

**Greater Shady Grove
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
October 5, 2016**

**Johns Hopkins University
Montgomery County Campus
9601 Medical Center Dr., Rockville MD 20850
Gilchrist Hall / Room 227**

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**Voting**

**Dr. Antoine Banks** / Westside Neighborhood  
**Steven Kelley** / NIH-National Cancer Institute  
**Ellen Poltilove** / Johns Hopkins University  
**Randy Scritchfield** / Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber  
**Jordan Snow** / 1788 Holdings

**Non-Voting**

**Joseph Allen** / Neighborhood Representative – Gaithersburg

**Ex Officio**

**Sandra Brecher** / Representing Montgomery County Dept. of Transportation (MCDOT) Director  
**Catherine Matthews** / Upcounty Regional Services Center

**Staff**

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

**Absent**

**Ed Axler** / M-NCPPC  
**John Brandt** / Universities at Shady Grove  
**Capt. Thomas Didone** / Montgomery County Police  
**McClellan Quinn** / EYA

**Guests**

**Chris Conklin** / MCDOT Deputy Director for Transportation Planning  
**Benjamin Garcia** / Westside Neighborhood  
**Gehmelle Johnson** / NIH – National Cancer Institute  
**Melissa DiMercurio** / Van Eperen & Company – TMD Outreach  
**Charlie Scott** / WMATA  
**Steve Simon** / Van Eperen & Company – TMD Outreach  
**Angela Taylor** / FINRA  
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Item 1 – Welcome/Introductions/Comments: The meeting was called meeting to order. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Item 2 – Review of Minutes: September's meeting minutes were tabled until November's meeting.

Mr. Carlson introduced new member **Dr. Antoine Banks**, residential representative of the Westside Shady Grove community

Item 3 – SafeTrack Update: **Charlie Scott**, WMATA, updated the Committee on Metro’s SafeTrack surges. Surge 10 is planned for October 29 – November 22 will have the greatest impact on the Red Line due to the total closure of NoMa Metro station. Trains turning around at Fort Totten to Glenmont and NoMa to Shady Grove will have 50 percent reduced service.

Trains will run every six minutes from Shady Grove, but none out of Grosvenor. **Mr. Scott** suggested finding alternatives to taking Metrorail, such as using the shuttle service between Silver Spring and Fort Totten. There will also be added bus service on the L2 Connecticut Ave. route. Other items reported and discussed:

- The Federal Transit Administration ordered Metro to do repairs on the Blue and Orange lines first, which is why Surge 10 did not occur during the month of August when SafeTrack began.
- Press conference with DC Mayor **Muriel Bowser** and County Executive **Ike Leggett** will be held October 25th.
- There will be on-going stop gap repairs done on the Red line at Medical Center station to address the water intrusion issue.
- Public hearing scheduled for October 20th, 12-9 pm to discuss reducing weekend late night operation hours and other proposals. The general manager proposes adding eight hours of maintenance repair time to the system each week.
- Metro has a 2-track system that allows maintenance repair only after operation hours and by using single tracking, unlike New York and other rail systems-time has to be allotted not only for track repairs, but for equipment to be brought in and removed after repairs are completed.
- Alternative transit options such as the Purple Line and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system are needed to supplement the aging Metrorail system.
- More time will be provided between surges to allow for moving of equipment for repairs.
- WMATA’s general manager will not make accommodations for special events that may increase ridership on Metrorail during SafeTrack surges.
- The business community can support SafeTrack by allowing opportunities for flextime and telework.

Item 4 – MC Department of Transportation / New Deputy Director Christopher Conklin: **Mr. Carlson** introduced **Chris Conklin**, MCDOT’s new Deputy Director for Transportation Policy. **Mr. Conklin** said that as a consultant of a private firm he has extensive experience with transportation demand management (TDM) issues. MCDOT works closely with M-NCPPC in implementing long range transportation projects throughout the County, and for the last three years the Department has transitioned from an emphasis on highway infrastructure and traffic operations to improving bicycle/pedestrian safety and transit accessibility. He said bodies like the Greater Shady Grove TMD Advisory Committee help the Department conduct outreach to employers in the Shady Grove area.

FINRA representative **Angela Taylor** raised several concerns:

- Parking has become an issue for their 2500 employees, leading to lack of patronage of businesses in the area; employees reluctant to leave their parking spaces. Capital Bikeshare was offered as an option, along with working with NCI regarding improvement of the existing shuttle service – currently facing suspension due to high operation costs and low ridership.
- Discussion regarding issues with shuttles, such as lack of space at Metro Stations.

Item 5 – Employer Traffic Mitigation Plan (TMP) Annual Reports: Mr. Carlson gave an overview of employer requirements for submitting a TMP, stating that they are a County requirement for employers with 25 or more employees within the TMD. The plan has eight requirements that companies update annually:

- Assign a company contact to act as a liaison (“Transportation Benefit Coordinator”)
- Information on transit, pooling and other commuter alternatives posted/distributed
- Provide permanent display for transit and other alternative transportation information
- Provide Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) information
- Provide Guaranteed Ride Home program (GRH) information
- Distribute the Annual Commuter Survey to employees
- Allow TMD staff on site 2X/year to promote services
- File an annual report of activities with MCDOT

The Committee recommended the TMP Annual Reports be approved by MCDOT.

Item 6 – Marketing Outreach Updates: Steve Simon, Van Eperen & Co., announced:

- Safety Day held at the Johns Hopkins University campus was a success; they were able to get the word out about FareShare and Car Free Day.
- The Walk & Ride competition has ended and winners will be announced shortly.
- Meeting coming up with BioReliance; FareShare and the company TMP to be discussed.

Item 7 – County Updates:

- PARK(ing) day coming September 16th. Parking spaces will be re-purposed into parks and green spaces.
- Development related meeting today from 1-3pm – discussion how to streamline the development process

Adjourn-

Next meeting date: November 2, 2016