

**Friendship Heights
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
October 11, 2016**

Voting Members

Barbara Condos (Vice Chair)	Town of Somerset
Elizabeth Demetra Harris	Friendship Heights Village
John Mertens	Friendship Heights Village

Non-Voting Members

Sandra L. Brecher	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services
Katie Mencarini	M-NCPPC

TMD Staff

Nakengi Byrd	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services
Jim Carlson	MCDOT/Transportation Policy-Commuter Services

Absent

Tiffany L. Anderson (Chair)	Chevy Chase Land Company
Charles Crerand	CBRE Asset Services/Wisconsin Place
Joe Dixon	GEICO
Chief John Fitzgerald	Chevy Chase Village Police
Matthew Folden	M-NCPPC
Kenneth Hartman	B-CC Services Center
Christopher Itteilag	Somerset House Management Association
Manuel Ochoa	Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights
Charles Simpson	Chevy Chase Village

Guests

Emily Davis	Sharp & Co.
Gary Erenrich	MCDOT
Bob Joiner	The Agenda News

Abbreviations

CID = Commuter Information Day
MARC = Maryland Area Regional Commuter
OLO = Office of Legislative Oversight
T&E Committee = Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee
TMAG = Traffic Mitigation Agreement
TMP = Traffic Mitigation Plan

Item 1, 2 & 3 Introductions/Minutes/Chair Comments: Barbara Condos called meeting to order. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Item 4 – Update-SafeTrack: Gary Erenrich, MCDOT Special Assistant to the Director-WMATA Affairs, updated the Committee on Metro’s SafeTrack progress. Surges 6 &7, which affected the Red Line are completed and Surge 9 is currently underway. Surge 6 was single tracking that affected 100,000 riders; however, Surge 10, coming up Oct. 29 - Nov. 22, will have a greater impact due to station closures between NoMa and Ft. Totten. There will be a free shuttle during AM/PM rush hour between Silver Spring–Ft. Totten stations around every 7-8 minutes. The County is also suggesting telecommuting and other alternative modes of travel. Other items discussed:

- Surge 10 will have a 50 percent reduction in service, with trains coming every six minutes instead of every three minutes between Union Station and Grosvenor - use the Green Line train at Gallery Place, the free shuttle in Silver Spring and additional bus service as alternatives.
- Discounted ticket sales for the MARC train will be promoted as an alternative for stations where it is available. Committee member noted that foldable bikes are permitted on MARC.
- Ride On is retaining many from its retiring bus fleet to serve as shuttles.
- No parking restrictions in force on Wisconsin Avenue during the surge to free a lane for buses.
- Public hearing Oct. 20th with public written comments Oct.25th regarding four proposals for reducing late night operations to have more time for routine maintenance.
- Late night operation reduction can be accompanied by buses because it will only affect a couple of hundred riders.
- Bus service will be utilized to mimic rail service, such as the L2 & L4 service being extended from Van Ness along Connecticut Avenue into Friendship Heights.
- Action taken resulting from Metro’s public hearings will go into effect July 1, 2017.
- Studies show that people who are out late nights tend to use Uber/Lyft and not Metro – SafeTrack providing opportunity to establish late night industry inside Montgomery County to avoid Metro travel into DC.
- *PlanItMetro* (www.planitmetro.com) provides frequent ridership updates.
- Suggestion to promote riding the bus to tourists as a better option to sightsee.

Item 5 – Employer TMP Annual Reports: Mr. Carlson briefed the Committee on nine employer Traffic Mitigation Plans (TMP) Annual Reports. The companies that submitted reports have met the eight requirements for promoting transit options to their employees and also have a variety of voluntary measures in place. He asked the Committee recommends that the Department Director approve the reports (a summary sheet was provided to members). **Emily Davis** from Sharp & Co. added:

- Pacific Western Bank is increasing transit benefits to the maximum \$255 a month in 2017.
- Wedding Wire has expressed interest in the FareShare program.
- Sharp and Co. is currently working with Sachs and Capital Grille and has a Commuter Information Day (CID) scheduled with JBG Companies.

Item 6 – Updates: Sande Brecher announced:

- A workgroup w/in MCDOT is looking at ways to streamline the current Traffic Mitigation Agreement (TMAg) process with developers. A consulting group has issued a report, currently under internal review.
- There is a Council work session of the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment (T&E) Committee on October 13th.
- The Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) reviewed Commuter Services’ oversight of the County’s TMDs and gave an overall positive evaluation. Item for follow up is the TMD biennial report, a draft of which will be completed shortly and submitted for Committee review.

Item 7 – Marketing Outreach Update: **Emily Davis**, Sharp & Co., commented that Kevin Price will attend for Sharp at the November meeting.

Item 8 – Around the Room: **Ms. Condos** reiterated that crosswalk markings in and around the TMD, such as Wisconsin & Willard, are faded and need to be restriped.