



**FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA
Friendship Heights Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee Meeting
March 9, 2021**

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Chair: Barbara Condos Vice Chair: John Mertens
Staff Contact: Jim Carlson / (301) 318-0328
james.carlson@montgomerycountymd.gov

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- | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:30 | 1. Introductions/Agenda Review (additions/deletions) | Barbara Condos |
| | 2. Review of Meeting Minutes | |
| 8:35 | 3. Presentation-Personal Rapid Transit | Peter James |
| 9:10 | 4. Metro FY22 Budget | Gary Erenrich
MCDOT-Special Assistant to the Director |
| 9:25 | 5. Employer TDM Reports
Summary (©5) | Jim Carlson |
| 9:30 | 6. Marketing Outreach Update | David Proctor
Nadiya Kutishcheva
TMD Outreach Staff |
| 9:35 | 7. TMD/DOT/Other County Updates | Sandra Brecher
Derrick Harrigan
Iftin Thompson
Jim Carlson |
| 10:00 | 8. Adjourn
<i>Next meeting date: May 11, 2021</i> | |

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Information Items

*Ride On schedule changes*

*CSS Telework Webinar – Covid Lessons Learned available online*

*MCDOT Seeks Applicants for Ride On Transit Advisory Group*

*Metro Board to host four virtual public hearings on FY22 budget*

**Friendship Heights TMD**  
**Traffic Demand Management Plan Summary**  
**March 2021**

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Code Requirements:

1. *Contact person designated to receive and distribute commuter information to employees*
2. *Information on transit and other commute alternatives distributed/ posted regularly (furnished by Commuter Services/CSS)*
3. *Facilitate CSS/TMD staff presentations and commuter information events for employees and HR/administrative staff. This could include benefits fares and other employer-sponsored events*
4. *Guaranteed Ride Home Promotion (free regional program offering emergency rides)*
5. *Annual Commuter Survey distributed to employees (short survey of transportation– supplied by CSS/TMD)*
6. *ADA information provided (transportation services for people with disabilities)*
7. *Permanent display area for bus schedules and other transportation information*
8. *Compile information on yearly TDM activities and submit annual report*

| <b>Employer</b>  | <b>Status</b>                                                                                                       | <b>Recommend to MCDOT</b> |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Microsoft</b> | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flexible schedules</li></ul> | Yes                       |



**Snow Information Portal | MCDOT Shared Streets**

**COVID-19 Transportation changes, updates, and resources | Información actual,  
recursos de transporte y cambios**

# ***Press Releases - Department of Transportation***

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## MCDOT Ride On Bus Schedule Changes Beginning Sunday, Feb. 28, Will Increase Overall Service and Improve Efficiency

**For Immediate Release: Wednesday, February 24, 2021**



Montgomery County's Department of Transportation (MCDOT) will adjust Ride On bus service schedules starting Sunday, Feb. 28, to increase service in areas with growing passenger demand. The changes reflect the continuing shift of resources toward schedule patterns prior to the COVID-19 health crisis. The revisions will increase Ride On and Ride On extRa service to nearly 80 percent of pre-pandemic levels.

Flash, the unique service which since October has been operating on Colesville Road/ Columbia Pike (US 29) and Lockwood Drive with destinations including Downtown Silver Spring, Four Corners, White Oak, Fairland and Burtonsville, continues to be fully operational.

The pilot on-demand Flex service in the Rockville and Wheaton/Glenmont areas remains suspended.

Ride On planners have monitored ridership data and user feedback to identify routes that could achieve more efficiencies with schedule updates. That information led to the 22 routes that will have schedule changes starting Feb. 28.

Extra buses continue to be stationed at all Metro stations in the County and are ready to deploy to nearby service routes experiencing levels of demand that cannot be met by buses under the standard schedule. In addition, based on new housing developments and community inputs, there are route design changes on five routes.

The affected routes are:

- Route 58 will end at the Lakeforest Transit Center every trip. See Route 61 for service along Watkins Mill Road/Frederick Road. Riders on Route 58 going to the Kaiser Permanente Center, will require transfer to Route 61 at Lakeforest Transit Center.
- Route 61 will now serve Watkins Mill Road, including the Kaiser Permanente Center, and will continue to the Lakeforest Transit Center along MD355. Riders going to MARC and the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) office would transfer to Route 78 along Clopper Road. Riders going to locations along Firstfield and Quince Orchard roads would transfer to Route 56 on Clopper Road and Firstfield.

