

SSCAB Meeting Summary – July 13, 2015- **APPROVED**

1. *Welcome/Introductions:* Chair Bernice North called the meeting to order at 7 pm
2. *Acceptance of last meeting summary:* June 8, 2015 meeting minutes accepted
3. *Presentations by Sgt. Ian Clark, 3rd District Police:*
 - From 6/1-7/12 -6 robberies and 1 attempt, 3 burglaries, 1 auto theft in the 'George District'
 - These are historically low stats for summer
 - Board requested broader Silver Spring stats to cover areas represented by board
 - Discussion on Synthetic drugs- seen on almost daily basis by MCPD. DC is source
4. *MCDOT Presentation:* Will Kenlaw and Howard Ben
 - VanGo is 'self-contained' 24-minute route that drivers find tedious. Looking for way to alleviate boredom. Ride-On practice of 'Interlining' allows driver to switch to another route after a couple round trips.
 - Ride-On is the 3rd or 4th largest suburban bus line in the country with more than 90,000 boarding's a day
 - www.rideonrealtime.com Real-Time location tracking via 2-way GPS works, but info does not get to public well. Very accurate on laptop/desktop- but not on mobile devices. Ride-On info can be accessed by www.transitapp.com which is very accurate.
 - 281 Ride-On buses needed for 100% capacity- usually a half-dozen busses out for repairs
 - Watch for Branding Campaign- possible new artwork on Van-Go, Visitor maps in bus shelters
5. *Recap of 6/29 Capital Improvement Program Forum held at the Civic Center.* SSCAB has been asked for a letter to comment on CIP priorities by the end of July. Board members who participated in break-out groups on various topics reported on key discussion points:

DGS Group: Praj Kasbekar

- DGS reports no 'big new projects' coming to Downtown.
- Condition of county structures is suffering with declining operating budgets. Can CIP augment operating funds to allow for adequate maintenance of buildings?
- Discussion underscored past references to importance of county's 'bond rating'.

Recreation: Lisa Martin

- Discussed proposals submitted for re-use of former Silver Spring Library. Proposal for Multi-generational facility seems most likely. SSCAB has gone on record several times in support of this concept.

Schools/Education: Stacey Brown

- Plans/construction of two elementary and two middle schools are underway
- In 6-10 years, it is anticipated there will be a need for a new high school.
- Current visions for school capacity: ES-750 students, MS -1200 students, HS-2400 students
- There is consideration for opening schools or MCPS administration offices in unleased commercial office buildings.
- MCPS may consider boundary changes to accommodate capacity

Parks: Matt Losak

- Discussed a proposal to create a 'Silver Spring Gardens' space at site of former library. Plans for Dog Park are underway on part of site.
- \$6.5M slated for renovation of Woodside Urban Park. This may include cost to upgrade the adjacent Silver Spring Community Service Center (the former Woodside Elementary School).

Environment: MaryAnn Zimmerman

- 100% of Environmental Protection CIP is storm water mgmt. funded by water quality taxing charge
- Watershed mgmt. and solid waste mgmt. (including recycling) have separate funding sources (not general tax revenues)
- General tax revenue is used for environmental policy & plans which includes energy, sustainability, forest & tree planting -expected to have a 2% cut in their operating budget - not CIP
- MaryAnn suggested that in future review of budgets - operating and CIP - the board look at agencies/programs like Environmental Protection, Parking District, and CUPF that have other funding sources. We should consider how these are funded and any restrictions or flexibility on use of funds.

Transportation: Phil Dittmer

Not present at 7/13 meeting

6. *Councilmember(s) Updates:*

- Debbie Spielberg (Elrich) says council is focusing on budget cuts/savings proposed by County Exec with vote on 7/28. Council passed Earned Sick Pay legislation. Upcoming topics include: restricting location of Mega-Gas Stations, Tenant Legislation bill 19-15, Taxi Regulation, Pesticide Bill 52-14, and Artificial Turf.
- Dave Asche (Hucker) notes impact of April's Wynn case as driver for budget cuts/savings. County approved tax on e-cigarettes – now at same rate as tobacco products.

7. *Committee Reports:*

- Tree Committee: Dan Morales resigned from committee leadership. Sara Sheppard to step in
- CED: DeAndre Morrow looking for alternate locations for to bring upcoming board meetings to new neighborhoods and venues. Look for collaboration with VanGo
- Neighborhoods: Will host 7/27 meeting on Renter Protection Bill 19-15

8. *Board Chair's Report:*

- Update on Rapid Transit (RT) Advisory Committee -39 members engage spirited discussion. Info Open House coming in the fall. See www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rts/
- Board needs to consider how electronic email communications comply with the Open Meetings Act that has been law since 2014. Office of County Attorney will come to August meeting to discuss.

9. *Director's Report:* Adam Vick has resigned from board. Suzy Zuzy will be stepping down this fall, but plans to continue representing SSCAB on the Urban District Advisory Committee until new members join the board

10. *New Business:* None

11. *Adjourn:* 9:10