

Greater Shady Grove  
Transportation Management District  
Advisory Committee  
November 7, 2018

~~~~~  
Voting

**John Brandt** / Universities at Shady Grove  
**Steve Kelley** / NIH – National Cancer Institute  
**Ellen Poltilove** / Johns Hopkins University  
**McClellan Quinn** / EYA  
**Paul Yanoshik** / RE/MAX Realty Services

Non-Voting

**Joseph Allen** / Neighborhood Representative – Gaithersburg

Ex Officio

**Sandra Brecher** / Representing MC Dept. of Transportation (MCDOT) Director  
**Catherine Matthews** / Upcounty Regional Services Center  
**Alyssa Roff** / City of Gaithersburg

Staff

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

Absent

**Joseph Allen** / Gaithersburg  
**Ed Axler** / M-NCPPC  
**Capt. Thomas Didone** / Montgomery County Police

Guests

**Jennifer Bolick** / Van Eperen  
**Zach Deshaies** / Van Eperen  
**Amy Frieder** / MC Resident  
**Ghmelle Johnson** / NCI

~~~~~  
**Item 1 & 2 – Introductions/Minutes:** Members and guests introduced themselves.  
September minutes were approved.

**Item 3 – Westside Neighborhood Update:** McLean Quinn, EYA, presented an update on the development of the Westside mixed development neighborhood.

- EYA has sold 129 of 148 townhouses
- The Daley building, a multi-unit residential complex with ground floor retail is 92 percent occupied and is on the market to be sold
- Construction to start on a second building in summer 2019
- CVS pharmacy is most of retail on ground level of Daley building, and continued retail construction on both sides of the street

- Construction costs are a major challenge due to decline in immigration driving up the labor market and new developments being constructed, putting building materials in demand – construction costs up 25 percent since 2015; however, constraints are felt more in multi-family units than townhouses

**Mr. Quinn** discussed some of the changes made to the site amendment, saying that it will take a while for the market to absorb the 1,114 units:

- Changing some of the multi family unit into condos to make them more affordable
- Rearranging and modifying units between buildings, changing townhouse density to offer a broader range product

**Mr. Quinn** explained his team’s findings that the Shady Grove Metro Station did not prove to be the attraction previously thought. Most residents see Metro more as an amenity than necessity and still drive to work. Also discussed:

- How delays in construction at the County Service Park area is preventing complete build-out of the development – delayed construction due to the need for alternative school bus parking at the site
- As build-out occurs, the Westside development will become a better value to buyers from upcounty, as people downcounty have options there and don’t need to move to Shady Grove
- Grocery store construction prohibited due to lack of a curb cut to mitigate traffic
- 130,000 sq. ft. of office space was converted to retail use based on traffic generation
- Great interest by day care for retail space in development
- Sound wall built to control noise from CSX tracks and construction of buildings along Shady Grove Road; to cancel out noise is a major challenge
- Slowing traffic speed on Crabbs Branch also a challenge – speed cameras are prohibited in the area

**Item 4 – Dockless Bikeshare Pilot Expansion: Sandra Brecher** updated the Committee on plans to continue the pilot started a year ago in Silver Spring and set to expand to other areas of the County. The County has agreements with several companies; some Chinese-based companies (OFO & MoBike) that deployed bikes to the pilot area; however, some companies dropped out with only Lime Bike and Spin remain.

The dockless GPS/remote based system doesn’t have docking stations; it is not publicly funded but is managed by the MCDOT. The Capital Bikeshare station based system is vendor based with contracts with surrounding jurisdictions. An evaluation of the dockless pilot by Toole Design was generally successful with a few challenges such as:

- Too many bikes saturating the area (700-800 bikes)
- Bike blowing or falling down and other weather related issues
- Improper parking blocking bus stops and ADA ramps

**Ms. Brecher** also discussed:

- Number of bikes were reduced to three per block face
- Community voiced concerns at a Silver Spring Town Hall meeting; there was roughly 50/50 support vs critiques at the meeting

- Of the 18,000 dockless bike trips made, only seven percent were parked improperly, with some outside the geo-fenced area; companies are responsible for picking up bikes outside the area
- An ambassador program for information about dockless pilot revealed 84 percent want the program to continue with addition of e-bikes and scooters
- The County has funded additional bike racks based on the community requests
- Study underway to have dockless bikes to be equipped with mechanism to keep bikes locked and upright when not in use

**Ms. Brecher** discussed MCDOT’s proposals regarding the dockless pilot, such as including e-bikes & scooters, establishing minimums and maximums, expanding the pilot area, allowing jurisdictions the opportunity to opt into the pilot – those that do not want to be a part of the program will be geo-fenced out of pilot with a message to the rider that they cannot end trips in a prohibited area. System users will be able to ride through a prohibited area, but there may be surcharges associated with parking in the area. Also discussed:

- Issues with scooter speed and potential hazards to pedestrians
- Letters and emails sent to surrounding jurisdictions to expand pilot in their area
- Park trails have separate policies regarding e-bikes
- Bike companies will provide monthly reports detailing travel patterns
- Scooters must be charged every night, and e-bikes every three days
- Performance measures include parking, violator removal, good customer service; however, a regional 1-800 number is not preferred

**Ms. Brecher** said that a Survey Monkey link has been provided for suggestions/comments on how to run the system.

**Item 5 – Marketing Outreach: Jennifer Bolick** of Van Eperen announced:

- Continuing outreach to employers regarding traffic mitigation plans and reports completion
- Setting up commuter outreach events with companies
- Walk & Ride challenge was successful with 22 teams and 76 participants
- WABA cycling classes & community bike rides
- Obtaining responses to the commuter survey

**Item 6 – Updates: Jim Carlson** announced:

- Ride On public forum Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> on Route 52 Olney expansion to extend some trips to Our Lady of Good Council
- MCDOT installed first HAWK signal
- Shady Grove Sector Plan to be reviewed Wednesday, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>
- Montgomery County to receive new County Executive **Marc Elrich** and several Council Members

**Item 7 – Adjourn**