

**Silver Spring  
Transportation Management District  
Advisory Committee  
October 12, 2017**

**Item 1- Introductions/Chair Comments:** **Jim Bunch** called meeting to order; members and guests introduced themselves.

**Item 2 – Minutes:** The minutes were tabled.

**Item 3 – Pedestrian Safety:** **Matt Johnson**, MCDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Priority Areas (BiPPA) Project Manager, discussed the County’s efforts to create a safe biking infrastructure in the County.

Currently, eight out of 30 BiPPAs in the County are in various stages of design and construction. The BiPPA team has been working in Silver Spring for the past 2 ½ years completing several projects, such as new crosswalks and ADA ramps. The first major project completed was installing separated bike lanes on Cedar Street and Wayne Avenue. The separated lanes buffer cyclists from traffic for low stress and safe travel, ultimately increasing bike ridership. The second major project, which is at 90 percent design stage, is a two-way biking facility that places bikes on one side of the road, starting in Spring or Summer of 2018.

Discussion:

- Data collection – using manual counts for more detailed information for pre- & post-construction counts and plans to install counting towers that count metal for bikes and nonmetal for pedestrians; two laser counters installed on Capital Crescent Trail.
- Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) vehicles turning onto Wayne Avenue and coordination of agencies for bike infrastructure installation. Buses including BRT, will be re-routed to improve safety and circulation.
- Discussion regarding building biking infrastructure and creating good behavior between cyclists, drivers and pedestrians – improved signal phasing.
- Discussed issues with bike classification, peds vs. vehicle; under the law they are considered to be both (cyclists typically must dismount to walk their bikes at times). However, installing bike lanes and other infrastructure will make a clear distinction – County Police use an automated citation system to track violators.
- The coordination of the different agencies in implementing right-of-way issues in master plans - based on interactions with Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), State Highway Administration (SHA), MCDOT and the community to update master plans during the design phase of projects.

**Mr. Johnson’s** contact info: [Matt.Johnson@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Matt.Johnson@montgomerycountymd.gov)

**Item 4 – Pedestrian Safety:** **Dewa Salihi**, MCDOT Chief of Traffic Engineering Studies, presented the County Executive’s Pedestrian Safety Initiative, which consist of seven focus areas, three of which High Incident Areas (HIAs).

Based on police citations and crash data, the County has 19 HIAs. Pedestrian Safety Audits were conducted on Georgia Avenue in 2009 and Colesville Road in 2011; based on those recommendations, improvements were made working with SHA. The improvements consist of pavement markings, lighting and signage. **Ms. Salihi** reported that her team revisits HIAs with street teams to educate the public on safe practices.

Discussion:

- “Three Es”: Engineering, Education and Enforcement are all major components in maintaining safety measures in HIAs.
- Construction of traffic calming infrastructure based on community input: Investigations collect vehicle and pedestrian data resulting in better safety measures, such as curb bump-outs and narrower lanes.
- HIAs road treatments have expanded to other areas inside the County.
- “Vision Zero” is a 2-year action plan the County is finalizing, with a goal of zero traffic fatalities by year 2030.
- Silver Spring Transit Center pedestrian and traffic circulation issues: Improvements lagging - buses blocking crosswalks, peds crossing against signals.
- There was a retiming of signals at Colesville and Wayne to reduce pedestrian wait times.
- Ped safety issue at MD 410 & Giant entrance caused by extended green light not seen by pedestrians, who are walking into oncoming traffic – **Ms. Salihi** will talk to **Erick Gunn** of SHA - green light extended to allow traffic to clear entrance way.

**Item 5 – Draft TMD Letter:** The Committee discussed a letter submitted to MSDOT Director **Al R. Roshdiah**, requesting the establishment of an organizing body similar to the Interim Operating Site (IOS) to mitigate pedestrian and vehicular traffic during construction of the Silver Spring Transit Center.

**Item 6 – Wayne Avenue Bus Stop:** Item tabled due to relevancy as many residents are satisfied with the stop being moved.

**Item 7 – Employer Outreach Update:** **Debra Buck**, Van Eperen & Co. announced:

- Car Free Day was a success
- Walk and Ride Challenge October 9 -27

**Item 8 – Updates:** **Sgt. Kerry Moore** announced:

- During September, enforcement details targeted aggressive & distracted drivers, conducted on Colesville Road and Georgia Avenue.
- Enforcement also targeted distracted driving on Cherry Hill Rd. – operations conducted twice a month for at least two hours.
- Silver Spring Jazz Festival was a success.
- Thanksgiving Day Parade is on November 18.

Other announcements:

- Dockless bikeshare piloting in Silver Spring – bikes are unlocked using smartphone app and can be safely parked anywhere inside the Silver Spring geo-fence pilot area – providing they are parked out of the way and not impeding access. No County investment in the program.
- Mobile Commuter Store Grand Opening – Sept. 27.
- Silver Spring TRiPS store extended hours till 6pm M-F and Sat.- Sun 6am – 5pm – now selling MARC tickets and bikeshare sign up w/ key fob.
- Commuter Tax Credit in danger of being cut – reduced subsidy reduced ridership.
- Commuter Survey coming soon – efforts to incentivize employees in completing survey.

**Item 9 – Around the Room:**

- **Katie Mencarini**, M-NCPPC, announced that the Planning Department is updating the Forest Glen Sector Plan, and first meeting will be held at Planning Dept. Tuesday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> 6:30- 8:30 pm.
- **Valerie Spencer & Michael Meszaros** have submitted their registration membership for the Purple Line Citizens Advisory Group

**Adjourn/Next Meeting: November 9, 2017.**

**Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee Attendance Sheet  
October 12, 2017**

<b>Voting Members (12)</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absen</b>
<b>Chamber Members (3)</b>			
Chris Kabatt	Wells + Associates		X
Michael Meszaros	Digital Industry, Inc.	X	
Juanita Stewart	The Peterson Companies		X
<b>Citizens Advisory Board Members (3)</b>			
Jim Bunch / Vice Chair	Kemp Mill, Four Corners, East SS	X	
Phil Olivetti	North & West Sector Plan Area	X	
Randall McLeod	CBD Resident		X
<b>Employers less than 50 employees (3)</b>			
Valerie Spencer	MayaTech	X	
Vacant			
Vacant			
<b>Employers with 50 or more employees</b>			
G. Michael Price	Discovery Communications	X	
Adenia Bradley	Southern Management		X
Vacant			
<b>Non-Voting Members (3)</b>			
Sandra Brecher, DOT-Commuter Services	MCDOT Director or Designee	X	
Katie Mencarini	M-NCPPC	X	
Reemberto Rodriguez	Silver Spring Regional Center		X
Sgt. Kerry Moore	Montgomery County Police	X	
<b>Staff</b>			
Nakengi Byrd	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
Jim Carlson	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
<b>Guests</b>			
Debra Buck	Van Eperen & Co.	X	
Jay Elvove	SSCAB	X	
Will Kenlaw	MCDOT-Transit Services	X	
Matt Johnson	MCDOT	X	
Christine McGrew	M-NCPPC	X	
Dewa Salihi	MCDOT	X	