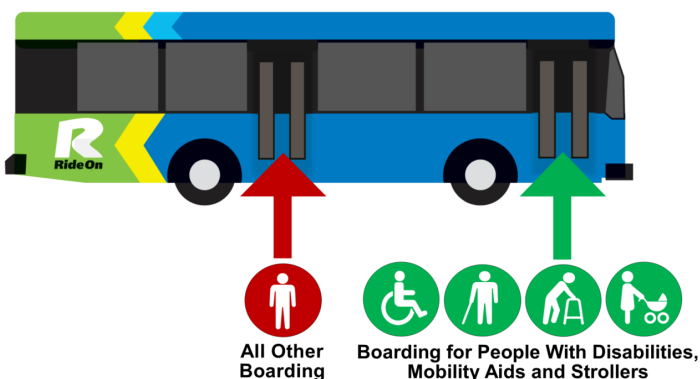
- Route 78 will serve the Metropolitan Grove MARC and Maryland MVA with the service change to Route 61 operating along Watkins Mill Road. Mid-day service has been added.
- Route 83 will serve the new Black Hill development. The route will serve Crystal Rock Drive and Century Boulevard in a one-way loop travelling to and from the Germantown Transit Center.
- Route 36 will no longer serve the stop at the Connelly School of the Holy Child, per the request of the school.

Routes that will have schedule changes and some improved frequencies

include 1, 5, 10, 11, 15, 16, 20, 26, 34, 36, 43, 46, 48, 49, 54, 55, 58, 59, 61, 74, 78 and 83.

The new schedule webpage with detailed information can be viewed at [montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-transit/routesandschedules/rideonroutes.html](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-transit/routesandschedules/rideonroutes.html).

All Ride On routes are in operation, but ridership capacity remains limited to support safe distancing between riders where possible. Operational changes implemented by MCDOT during the health crisis for riders boarding buses will remain in place. All passengers are required to wear a face covering to board and must continue wearing the covering for the entire time on the bus. All buses have a supply of face coverings for riders who cannot provide their own.



Riders are asked to maintain maximum physical distance between themselves and other riders who are not from the same household. Passengers generally must board at the rear door of the bus, but can board through the front door if a ramp is needed to accommodate a disability or stroller. Divider partitions are currently being installed to facilitate front door entry and increased passenger capacity.

Ride On services remain free to all passengers—a temporary change made during the health crisis.

Bus interiors will continue to be cleaned by the County's Department of General Services twice daily with hospital-grade disinfectant. Bus filter and ventilation systems are treated each night with a disinfectant.

For the most up-to-date service information, riders should follow @RideOnMCT on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. In addition, information is available at [RideOnBus.com](http://RideOnBus.com) or by subscribing to "Ride On Services" email alerts. Rider can receive text alerts by texting MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311.

For transportation updates, follow @MCDOTNow on Twitter, visit the department website at [montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot), subscribe to MCDOT news releases or subscribe to MCDOT's 'Go Montgomery!' newsletter.



**Snow Information Portal | MCDOT Shared Streets**

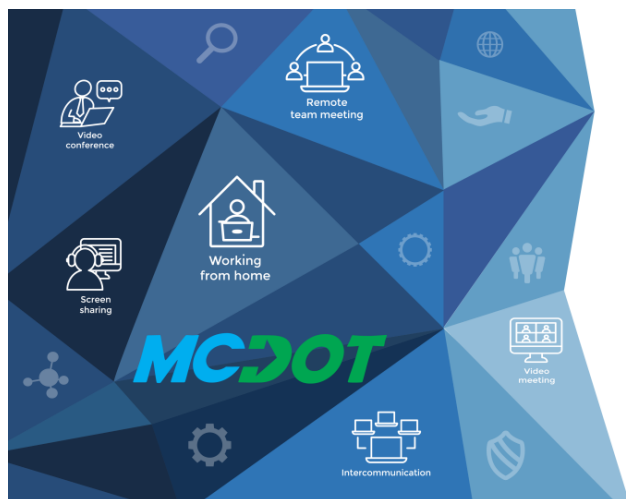
**COVID-19 Transportation changes, updates, and resources | Información actual, recursos de transporte y cambios**

# ***Press Releases - Department of Transportation***

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## MCDOT's Employer Focused Webinar on Teleworking During COVID-19; Lessons Learned Over the Past Ten Months Now Available Online

For Immediate Release: Monday, March 1, 2021



### **MCDOT Webinar for Employers on Teleworking**

Lessons Learned During COVID-19  
and Look Ahead to Future Trends  
and Solutions for Telework

**Better Ways To Work!**  
Montgomery County Computer Services

On Thursday, February 11, Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) Commuter Services hosted an informative webinar for employers that offer teleworking, featuring Elham Shirazi, a telework expert with over 30 years' experience who discussed lessons and trends that organizations and employees are realizing as a result of working from home in the past ten months.

Other topics covered were employees' views about returning to a physical workplace, their desired amount of teleworking, need for resources and assistance, work from home and video conferencing fatigue, as well as employers' reactions to working from home, dealing with employee wellness and mental health, and employee engagements. There was also an overview of Montgomery County's FareShare transit subsidy program.

The webinar was recorded and now available for viewing online at [ow.ly/150430rxz](https://ow.ly/150430rxz).

Follow Commuter Services on Twitter and Instagram to learn about more services on their webpage.

For ongoing updates, follow @MCDOTNow on Twitter, visit the department website at [montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot), subscribe to MCDOT news releases or subscribe to MCDOT's 'Go Montgomery!' newsletter.

