

**Silver Spring
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
September 14, 2017**

Item 1, 2 – Introductions/Minutes/Chair Comments: **Jim Bunch** called meeting to order. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Item 3 – Will Kenlaw, MCDOT Division of Transit Services, discussed Ride On's new limited stop service, Ride On extRa, which will serve riders between Lakeforest Mall Transit Center and Medical Center Metro Station.

With 850 employees, 650 of which are bus operators, the Ride On system is one of the top 10 suburban neighborhood transit systems. Metrobus operates on the main arteries. Senior and low income service is also available.

The new service, starting October 2nd, will reduce some congestion on MD 355 and increase capacity on Routes 46 & 55. In the past, five extra buses were added to the MD 355 corridor, but quickly hit capacity; thus, the need for the limited stop extRa service. The service is to be a precursor to the BRT system that will start on Rt. 29 in 2020. Other features of the system include:

- Service will be stopping at 12 of the 80 stops along the corridor
- Traffic Signal Priority at 30 signals keeps light green for extended time to allow buses through intersections
- Regular bus service runs 1½ hours on MD 355; extRa service averages 52-58 minutes
- Runs every 10 minutes during peak period M-F – no traditional schedules printed
- 17 buses dedicated to extRa service -14 on route plus three spares
- USB and Wi-Fi equipped with extra padding on seats
- Service connects to Ride On stops and six Metro stations
- Twelve bus stops with special signage and branding with artwork and monitors displaying runtimes -new shelters built in Gaithersburg and Rockville municipalities
- Ninety percent of the volume will be in the direction of Lake Forest Transit Center in the morning peak, and to Medical Center during the evening peak
- Service will go into Shady Grove station, Montgomery College, Rockville and Medical Center; however, service will not go into Twinbrook & Grosvenor stations
- No loading of SmarTrip cards on extRa buses, which slows down service
- Free rides during the month of October
- Metro is discontinuing routes J7 & J9; extRa service will provide an alternative not a replacement
- Included in the bus safety features are sliding doors and rear safety lights

Mr. Kenlaw reported his team conducted a soft launch in April and hard launch in July with a press event at the County Fair that included County Executive **Ike Leggett** and County Council member **George Leventhal**. Paid social media advertisements, radio, digital ads and outreach teams were also part of the launch.

Item 4 – Future Agenda Items: **The Committee** discussed the key issues in the TMD:

- Pedestrian safety update
- Address lack of communication between jurisdictions and agencies, such as SHA & MCDOT
- The need for an interdisciplinary group like the Interim Operating Site (IOS) for Transit Center operations

- An explanation of zoning for parking during construction
- **Valerie Spencer** is not listed on the Purple Line webpage as Corridor Advisory Committee Member

Item 5 – Employer Outreach Update: Van Eperen & Co. announced:

- Walk & Ride Challenge
- PARK(ing)day – will convert two parking spaces into parks
- Car Free Day – September 22nd

Other announcements:

- Ride On “Seniors Ride Free” hours expanded to Saturdays 8:30am-4pm (9:30-3 M-F)
- 8,000 new residential unit coming on line-new construction discussion
- New providers for Peter Pan bus service starting September 27th

Around the Room:

Discussion continued regarding the new bike lane construction designed to create traffic problems by narrowing streets to put in lanes. It was requested that more planning and coordination before the lanes are installed at Cedar and Spring Streets. Some commented that the bike lanes are designed to calm traffic, making riders feel safer traveling in the Silver Spring CBD.

Adjourn:

Next meeting October 11, 2017

**Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee Attendance Sheet
September 14, 2017**

Voting Members (12)			
Name	Affiliation	Present	Absen
Chamber Members (3)			
Chris Kabatt	Wells + Associates	X	
Michael Meszaros	Digital Industry, Inc.	X	
Juanita Stewart	The Peterson Companies		X
Citizens Advisory Board Members (3)			
Jim Bunch / Vice Chair	Kemp Mill, Four Corners, East SS	X	
Phil Olivetti	North & West Sector Plan Area	X	
Randall McLeod	CBD Resident		X
Employers less than 50 employees (3)			
Valerie Spencer	MayaTech	X	
Vacant			
Wendy Melis	SWANA		X
Employers with 50 or more employees			
G. Michael Price	Discovery Communications	X	
Adenia Bradley	Southern Management		X
Vacant			
Non-Voting Members (3)			
Sandra Brecher, DOT-Commuter Services	MCDOT Director or Designee	X	
Katie Mencarini	M-NCPPC	X	
Reemberto Rodriguez	Silver Spring Regional Center		X
Sgt. Kerry Moore	Montgomery County Police		X
Staff			
Nakengi Byrd	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
Jim Carlson	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
Guests			
Debra Buck	Van Eperen & Co.	X	
Will Kenlaw	MCDOT-Transit Services	X	
Harriet Quinn	4-Corners Resident	X	