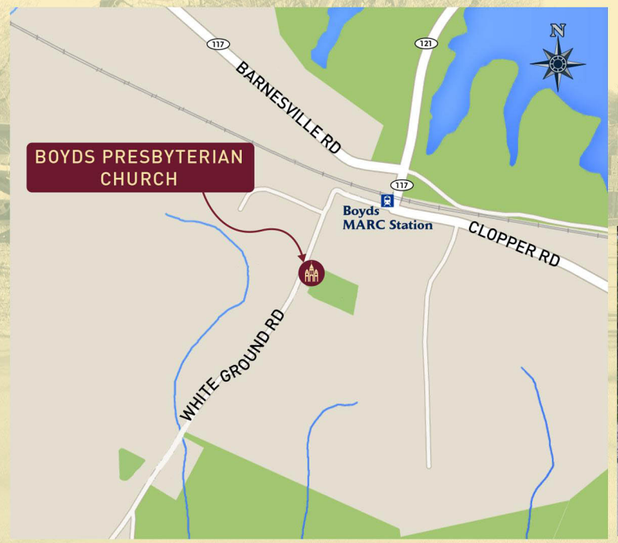
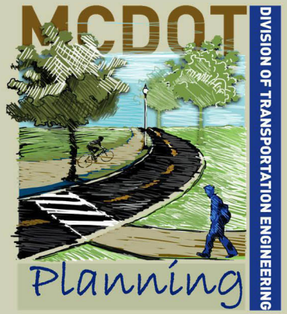
Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT)
DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING
100 Edison Park Drive, 4th Floor
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
Phone: 240. 777. 7231 • Fax: 240. 777. 7277

BOYDS TRANSIT IMPROVEMENTS PUBLIC MEETING

January 16, 2014 - 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM
Boyds Presbyterian Church - Earle L. Vail Education Building
19901 White Ground Road - Boyds, MD 20841



Directions to the Boyds Transit Improvements Public Meeting:
Take I-270 exit 18 for MD-121 S toward Boyds. Turn left onto MD-121 S/Clarksburg Rd. Continue to follow MD-121 S. Turn right onto White Ground Rd. Facility will be on your left.



ISIAH LEGGETT
Montgomery County Executive

Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT)

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For alternative formats of this newsletter, contact the Division of Transportation Engineering at 240. 777. 7220
TTY users call MD relay.

The Plan Ahead is a project newsletter published by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT).

December 2013

THE PLAN AHEAD

ARTHUR HOLMES, JR. - *Director Department of Transportation*

BOYDS TRANSIT IMPROVEMENTS

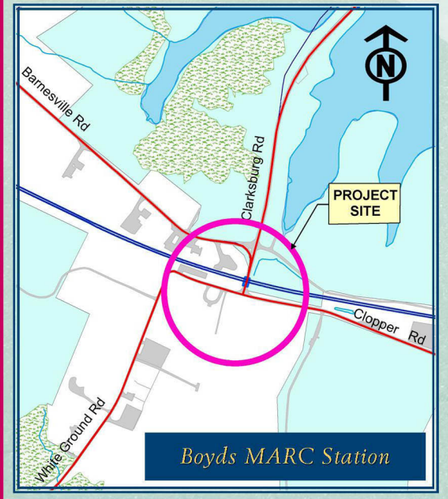
FACILITY PLANNING STUDY IN PROGRESS

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) is continuously looking for ways to expand its transit service to better serve the citizens within the County. MCDOT believes an extensive transit system builds a great community that is accessible to everyone.

Accordingly, MCDOT's Division of Transportation Engineering (DTE) initiated a Facility Planning, Phase I Study to evaluate the need for improvements at the Boyds MARC Station on White Ground Road in Boyds, MD. Due to future development, MCDOT's Ride On transit service is expanding in the future to Clarksburg and will provide service to the Boyds MARC station, Clarksburg's closest station. An area, now part of a farm field owned by Montgomery County Park & Planning Commission, has been identified for additional parking and bus access to serve this expansion. The Boyds Transit Improvements was initiated as a result of a request from the Boyds Citizens Association for greater frequency of the MARC Brunswick line.

BOYDS MARC STATION

The Boyds MARC station is along the Maryland Transit Administration's MARC Brunswick line. It is currently a flag stop - a stop in which trains only stop by request or on an as-needed basis - with four stops in the morning rush hours and six stops in the evening rush hours. Development to the north of the station consists of primarily commercial properties, to the south of the station is White Ground Road and residential properties. White Ground Road is currently an undivided two-lane two-way roadway with a posted speed limit of 25 mph. There are no pedestrian or bicycle facilities along the roadway. There is an existing pedestrian tunnel for access to the other side of the tracks. The Boyds station and part of White Ground Road are located within the Boyds Historic District.



