

**Greater Shady Grove
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
July 6, 2016**

**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)
Steven Kelley / NIH-National Cancer Institute (*away*)
Ellen Poltilove / Johns Hopkins University / Large Employer (50+ emp)
McClellan Quinn / EYA / Developer
Randy Scritchfield / Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber
Jordan Snow / 1788 Holdings (*away*)

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
Katie Mencurini / City of Rockville
Rob Robinson / City of Gaithersburg Planning (*away*)
Aaron Zimmerman / Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) (*away*)

Staff

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

Guests

Melissa DiMercurio / Van Eperen & Company – TMD Outreach
Gehmelle Johnson / NIH, attending for Steve Kelley
Scott Lam / NIH, attending for Steve Kelley
Steve Simon / Van Eperen & Company – TMD Outreach

Item 1 - Welcome & Introductions: **Sande Brecher** called meeting to order. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Item 2 – Review of Minutes: June minutes were tabled.

Item 3 – Discussion, FY17 FareShare Program: Ms. Brecher outlined details currently under discussion at Commuter Services to re-start County’s the Fare Share (FS) program, which matches employer contributions to employee transit or vanpool costs. Ms. Brecher discussed the history of the FareShare and Super FareShare programs, and asked for Committee input in designing the reboot of the program.

- Outreach efforts will be marketed first to employers with no current direct benefit for transit/vanpool costs.
- **Randy Scritchfield** noted that employer contributions toward employee commuting costs are also tax deductible in addition to being tax-free for the employee.
- **Joe Allen** suggested a word change of *subsidy* to *incentive*.
- **Jim Carlson** will distribute the FareShare brochure to the Committee to provide feedback.

Item 4 – New Ride On Route: Mr. Carlson announced a new Ride On bus route that will provide connection to Tobytown, an African American historic community, to the surrounding Greater Shady Grove area. There was some objection from Council, saying there is lack of ridership to support creating a route; however, the new route will provide access to everyone in the area not, just Tobytown residents. A meeting to discuss the new route will be July 28th at which the long 75-minute headway time should be addressed.

Item 5 Updates: Captain Thomas Didone discussed the following:

- There have been four serious pedestrian collisions and one fatality in the vicinity of the TMD-need for a County designated High Incident Area in Shady Grove, such as the Lakeforest Mall area.
- An educational campaign is needed for crosswalks, regarding pedestrian right of way.
- Many pedestrian strikes occur in parking lots, an environment where although drivers and pedestrians interchange roles, pedestrians are often not paying attention. Police recommend backing into parking spaces to reduce the chance of collision when backing out.
- Building bicycling infrastructure and cycling rules of the road - bikes can use full lane, allow three ft. of space when passing.
- County police assist in enforcement of HOV lanes only when requested.
- Education needed regarding students taking Ride On buses to school - transit buses, unlike school buses, do not wait for students to cross streets.

Other announcements:

- The Commuter Services “Quick-Start” Telework webinar went well. Presenter **Elham Shirazi** discussed options to continue operations during SafeTrack.
- SafeTrack Surge 3 is going better than expected.

- It was suggested to send a letter to Metro to make sure construction repairs at the Shady Grove metro station remain on track-repairs may have already started.
- NCI are doing shuttle test runs to Twinbrook for new service starting Aug.1; however, service may be pushed back to Aug.18th.
- National Association of Counties awarded the MCLiberty program for giving free bikeshare memberships to low income residents.

Item 6 – Marketing Outreach Update:

- Outreach to area businesses regarding SafeTrack construction during Aug. 9-18th.
- Helping employers fill out Traffic Mitigation Plans (TMPs) & TMP Annual Reports.
- Commuter fairs planned.
- Bikeshare outreach at Capital Bikeshare stations.
- Preparations for the upcoming Walk and Ride Challenge-website going up this month.

Adjourn: Next meeting September 7th