Greater Shady Grove Transportation Management District Advisory Committee March 1, 2023

Voting

Steve Kelley / NIH – National Cancer Institute Benjamin Garcia / Westside at Shady Grove Metro Paul Yanoshik / RE/MAX Realty Services

Ex Officio

Jake Adler / Upcounty Regional Services Center Sandra Brecher / Representing MC Dept. of Transportation (MCDOT) Director Greg Wims / Upcounty Regional Services Center Kirk Eby / City of Gaithersburg Michael Wahl / Universities at Shady Grove

<u>Staff</u>

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

<u>Absent</u> McClean Quinn / EYA

<u>Guests</u> Jennifer Bolick / Van Eperen Gary Erenrich / MCDOT Gehmelle Johnson / NIH-National Cancer Institute Michael Hackman / City of Gaithersburg

Maren Hill / M-NCPPC Charlie Scott / WMATA

Item 1 & 2 – Introductions/Minutes: Jim Carlson called meeting to order, and members and guests introduced themselves. Minutes were reviewed.

Item 3 – Metro Budget Update: Charlie Scott reported that public comment period for the WMATA FY24 budget is on-going with opportunity for public comment closing in two weeks. The budget will be approved in April. Although the Redline turnbacks are no longer included in the budget, **Mr. Scott** discussed simplifying the zone fare structure and other proposed items:

- Five percent rail fare increase of \$3.83 to \$6.50 with no increase in five years- impacting mostly riders at Shady Grove station
- Creating a low-income pilot program tied to SNAP benefit eligibility which may affect a half million riders across the region; however, only about a third may enroll in the program
- Redline service plan to improve ridership with six-minute frequency

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• Increases will only affect the fares, not the passes

Q & A and discussion continued:

- Purple Line construction on the Redline will see some weekend closures
- No layoffs projected in the budget looking to hire
- Blasting for Purple Line construction at Bethesda station southern entrance
- The Corridor Cities Transitway project resubmitted application for Purple Line funding

Item 4 – Great Seneca Plan Update: Maren Hill updated the Committee on the Great Seneca Plan reporting. Planning is in the "envisioning phase" with preliminary recommendations and will be conducting a virtual meeting in Spanish on March 9 and an open house at the Universities at Shady Grove. Other meetings include the Planning Board to refine recommendations and with MCDOT. **Aaron Savage** will fill in for **Ms. Hill** while she is on maternity leave in April. **Gary Erenrich** commented that there needs to be an update on the Non-Auto Driver Mode Share (NADMS). Also reported:

- The Trammel Crow Co. has a ground lease on the northern half of the site for life science development with a park and some retail application under review for the Planning Board on March 30.
- Her team does not have the best way of measuring NADMS; however, her team members are pushing for infrastructure to assist in reaching NADMS goals
- Some parts of the project will never be built out completely, which calls for a need to be realistic about connectivity

Discussion continued regarding the effect of the CCT since its construction was halted and the need to find an alternative to best serve the area. As the CCT was part of the Corridor Forward plan, bus routes are being used as a substitute for the transitway. Also discussed:

- Providing connections between Shady Grove station to Belward campus
- **Deanna Archey**, Ride On, is hosting a pop-up event at Shady Grove Metro and Rio for Ride On reimagined, a bus reorganizing project for better service

Item 5 – Marketing Outreach Update: Jennifer Bolick reported:

- Worked on the commuter survey gathering responses
- COG Employer recognition awards finding and assisting employers to apply for awards
- Conducting employee and residential events FareShare program
- Scheduling Transportation Demand Management (TDM) meetings for online plan submittals
- Bike to Work Day pit stop new location at the Thomas Farm Community Center
- Mr. Carlson will send notices to employers to file or update their TDM plans

Item 6 – Updates: Sande Brecher announced:

- DOT received a federally funded grant to conduct an e-cargo bike pilot to reduce short car trips
- The disparity of TDM fees only being charged to commercial buildings and not residential dwellings needs to be addressed, although they both receive services from TDM fees
- Resuming Learn to Ride and urban riding bike classes hosted by WABA
- Ride On Reimagined study is ongoing have Deanna Archey speak to the Committee for an update

Adjourn