PUBLIC MEETING
January 16, 2014 7:30 PM—9:30 PM
Boyds Presbyterian Church
19901 White Ground Road
Boyds, MD 20841

MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The most recent Master Plan for the Boyds community is from February, 1985 and states the following:

- The transportation plan encourages the use of commuter rail for down-County work trips and proposes convenient access to the commuter rail station, both for vehicular trips and pedestrians. A sufficient number of parking spaces should be made available, ideally with a joint-use possibility.
- The Boyds Master Plan recommends that a local park be located at the intersection of Barnesville Road, Clopper Road, and White Ground Road. To serve this local park, an access road and parking area should be provided as well as improvements made to the sight distance in the vicinity of the B&O Railroad Bridge.

PUBLIC MEETING

This newsletter is to provide a brief overview of this project and to invite you to attend the public meeting where you can learn more information regarding this project and provide us with your input.

For more information, please contact Aruna Miller—Project Manager
Phone: 240. 777. 7240 ✦ Email: Aruna.Miller@montgomerycountymd.gov
Project Website: http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/Boyds/index.html

Public Input is the key to an effective planning process. Let MCDOT hear from you!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why is it important for me to attend this meeting?

MCDOT believes that public input is the key to an effective planning process because it allows the Study Team and decision makers to understand the needs of the community. The public meeting will also allow you to learn more about the project and provide an opportunity to voice your concerns.

What should I expect at the public workshop?

At the public meeting you will get an opportunity to meet the representatives from different agencies who are a part of the Study Team. Displays will be arranged where you can learn about the Facility Planning process and the alternatives being evaluated. You may ask questions of the Study Team and offer any suggestions that would meet the objectives of the project.

What if I can not attend the meeting? Is there any other way that I can be certain that you will receive my input?

We certainly understand that your schedule may not permit you to attend the public meeting. After the public meeting, the meeting materials will be available on the project website at

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/Boyds/index.html

The public will have three weeks (through **February 6, 2014**) to submit any comments. MCDOT encourages you to stay involved! The public may forward comments to MCDOT by the following manners:

- **By the attached postage-paid Public Comments Form;**
- **By regular mail to the Project Manager, Aruna Miller at 100 Edison Park Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878; and**
- **By e-mail to Aruna.Miller@montgomerycountymd.gov**

What is Facility Planning?

Facility Planning for transportation improvements is an evaluation process that furnishes design plans which are approximately 35% complete. It is managed in two phases. Phase I addresses two essential questions:

- What will the improvements be?
- Why are the improvements necessary?

Phase II addresses:

- How will the improvements be performed?
- How long will the design/construction take?
- How much will the improvements cost?

The components of both Phase I and II provide enough information for elected officials to determine whether or not the project is justified to be fully funded for design and construction.

What stage is the Boyds Transit Improvements?

The Boyds Transit Improvements is in Phase I of the Facility Planning Process, which is the beginning of the analysis. Phase I generally provides 15% design and involves:

1. Collecting background data, reviewing the Master Plan and identifying pending developments within the project limits;
2. Obtaining public input;
3. Developing concept plans;
4. Preparing preliminary cost estimates; and
5. Selecting a Recommended Alternative.

What happens after this meeting?

Your comments and concerns will be taken into consideration as the Study Team refines and finalizes various concepts. The concept that best addresses the project's purpose and need and the concerns of the community will be selected as the Recommended Alternative. A newsletter informing the community of the Recommended Alternative will be mailed to the public.

Who receives this newsletter?

The newsletter is mailed to Home Owner Associations representing the subject Study Area and property owners directly abutting the subject roadway whose names appear on the County's Geographical Information System (GIS) database. If you would like to receive future newsletters on the Boyds Transit Improvements MCDOT would be pleased to have your name added to the project's mailing list, please contact the Project Manager, Aruna Miller.

White Ground Road from Boyds MARC Station

MCDOT WANTS YOUR FEEDBACK

Montgomery County Department of Transportation

The MCDOT encourages you to provide your concerns on the postage-paid Public Comments Form included with this newsletter. If you have access to the internet, you may e-mail your comments directly to the project manager at: Aruna.Miller@montgomerycountymd.gov. Public input is the key to an effective planning process. It allows decision makers and elected officials to understand the concerns of the community. Once they are received, your comments become part of the public records. Due to the high volume of comments we receive, we regret that we are unable to respond to each inquiry. The MCDOT thanks you in advance for taking the time to provide your written comments and/or e-mail and assures you that all comments will be read and evaluated.

The Life of a Transportation Project

FACILITY PLANNING-PHASE I

Collect data, obtain public input, develop concept plans, evaluate and select preferred alignment/cross section. Obtain Director's and Montgomery County Council's Transportation Infrastructure, Energy and Environment committee (T&E) approval.

FACILITY PLANNING-PHASE II

Develop 35% design plans, cost estimates and project schedule. Submit to County Council for approval to include in Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

FINAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

If approved for full funding and is included in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), complete final design and construction

LEGEND

CURRENTLY FUNDED

NOT FUNDED