*Release ID: 21-022*

*Media Contact: Hannah Henn 240-777-8389*



Sign up for

Go Montgomery

Ride On Alerts

# MCDOT Seeks Applicants for Ride On Transit Advisory Group by April 5; High School Students and Bilingual Adults Encouraged to Apply

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For Immediate Release: Friday, March 5, 2021

## Transit Advisory Group

Are you a public transit fan?



**MCDOT**

**Ride On**  
Montgomery County Transit

Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (MCDOT) Division of Transit Services seeks bus riders to fill positions on the Ride On Transit Advisory Group (TAG). TAG acts as a consumer advisory panel, serves as a sounding board for Transit Services, and provides feedback on Ride On policies, services, and programs.

County residents who represent a broad range of interests, such as transit ridership advocacy, community advocacy, environmental protection, economic development, transportation equity, and issues concerning seniors and the disabled are urged to apply. Consideration will also be given to applicants that represent each Ride On geographic service area. Three bus operators also serve as members of the advisory group. The membership term is two years, and meetings are held three times a year virtually (since COVID) and were previously held at the Montgomery County Executive Office Building in Rockville.

Montgomery County's Ride On system provides fixed-route and on-demand bus service to residents and visitors in Montgomery County, Maryland. Since Ride on began service in 1975, 22 million trips

were completed annually (pre COVID) on 79 routes with more than 5,400 stops across the county. Services include Ride On extRa, Ride On Flex and Flash.

Applicants can find more details and apply [online](#) by April 5, 2021. High School students are encouraged to apply and will receive Student Service Learning (SSL) hours.

For more information, call (240) 777-5800.

For the most up-to-date service information, riders should follow Ride On on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#). In addition, information is available at [RideOnBus.com](#) or by [subscribing](#) to "Ride On Services" email alerts. Rider can receive text alerts by texting MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311.

For transportation updates, follow [@MCDOTNow](#) on Twitter, visit the department website at [montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot](#), [subscribe](#) to MCDOT news releases or [subscribe](#) to MCDOT's 'Go Montgomery!' newsletter.

*Release ID: 21-023*

*Media Contact: Hannah Henn 240-777-8389*



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## Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

[Metro](#)  
[Home](#)

For immediate release: March 4, 2021

# Next week: Metro Board to host four virtual public hearings on FY22 budget

The Metro Board of Directors' [ongoing public comment period](#) for the proposed [Fiscal Year 2022 budget](#) will feature four virtual public hearings next week.

Metro is facing a significant budget shortfall due to a decrease in ridership caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, with ridership down about 90 percent and 60 percent on Metrorail and Metrobus, respectively. Metro is working with its Congressional delegation to secure additional funding to continue providing service as the region comes back to work. But service cuts remain a looming threat, and Metro must plan accordingly.

Information about the proposed service changes is available at [wmata.com/budget](http://wmata.com/budget).

To provide oral testimony at a hearing, participants must call toll-free 512-580-8850 and enter the four-digit meeting code, shown below, for the Public Hearing you'd like to attend. The public may watch or listen to the hearings live at [wmata.com/budget](http://wmata.com/budget), on [YouTube.com/MetroForward](https://www.youtube.com/MetroForward), or by calling toll-free 512-580-8850 and entering in the four-digit meeting code shown below.

### **Monday, March 8, 2021, 11 a.m.**

- Host: Board Member Paul Smedberg
- Meeting Code: 9476

### **Monday, March 8, 2021, 6 p.m.**

- Hearing will focus on proposed changes in DC, but is open to everyone.
- Host: Board Member Stephanie Gidigbi-Jenkins
- Meeting Code: 3811

### **Tuesday, March 9, 2021, 6 p.m.**

- Hearing will focus on proposed changes in Maryland, but is open to everyone.
- Host: Board Member Michael Goldman
- Meeting Code: 9131

### **Wednesday, March 10, 2021, 6 p.m.**

- Hearing will focus on proposed changes in Virginia, but is open to everyone.
- Hosts: Board Members Paul Smedberg and Walter Alcorn

- Meeting Code: 9141

The public comment period ends at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16. In addition to the virtual hearings, feedback can be provided:

- Online: Take the survey and submit written comments [here](#) ([en Español](#))
- By phone: Call toll-free 844-468-5748. Language support is provided in Arabic, Amharic, Chinese (Mandarin, Cantonese), Farsi, Korean, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Public feedback will be provided to Metro's Board of Directors in April 2021 as part of the final decision-making process. Any Board-approved changes will begin after Board approval in April 2021.

## Public outreach

Metro is notifying customers and lapsed riders about the opportunity to provide feedback in a variety of ways. Signs in English and Spanish are posted in rail stations, Metrobus and MetroAccess vehicles, and at bus stops across the region. In addition to English and Spanish language materials, information about the proposed service changes is available at [wmata.com/budget](https://wmata.com/budget) in multiple languages – Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, French, Korean, Somali, and Vietnamese.

Customer outreach teams have also been deployed to all Metrorail stations to increase awareness and encourage feedback. The systemwide in-person outreach effort is designed to help ensure feedback is collected from minority, low income, and limited English proficiency riders who continue to use the bus and rail system during the ongoing pandemic.