stage, still significant opportunity for meaningful input
- Meeting #2 to focus on Purpose & Need; Meeting #3 on Alternatives Retained for Detailed Study

Future Meetings and Community Engagement

- GreenFest this weekend
- CAC Meeting #3
 - Late Spring (Dates TBD)
 - Topics will include:
 - Purpose & Need
 - Information to be presented at public workshops (MD 355 and US 29)
- June public workshops (MD 355 and US 29)
 - Locations/Dates still TBD
 - Will present to public:
 - Purpose & Need
 - Preliminary Alternatives
 - Typical Sections
 - Traffic Data

***We invite you to stay for the Veirs Mill
Road CAC meeting tonight***

Questions?

