

**Friendship Heights
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
March 11, 2014**

Voting Members

James Calderwood	Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers
Barbara Condos	Town of Somerset
Campbell Graeb	Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights
Christopher Itteilag	Somerset House Management Association
Cobey R. Kuff	WP Project Developer, LLC
Allison Lazare (Vice Chair)	United Educators Insurance
John Mertens	Friendship Heights Village
Rachael Schacherer	Friendship Heights Village

Non-voting Members

Sandra L. Brecher	MCDOT/Transit Services Division-Commuter Services
-Representing DOT Director	
Matthew Folden	M-NCPPC

TMD Staff

Jim Carlson	MCDOT/Transit Services Division-Commuter Services
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Absent

Nakengi Byrd	MCDOT/Transit Services Division-Commuter Services
Joe Dixon	GEICO
Tiffany Gee (Chair)	Chevy Chase Land Company
Chief John Fitzgerald	Chevy Chase Village Police
Kenneth Hartman	B-CC Services Center

Guests

Bob Joiner	The Agenda News
Oliver M. Janney	MC Police-2 nd District
Anne Root	MCDOT

Abbreviations:

DDOT = District Dept. of Transportation
SHA = State Highway Administration
TMD = Transportation Management District

Item 1, 2 & 3 – Introductions / Minutes Review/ Chair’s Comments: Vice Chair **Allison Lazare** opened the meeting. Members and guests introduced themselves.

VOTE: January minutes were approved.

Item 4 – Capital Bikeshare Update: **Jim Carlson** introduced **Anne Root**, Montgomery County Bikeshare Program Manager. **Ms. Root** presented an introduction to the Capital Bikeshare system and an update of Montgomery County enrollment and usage of the system since its launch in September 2013.

Bikeshare Basics:

- Regional Bike Transit service provided by DC, Arlington, Alexandria, and Montgomery governments
- Designed for point-to-point short trips
- 2,700+ bikes @ 316+ docking stations in DC, Arlington, Alexandria & Montgomery
- Over 24,000 members & over 6.4 million trips
- Membership for 1-Year = \$75; 30-day = \$25; 3-Day = \$15; 24-hr = \$7
- First 30 minutes free - user fees for each additional 30 minutes
- Complements other transport modes and works well in dense urban areas.

Why Bikesharing?

- Expands travel options via BIKE TRANSIT for Montgomery's residents, workers, and visitors
- Extends the reach of transit: 1st mile/Last mile connection.
- Supports transit-oriented mixed-use neighborhoods where many destinations are only a 10-15 minute bike ride away
- Fits in with a broader program to promote an economically and environmentally sustainable community that is less auto-dependent, and promotes increases in non-single occupant vehicle mode share
- Attracts populations who want to live, work, and play in urban centers, without needing regular use of a car

Ms. Root described the advantages of bikeshare stations:

- Solar-powered, not wired to the grid
- Modular design, not bolted down
- Consist of docks, bikes, solar panel, kiosk, and map panel
- Station sizes: Usually 11, 15, 19, 23 docks
- Ideal bike to dock ratio is 50 percent

Montgomery County did extensive research of possible site areas for stations, most of which are being placed in public access areas, such as sidewalks and plazas. Stations placed on private property may require a legal agreement; part of that agreement would be to allow public access to the station.

Ms. Root described the bikeshare station requirements:

- At least four hours of direct sunlight per day
- Placed in a safe area for cyclists, pedestrians and motorists
- Visible and easily accessible
- Low impact on pedestrian and vehicular sight distance
- Adequate clearance on sidewalk or street
- Free of obstruction of underground utilities, tree boxes, bus stops, curb ramps
- Close to transit, major employment sites, dense residential and retail
- Boom truck access for installation/removal
- Minor arterials and streets with slow posted speeds

Montgomery County's Bikeshare System:

Downcounty Area:

- 30 Stations from the D.C. line to Beltway (I-495)
- East & West Legs of Red Line at or near four Metrorail Stations
 - Silver Spring, Friendship Heights, Bethesda, Medical Center

- Funding from Maryland Dept. of Transportation (MDOT) grant; private sector contributions and developer payments; County funds.

Rockville / Shady Grove / Life Sciences Center Area:

- 21 stations
- Bikeshare at two Metrorail Stations: Rockville & Shady Grove
- Funding from Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) Grant & Council of Governments (COG); City of Rockville contribution (\$300,000); County funds
 - Qualified individuals under JARC receive free membership in Capital Bikeshare and free bike safety training, a free helmet, and personalized route planning
 - Those who are currently receiving assistance through any Montgomery County social services organizations - or who may qualify through other low income criteria - should contact Commuter Services at (240) 777-8380 or via email mcdot.CommuterServices@montgomerycountymd.gov for a registration form.

Ms. Root said the County is making bike safety classes available; low-cost helmets; bikeshare signage; and other infrastructure improvements:

- More attention to planning for bike circulation
- Striping for bike lanes/sharrows as road resurfacing is completed
- Study to examine where additional bike lanes can be provided, on and off road

Ms. Root cited the following regional statistics:

- 6.4 million trips to date
- 316 stations throughout the region
- 54 percent of bikeshare participants said at least one trip they made over the last month started or ended at a Metrorail station
- 17 percent used bikeshare six or more times in the past month
- 23 percent used bikeshare to access a bus in the past month
- The average cost saving per year for bikeshare members is \$800 (\$15.39/wk) on personal travel costs
- Five percent of all members surveyed sold a household vehicle since joining Capital Bikeshare; 81 percent of these members said bikeshare was a factor in their decision
- Capital Bikeshare members reduced 4.4 million driving miles in a year.

Item 5 – Employer Traffic Mitigation Plan (TMP) Annual Reports: **Mr. Carlson** said the annual reports are tabled until he has had a chance to meet with several employers whose reports need updating.

Item 6 – Updates:

- “Lunch and Learn” session with Metro – Wednesday, March 12 at the Silver Spring Civic Center. Update on SmartBenefits changes and the Silver Line
- The Annual Commuter Survey will be sent to selected employers throughout the County

Item 7 – Adjourn

Next meeting date: April 8, 2014