

**Greater Shady Grove
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
December 7, 2016**

**Johns Hopkins University
Montgomery County Campus
9601 Medical Center Dr., Rockville MD 20850
Gilchrist Hall / Room 227**

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**Voting**

- Dr. Antoine Banks** / Westside Neighborhood
- John Brandt** / Universities at Shady Grove
- Steven Kelley** / NIH-National Cancer Institute
- Ellen Poltilove** / Johns Hopkins University
- McClellan Quinn** / EYA
- Randy Scritchfield** / Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber
- Jordan Snow** / 1788 Holdings

**Non-Voting**

- Joseph Allen** / Neighborhood Representative – Gaithersburg

**Ex Officio**

- Sandra Brecher** / Representing Montgomery County Dept. of Transportation (MCDOT) Director
- Capt. Thomas Didone** / Montgomery County Police
- Catherine Matthews** / Upcounty Regional Services Center

**Staff**

- Nakengi Byrd** / Montgomery County Commuter Services
- Jim Carlson** / Montgomery County Commuter Services

**Absent**

- Ed Axler** / M-NCPPC

**Guests**

- Kirk Eby** /City of Gaithersburg
- Benjamin Garcia** / Westside Neighborhood
- Ghemelle Johnson** / NIH – National Cancer Institute
- Melissa DiMercurio** / Van Eperen & Company – TMD Outreach
- Caterina Ore** / Van Eperen & Company
- Maria Sofia** / Germantown Resident
- Laura Van Eperen** / Van Eperen & Company

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Item 1 & 2 – Introductions/Minutes: Members and guests introduced themselves. **Jim Carlson** reviewed vacancies that still need to be filled on the Committee: three Private Sector Employers, three

Residential and one Developer position. **Ms. Brecher** requested help from Committee members to identify possible candidates in the TMD to fill the slots.

The Committee agreed to the November meeting minutes.

Mr. Carlson reported that scheduled speaker **David Anspacher** was not able to present today on the Bicycle Master Plan.

Item 3 – TMD Biennial Report Draft: **Mr. Carlson** presented a draft of the TMD Biennial Report that describes the operations and metrics of the Greater Shady Grove TMD. He invited changes and suggestions to the draft via electronic drop box document. Features of the report discussed were the following:

- Overview of outreach activities and goals met reducing traffic congestion
- Pedestrian and bicycle access and safety
- An explanation of Non-Auto Driver Mode Share (NADMS) goals and the stages based on the future build-out of the TMD
- Traffic Mitigation Plans (TMPs) – employer based vs Traffic Mitigation Agreements (TMAs) – developer based
- Events such as Bike to Work Day, Car Free Day and the Walk & Ride Challenge
- Annual Commuter Survey – employer participation is key for planning purposes and there are a number of incentives offered to encourage participation
- A discussion regarding studying transit use based on proximity to Metro – looking at where people commute from, with Montgomery County as the highest at 58 percent, followed by Frederick and Northern Virginia
- Commuter Services is currently funded to operate within the unincorporated Life Sciences Center of the TMD, pending funding from the cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg
- **Catherine Matthews** suggested including a section on the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project in the report

Item 4 – Marketing Outreach Update: **Melissa DiMercurio**, Van Eperen & Co., introduced **Caterina Ore** as a new outreach associate. She also announced:

- Van Eperen staff participated in BioReliance Health Fair and asked the Committee to let her know of other event and outreach opportunities
- Discoverly residents were invited to join the Committee to fill a residential vacancy, and there have been follow-up discussions with FINRA's **Angela Taylor** to fill an employer slot
- Continuing to do monthly fairs with NCI, FINRA and ARC
- Companies are interested in the FareShare program; however, they have to review their budgets and are asking for additional information not provided on the brochure. They find that the reimbursement payment via the County's vendor system and the general logistics can be challenging

Item 5 – Updates: **Capt. Tom Didone** said that Montgomery County averages 20,000 collisions a year, 10,000 of which are usually not reported because they are considered "Dash 1", minimal property damage. 4,000 crashes involve injuries, and so far this year there have been 33 fatalities.

Capt. Didone said his team works with **Jeff Dunckel**, MC Pedestrian Safety Coordinator, to monitor the County's High Incident Areas (HIAs). None of the HIAs are currently in the Greater Shady Grove area; however, the Shady Grove Road and Route 355 intersection has the highest number of crashes.

Pedestrian and cyclist crashes have been reduced due to slowing traffic speed via engineering, education and enforcement. **Capt. Didone** also noted:

- The different levels of collision severity:
 - Level 1 – property damage
 - Level 2 – property damage and possible injury
 - Level 3 – non-incapacitating injury
 - Level 4 – serious injury
 - Level 5 – fatality
- Pedestrians and cyclists struck at 25-30 mph have a 70-80 percent chance of survival, but only a 20-25 percent survival rate at 40 mph
- Pedestrians and cyclists are at fault about 40 percent of the time in Levels 1-3 and 60-70 percent in Levels 4-5, usually due to the pedestrian assuming they have an automatic right-of-way. However, cars must be given adequate time to stop and for drivers to make eye contact. When crossing at crosswalks and mid-block, assume at least 120 ft. stopping distance
- Crossing midblock is considered jaywalking when there are traffic signals at both ends of the block
- Once a ped/cyclist has established themselves in the crosswalk, traffic must yield
- Vision Zero is a Sweden concept adopted by the County of reducing traffic fatalities to zero
- New developments are being designed with more ped/bike infrastructure using new technologies, such as flashing beacons and pedestrian activated modified crossing signals – retrofitting is a long process

Ms. Brecher announced:

- Surge 10 of Metro's SafeTrack program has been completed
- Public hearing December 15th on Metro's budget cuts – J7, J9 and I 270 express bus service is due to be eliminated or significantly reduced to make up for \$300 million deficit. Also, rail operation hours will be cut to allow more time for maintenance
- BRT Outreach team is ramping up with a naming campaign
- Commuter Services is working with Finance to include TMD fees in the tax bill, rather than using a separate invoice process (used currently)
- **Ms. Mathews** announced that the Planning Board is meeting regarding the Shady Grove Sector plan and the Parks Department training facility on Crabbs Branch Way
- The **County Executive** Budget Forums are coming up:
 - January 11, Eastern Montgomery Regional Center
 - January 18, Mid-County Community Rec Center
 - January 25, Silver Spring Civic Building
 - January 30, BlackRock Center for the Arts – Germantown

Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting date: January 4, 2017