

SSCAB Meeting Summary – March 9, 2015

1. *Welcome/Introductions:* Chair Bernice North called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. *Acceptance of last meeting summary:* February 9, 2015 meeting minutes accepted.
3. *Public Safety Report (Lt. McNeal and Sgt. Clark):*
 - Provided crime statistics within CBD; crime is trending down; increase in residential burglaries in the Sligo area.
 - Theft from autos in garage has declined; provided tips to prevent car break-ins.
4. *Dialogue with Tom Street re: Transportation Projects in Silver Spring Regional Area:*
 - Provided update on Purple Line time-frame: based on due date for revised bids, expect go/no-go by mid-May. Undergoing cost-savings review, does not expect change to BRT or alignment. Likely savings are limiting sound walls and changing overpasses to at-grade crossings.
 - Provided summary of recent ITA proposal: Focus of County Executive's inaugural speech; believes best way to move transit (CCT and BRT system) forward. Master Plans require CCT funding to permit growth. Single purpose agency would be most efficient approach.
 - Purple Line Related Dialogue: State would not owe bidders money if project cancelled by mid-May; concerns expressed over potential loss of mitigation features.
 - ITA Related Dialogue: Estimates 1.5-2 years to prepare BRT concept designs/cost estimates. Reviewed accountability of proposed agency and Council's retained/lost approvals. Need safeguards in place and a public/transparent dialogue.
5. *Dialogue with Diane Jones, Director Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services:*
 - Presentation on what DPS does; 60-90K walk-in permits in a calendar year, Inspections, etc.
 - Promoted efforts to better connect with community: electronic plan submissions/e-services; 'Recipes for Success' welcome packet for area restaurants.
 - Enterprise Fund (fee-dependent); recent fee study, changes in structure coming this July.
 - Opening WSSC satellite office on-site; will be moving to Wheaton in coming years.
6. *Councilmember(s) Updates; Debbie Spielberg from Councilmember Elrich's Office:* Current topics include County budget, pilot program for body cameras, pesticide bill, and upcoming tenant legislation.
7. *Committee Reports:*
 - TREE: Provided a draft letter supporting restoration of funding for Bicycle Pedestrian Priority Areas (BPPA); Board supported an amended version that further clarifies the Board's interests and timing. March meeting to continue committee's focus on placemaking and BPPAs.
 - CED: March meeting to focus on liquor control.
 - Neighborhoods: March meeting topic TBD.
8. *Board Chair's Report:* Education forum at Civic Building to be held on March 19th, will focus on achievement gap; March 12th planning meeting. Encouraged Board and active community members to reach out to networks and recruit attendees for future SSCAB meetings. Attending neighborhood meetings is an excellent opportunity to promote our Board's efforts on behalf of the community.
9. *Director's Report:* Noted Board packet contains an impressive list of events in the Silver Spring area. Society Lounge to be featured on March 10 news segment; opportunity to support a local restaurant. Continue to see E-Blasts to stay updated.
10. *New Business:* None
11. *Adjourn:* 9:15pm