

**Minutes
Greater Shady Grove
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
June 1, 2016**

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**Johns Hopkins University
Montgomery County Campus
9601 Medical Center Dr., Rockville MD 20850
Gilchrist Hall / Room 134**

Voting

John Brandt / Universities at Shady Grove / Large Employer (50+ emp)
Ellen Poltilove / Johns Hopkins University / Large Employer (50+ emp)
McClellan Quinn / EYA / Developer
Jordan Snow / 1788 Holdings / Developer

Non-Voting

Joseph Allen / Neighborhood Representative – Gaithersburg

Ex Officio

Sandra Brecher / Representing Montgomery County Dept. of Transportation (MCDOT) Director
Capt. Thomas Didone / Montgomery County Police
Catherine Matthews / Upcounty Regional Services Center
Rob Robinson / City of Gaithersburg Planning

Staff

Nakengi Byrd / Montgomery County Commuter Services
Jim Carlson / Montgomery County Commuter Services

Guests

Jeff Duncel / Pedestrian Safety Coordinator - MCDOT
Gary Erenrich / Acting Dep. Director, Transportation Policy - MCDOT
Melissa DiMercurio / Van Eperen & Company – TMD Outreach
Steve Simon / Van Eperen & Company – TMD Outreach

Item 1- Welcome & Introductions: **Sande Brecher** called meeting to order and welcomed new members. Members and guest introduced themselves. **Ms. Brecher** said that since there is no quorum the meetings are informal and a sub cannot be sent or call in to vote on issues however Skype may be allowed. **Jim Carlson** said that membership approval is staggered so that reelections don't occur at the same time and encouraged meeting attendees to take the Member Training Course especially the recently added Ethics module. He said the training lasts an hour and ½ and was very enlightening.

Item 2- Review of Minutes: Attendees informally approved May's minutes.

Item 3- Presentation: Pedestrian Safety Coordinator, **Jeff Dunkel** discussed the County's walking & biking safety policy. **Mr. Dunkel** explained that there are about 400 pedestrian strikes a year and 13 fatalities in 2015 which has dropped from 17 fatalities. In 2007, part of the Pedestrian Safety Initiative County Executive Ike Legit assembled a blue ribbon panel to make recommendations for reducing pedestrian strikes and severe injuries. Features of the initiative and recommendations were:

- The 3 E's (engineering, education and enforcement) is a targeted approach to improve conditions for peds and cyclist
- High Incident Areas (HIA's) are areas on County roads that were identified using crash statistics as hazardous to pedestrians-17 HIA's in the County
- Audits determine ways to make HIA's safer by determining the nature of crashes and instituting counter measures to address hazards-audits can take 2-5 years to implement
- Safe Routes to School program uses 3E's to make areas within a ¼ mile radius of schools
- Traffic calming, making sidewalks and bus stops ADA compliant, signal timing-3 ½ per second and crosswalk improvements are other measures implemented to improve walkability in the County
- The "Tired Faces" publication is part of the education campaign
- Park and Planning conducts meetings for Bike path projects in the County-separated bike facilities for low stress biking
- Bikeshare expansion
- Bicycle Pedestrian Priority Areas (BIPPA's) are areas of more bike and ped activity-31 in MC
- Discussion regarding the Road Code upgrade-a work in process
- Vision Zero- a way of thinking as to the unacceptability of ped fatalities and analyzing what could be done to prevent them for example the way Airline crashes are viewed-County Council creating legislation to implement
- Discussion regarding how the road code is used for traffic calming and pedestrian safety-partnership with municipalities and jurisdictions is needed to reduce accidents
- Pedestrian safety program was implemented in 2010 and from 2010 – 2014 are considered the post implementation years which show an increase in ped strikes due to HIA's recidivism in 2013
- reduced number in level 4 & 5 serious injuries partly due to speed cameras which slow traffic on large segments of roadways-street light and sidewalk upgrades and mid-block crossings designed to direct pedestrians are other safety measures
- Pedestrian Safety Initiative is the most analyzed County Program-data used is per 100,000
- Before and after audits conducted on HIA's roadways showed a decrease in ped strikes-traffic calming measures reduce traffic an average of 7 miles per hour
- Drivers age 50-59 are found to be at fault in 60% of collisions and younger pedestrians are more likely to found at fault
- Most crashes occur in parking lots where police don't have jurisdiction on private property-businesses have to work together to mitigate traffic
- 5-7pm is the time most accidents occur due to low visibility-educating pedestrians to wear lighter clothing

Item 4-WMATA Safe Track Update: **Gary Erenrich** reported on Metro's Safe Track Plan. He said that Metro's new General Manager prior to coming to Metro was the GM of BWI Airport whose philosophy was that everyone lands safely. Mr. Erenrich believes that this is still the GM philosophy.

There are 15 construction surges 5 of which are total closures, 1 on the redline and 10 single tracking events. The plan will complete 3 years of construction in 1 year. The full plan can be viewed on WMATA.com. The original plan released May 9th was rejected by the Federal Government however the current plan poses a challenge to area jurisdictions due to lack of funding. Other aspects of the plan discussed were:

- An 8 car metro train carries 1000 riders = 20 busses to accommodate
- 2 segments on the Redline in Aug and 1 in Oct-single tracking 10 days between Shady Grove-Twinbrook and Silver Spring –Takoma Metro also, a total shutdown at the NoMa metro station
- The surge at Shady Grove Station will increase headway from 6 to 18 minutes and with 6,000 parking spaces and an already congested platform, Metro Police will need to mitigate the crowds-educating commuters of alternative routes is needed
- Ride On receiving 56 new buses and MCDOT is working with Department of General Services to retain as many of the old buses as possible (25 buses)-assembling drivers to operate the extra buses
- Service augmentation-fare required buses added to regular routes and Bridges-will provide supplemental service between Metro stations
- The County will have a website detailing changes by next week including community outreach
- Express bus service between Shady Grove-Grosvenor along the 270 corridor
- Bikeshare is offering trips for \$2-making sure bikes are available at CaBi stations
- Telework seminars in June
- Interactive Park and Ride map will be posted
- HOV lanes will not be lifted during the Surges

Mr. Dunckel' s presentation will be posted on the web.

Item 5- Updates: Ms. Brecher announced:

- Council re adopted the FareShare program-suggestions requested as to how the program can be structured to have new employers join

Item 6- Marketing Outreach Update: Van Eperen announced –

- Putting together options for employers during the Safe Track process
- Bike to Work Day was a success-214 registrants

7-Adjourn: Next meeting July 6, 2016